

Ten Mile Lake Association

# Newsletter

Spring Edition 1999

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

## Board Hikes Membership Dues, Cites Increasing Pressure on Resources

By Sarah Cox, Associate Editor

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS of the TMLA have authorized an increase in annual dues from \$15 to \$25, effective August 1. Members of the Board spelled out the demands on Association resources that led to the decision:

■ Dues have not increased since 1990, even as costs of doing business were rising. Al Hoover points to a bit of history: dues were at \$5 in the 1960s, at \$10 through the 1970s and 1980s, and at \$15 through the 1990s. As the new millenium nears it seems appropriate to set a new rate for the coming challenges.

■ Mailings cost money. The Association has grown and the cost of mailings to members is on the rise as well. In these days of new ecological information and environmental demands, it is necessary to pay special attention to keeping members informed about the issues of the day and actions of the Board.

■ The new paid Watershed Coordinator position represents a significant commitment of resources aimed at addressing the Association's principal goals: the preservation and improvement of Ten Mile Lake. This position will enable the Board to make more fully informed decisions and take appropriate and timely actions in pursuit of our goals. We cannot continue to rely on volunteers to do this important work.

■ As President Jim Miller has observed, TMLA has become a more complex organization, with varied and mounting demands on its resources. While volunteers have been and will continue to be an important source for performing needed tasks and for their valuable advisory contributions in specialized areas, new and expanding pressures on the Association mean more financial resources are es-

### Ice Dates -- Out and Up

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	Nov. 29
1996	May 18	Nov. 27
1997	April 28	Dec. 24
1998	April 12	Dec. 25
1999	April 24	

sential to implement measures and policies whose goal is to protect the lake's health.

■ TMLA has become a significant landowner, holding title to four properties around the lake. These are properties that have been given to us or that we have purchased in order to prevent development we believe to be a threat to the lake. Taxes on these properties must be paid out of the annual budget.

We expect a lot from our organization and our expectations place heavy demands on the Officers, the Directors and on Association resources. We need to provide, not only moral and personal support, but also strong financial backing to help our elected representatives do their jobs.

## Ten Mile Lake Association

### Officers

Jim Miller, President.....547-3337  
 Sherry Gendron, Vice-President..547-3721  
 Bob Crom, Treasurer.....547-2473  
 Lisa Tuller, Secretary.....675-6906

### Resident Directors

Willa Martin.....675-6952  
 Larry Urbanski.....547-3107  
 Jerry Mills.....547-1164  
 Gail Becher.....547-3214  
 Dick Horn.....675-6163

### Summer Resident Directors

Bob Kay.....675-6430  
 Stan Benbrook.....675-6810  
 Ray Black.....675-6903  
 Bob Crabb.....675-6120  
 Hank Sandvig.....675-6521  
 Don Willis.....675-6231

John Alden.....Watershed Coordinator

### Committees

#### Adopt-a-Highway-Vacant

Environment & Ecology-Jim Schwartz, Dick Horn, Jack Adams, Gail Becher, Fred Brosius, Pat Carey, Bruce Carlson, Carl Hertzman, Ross Melgaard, Jerry Mills, Marty McCleery, Jim McGill, Tom Moore, Bob and Ellie Nelson, Brad Putney, Bob Rydell, Hank Sandvig, Forrest Watson, Don Willis

Finance-Bob Crabb, Al Hoover, Jack Adams, Sherry Gendron, Tate Lane, Ross Melgaard, Ted Mellby, Jim Miller, Jim Sandelin

Fisheries-Gary Marchwick, Bob Horn, Cecil Bair, Dick Horn, Jim Schwartz, Jerry Mills, Larry Urbanski

History-Willa Martin, Stan Benbrook, Don Buck, Ross Melgaard, Larry Urbanski

James W. Schwartz Environmental Preservation Fund-Al Hoover, Rod Owre, Stan Skaug

Lake Advocates-Ray Helsman, Don Patterson

Lake Level-Walt Kane

Lake Safety-Bob Kay, Bob Crom, Mary Ann Schmidt, Jim McGill, Pat Gjevre

Membership Coordinator-Lisa Tuller

Newsletter-Jim Schwartz, Sarah J. Cox

Strategic Planning-John Alden, Jack Adams, Al Hoover, Ross Melgaard, Jim Schwartz, Stan Skaug

Zoning & Land Use-Ellie & Bob Nelson

# Deed to Kenfield Property Held by TMLA; More Funds Needed

By Sarah Cox, Associate Editor

WHERE DO WE STAND now on the Arnold E. and Ruth F. M. Anderson property purchase that was initiated last summer? The acquisition process for the Kenfield Bay tract has achieved some significant milestones. On December 30, 1998, the five-year contract for deed originally arranged by Robert R. and Joanne V. Johnson for purchase of the Anderson property was reassigned to the Ten Mile Lake Association. In addition, a quit claim deed for the property was secured from the Johnsons.

The total amount paid by the TMLA to the Johnsons for the property was \$89,711, which included reimbursements for the \$27,500 down payment made to the Andersons by the Johnsons and \$2,000 paid by the Johnsons on the contract for deed. The original amount of the contract for deed, on which the Association has been paying \$1,000 per month since October, was \$82,500.

AT THIS TIME the outstanding principal amount on the contract for deed is \$78,964. The Association will continue to pay \$1,000 per month for a total of five years. At the end of that time a balloon payment will be required covering the balance of the principal, expected to be \$54,337. Members of the committee working on the purchase attempted to renegotiate the contract so that the TMLA could pay it off sooner to save on interest. The effort was unsuccessful.

Do we have funding to cover the obligation? Contributions to the James W. Schwartz Preservation Fund, from which the Anderson property is being purchased, total \$141,848. This includes memorial gifts and matching grants as well as cash donations. After the payments detailed above, the Schwartz Fund comprises about \$35,000 invested in a money market fund and \$6,500 in donated stocks. The fund is maintained separately from the annual Association budget. Taxes on TMLA properties are paid out of the regular budget, not from the Preservation Fund.

THE COMMITTEE ESTIMATES that an additional \$60,000 in donations will be needed to cover the property purchase completely, including the final balloon payment. This is larger than was thought in the fall because the Association was unable to work out an earlier payment of the contract for deed obligation. Contributions continue to come in and are welcomed by the Committee and the Association Board.

Board and Committee members who worked on the project were Robert Crom, Ted Mellby, Al Hoover, Rod Owre, Stan Skaug and Don Willis.



**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.**

*...make it second nature!*

# Road Building Firm to Use North Shore Route

By Jim Schwartz, Editor

ABOUT A DOZEN North Shore residents met on April 27 with Dave Johnson, representing Anderson Brothers Construction Company, for a briefing on the firm's plans for using the Krueger gravel pit west of Portage Lake off Cass County Highway #50. The meeting was arranged because residents were concerned about the possibility of heavy truck traffic on Highway #50 during the summer months. Anderson has leased the pit for its own projects as well as for the sale of gravel and sand to customers. What follows is a combined report on the meeting and a telephone interview with Johnson in early May.

Johnson said the company recognizes there is a potential traffic problem on the North Shore corridor and will do everything within its power to be a good neighbor. He emphasized that will include strict enforcement of the road's 20-mile an hour speed limit for its own drivers as well as explicit instructions to that effect for drivers from other companies mining from the pit.

AT THE OUTSET, the pit will be used mainly by Walker Sand and Gravel for washed rock, sand and gravel. Hauling for that operation is expected to begin about July 1. The facility also will be used by Anderson for its own projects. Johnson expects about a 50/50 split on whether the traffic goes north or south on #50 when it leaves the pit.

Using past years as a basis for predicting traffic frequency during the summer months, Johnson said he anticipates there will be an average of 12 loads per 10-hour day using the North Shore route. Some days there could be more, he said; others less. To keep dust problems at a minimum on the gravel portion of #50, county highway crews will begin dust control applications around June 1.

AS ACTIVE PIT USE gets under way, Johnson said another meeting will be scheduled so residents and other interested parties can explore problems or concerns.

Long term, Johnson said, there are two options for mitigating traffic problems:

1. Work with the US Forest Service and the county to develop a road that would run from the gravel pit straight to Highway #317, bypassing the North Shore road. That new route also could be used in the winter as a snowmobile trail, which could being the Minneso-

ta DNR into the negotiations. Given funding constraints, however, he characterized this option as a long shot. Still, he said, it is worth exploring.

2. Relocate about two-thirds of the North Shore portion of #50, moving it northward to approximately where the power line crosses the area. Such a relocation was proposed a number of years ago, but failed to win support. Given the change in conditions, this may be the time to revive the project, said Johnson. He added that he regarded the relocation option as the more possible of the two, though it would depend upon the success of lake residents in persuading county commissioners to fund the project.

IN A SEPARATE phone conversation, Dave Enblom, Cass County Engineer, said the expected changes in both volume and character of traffic use on #50 strongly suggest serious consideration of both options. Enblom acknowledged the lack of support earlier for the relocation proposal, but said those positions might modify with the new situation.

## Here's How to Correct Errors in '99 Directory

By Lisa Tuller, Secretary

AS YOU KNOW the new directory has been officially released. In that mailing, it was stated that this directory is still a work in progress. The truth is that has been evident with recent changes in new addresses around the lake.

If you find your lake address to be incorrect as listed in the directory, wait for your July Newsletter with this year's dues attachment. That will have a form with it that you can send back in with your dues and your address correction.

PLEASE DON'T CALL in your new information. It will be much easier to keep track of the changes as they come in on prescribed forms. We had hoped the enhanced 911 addressing would be more complete by now. There are still street names under petition and just a lot of bugs to iron out. But our last directory was so outdated that we couldn't wait any longer.

In the meantime, watch for address update inserts that will come with the Fall Newsletter. Any questions you have regarding your street name can be directed to the Cass County Auditor's Office in the Court House, Walker.

# North Shore Project Gets Funding Nod

By Jerry Mills, Member, Board of Directors  
North Ten Mile Lake Subordinate Service  
Sewer District

DURING THE 1998-99 winter there has been considerable action toward finalizing plans for constructing and installing the proposed sewer system for some 21-22 properties along the northeast shore of Ten Mile Lake. The Board of Directors have met several times with Craig Gilbertson, Cass County Sanitarian, who has been acting as coordinator for the project.

Accomplishments since last summer include: finalizing the engineering plan and specifications; pre-bid meeting with contractors, suppliers and installers; receiving bids; analysis of the bids by the Ayers engineering firm, and, as of early May, 1999, selection of an installer.

THE BIGGEST, most complex achievement was receiving approval for funding through government agencies. Many of you are aware we have been working with the urging and support of the Cass County Environmental Services Department for five years on setting up a subordinate services district for sewerage

at the township level of government.

Our most difficult tasks have been associated with jumping the ever-changing hurdles and pathways to obtain information, directions and instructions, and clear, concise, guidelines for funding. Through the efforts of Mr. Gilbertson we were advised on Monday, May 3, of approval for funding the project. Final costs have not been determined but the funding is expected to be about two-thirds grants and the balance a 20-year low interest loan.

THE SHINGOBBEE TOWNSHIP BOARD has agreed to stipulations on monies, auditing, legal assistance, guidance and oversight on the sewer district. Contractors have been advised that the installation should be completed by the fall of 1999. Two of the bidders said if they are chosen they will start on the far end of June.

Thanks are due to Sen. David Ten Eyck and Rep. Tony Kinkel for their contacts with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and to the Cass County Commissioners and the Shingobee Township Board for their support.

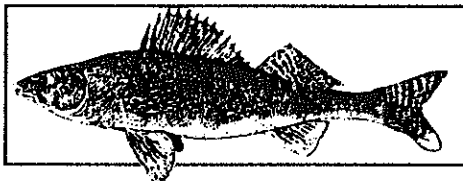
## Ten Mile Gets 19,289 Walleye Fingerlings

By Harlan Fierstine

DNR Fisheries Supervisor, Walker Office

THIS PAST FALL, the Walker Area DNR Fisheries Office stocked 1305 pounds of walleye fingerlings into Ten Mile Lake. The stocking quota for the lake is 1300 pounds. We stock on the basis of weight due to the fact that walleye fingerlings can vary some in size, and the larger the fingerling, the greater chance of survival to catchable size. Most of the fingerlings were of a quality size; 19,289 were stocked.

To assess the contribution of natural reproduction of walleye in Ten Mile Lake, we are not stocking every year. The 1997 netting assessment sampled a year class of walleye that was produced in 1994, a year that no stocking took place. Walleye abundance was as high as previously. During years when we stock, natural fish cannot be differentiated from stocked fish.



THE WALLEYE FINGERLINGS that were stocked this past fall were "tagged" so that in future assessments we can determine if a walleye hatched in 1998 is a stocked or natural fish. The "tag" is a small piece of stainless steel wire that was injected into the cheek of the fingerling. Anglers will not be able to see that tag. However, by using a special metal detector, we will be able to find any tags in walleye that we sample in assessments.

Once these walleyes reach a catchable size (about 2001), anglers could also save walleye heads to help us better answer the contribution of walleye stocking. We would be able to detect any tag that would be present and age the fish by utilizing a bone located in the gill cover.

WE ARE GOING to continue monitoring walleye abundance in Ten Mile Lake. We know that this is an important walleye fishery and our long range goal is to maintain it.

For further information or questions, you may contact the Area Fisheries Office by calling 2218/547-1683 or by writing at 07316 State 371 NW, Walker, MN 56484.

# From the Notebook

by Jim Schwartz

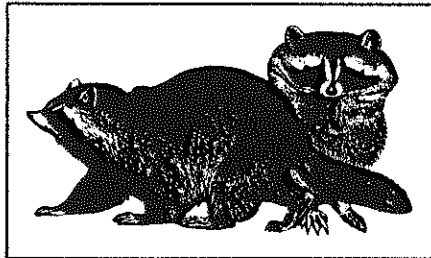
THE EVIDENCE KEEPS piling up that 2-stroke engines are, to put it as charitably as possible, not good for the environment. The Environmental Protection Agency is targeting snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), asserting they emit 25 percent as many hydrocarbons as all of the country's cars and trucks put together. By any standard that's a whopping figure, but particularly so when you discover there are more than 66 times as many cars and trucks in use. So the EPA is writing new rules for snowmobiles and ATVs, rules that are likely to force manufacturers to redesign or replace the 2-stroke engines so as to sharply reduce the problem pollutants. Tighter standards for outboard motors and personal watercraft will go into effect in 2006, and new rules are expected soon for tractors and lawnmowers.

—■—

IF YOU ENJOY FISHING you are one blip in a massive state cosmos. We lead the nation in the sale of fishing licenses and in the number of boats per capita. We harvest 35 million pounds of sport fish a year, with panfish the most frequently caught, followed by walleye and northern pike. In 1996, anglers devoted the equivalent of 27 million days to fishing in Minnesota. Every year they spend an estimated \$1.9 billion on sport fishing. My sources are the American Sportfishing Association and the DNR. Now add to this list the fact that, nationwide, the second most popular sport or activity in 1997 was swimming (National Sporting Goods Association) and you get some idea of how important the state's lakes and rivers are to the economy.

—■—

MY WINTER FLORIDA correspondent, Mrs. Fran Brandt, supplies me on occasion with newspaper clippings from that part of the world, usually having to do with some aspect of the environment. Two were of particular interest to me. The first traced the history of what has happened since passage of the Endangered Species Act in 1973. In those 25 years, the number of endangered plants and animals has



grown from the 119 identified initially to 1,117. During that period, only 10 animals and 1 plant have recovered sufficiently to be taken off the list. Meanwhile, the Act itself is up for renewal -- again. Whether it can command enough backing in a divided Congress remains to be seen. Property rights advocates oppose it; environmental interests support it.

—■—

THE SECOND NEWS REPORT reviewed the damage that global warming is doing to coral reefs around the world. In some regions of the Indian Ocean, warming water has killed 80 percent of the coral reefs and seriously harmed the rest. Closer to home, the Caribbean islands are just beginning to experience this phenomenon. In the 1980s, widespread deterioration began and the rate at which reefs have been dying in that area has sped up dramatically in the past two years. On yet another front, NASA reports that the thickness of ice in Greenland's southeast glacier field is declining as much as three feet a year. The study measured changes from 1993 to 1998.

—■—

WHETHER GLOBAL WARMING is having an effect on our inland fresh water lakes is anyone's guess. At some point, though, unrelenting higher temperatures will almost certainly change lakes as we know them, and not necessarily for the better. In my own "research" -- 16 years of recording water temperatures off the end of my dock almost every day from mid-April to early October -- no clear trend emerges. Using a reliable 60° as upward and downward cutoff points, that temperature appears to have arrived slightly earlier in recent years and also may have been delayed a bit later into the fall.

—■—

NOW CONSIDER THAT last year's ice-out came April 12, a week or more earlier than usual. Freeze-up dawdled along until December 25, the latest date since we began keeping records more than a decade ago. This spring, on the other hand, ice-out was not complete until April 24, more or less on schedule.

—■—

THEN CAME AN UNSEASONABLY warm spell, described by TV meteorologists as two to three weeks early. So, is global warming visiting the upper Midwest? Maybe, but it would be a good thing to have more data. Anyone else out there with information for our stew pot?

## Mimi Carlson Sails to Season Record - Again

By Robert Crabb, Editor, The Squall Line

MIMI CARLSON proved last year was no fluke by posting, for the second year in a row, the winning record for the season. Mimi and crew Colby Carlson made up for a slow start in the 4th of July series (placing 7th) with a second, a first and a fourth in her last three races to overtake Tom and Chris Brandt for the season trophy.

1998 was a test of patience. Light, variable winds prevailed throughout the season and the July 4th races set the tone. Ki

### RACE DATES FOR 1999

July 3 .....	Fourth of July
July 24 .....	Memorial Cup
August 7 .....	Moxness Cup

Hoffman proved, once again, to be the master of light air taking both races.

CHRIS BRANDT took second in the first race and third in the second to place second overall. Tom Brandt placed 5th and 4th for 3rd overall. A highlight (or lowlight) of the day was a tip-over during the second race by the Siqveland brothers in the non-existent wind. My guess is Tom and Bob decided to go for a swim.

After cancellation of the Memorial Cup races all were anxious to get to the starting line of the Moxness Cup on August 8. Once again the wind failed to show. Many needed to be towed to the line for the start. The front runners picked up some shore breeze on the north side of the lake and produced an exciting final leg and close finish.

KI HOFFMAN recovered to take first, Mimi Carlson took a close 2nd and Tom Siqveland placed third. The second race was canceled for want of wind.

The Memorial Cup series, canceled in July, was made up on August 9. It was a good sailing day and made for a nice finish to an otherwise disappointing season. Mimi took the first place trophy with a first and fourth in the two races. Andy Nelson recovered from an eighth in the first race to place first in the second and take second overall. Dave Brandt took a sixth and a third to take 3rd overall. Not bad for one of the founders of the Yacht Club. (Editor's Note: *The Squall Line* is the newsletter of the Ten Mile Lake Yacht and Tennis Club.)

### Poet's Corner

## *Tuesday Morning at Ten Mile*

By John Jentsch

(A First-Time Ten Mile Lake Visitor)

*Morning, a time of delight for the senses everywhere, is upon Ten Mile again and I can feel it fluttering through every pore of my body.*

*As I sit on the shore and gaze at the glass like surface of the lake, I am greeted by the laugh of the loon born on the rippling wind from over the water.*

*The aspen and birch symphony crash above my head yet, like the lake, my serenity grows.*

*The sun, only just beginning its ascendant journey into the sky, already hints of the life it intends to breathe into the residents of its domain.*

*Spirits of long passed voyageurs still hang and dance in the misty shrouds above the water.*

*The wild rice and reeds bend heavy in the breeze telling of the fruitful bounty of their impending harvest.*

*It is a time when the wildest of animal, the keepers of the night, finally seek their repose.*

*A lone bald eagle silently appears, soars past, and disappears into the shelter of the tall Red and White Pines barely acknowledging the fact that I am merely an uninvited guest at this celebration.*

*I have little need of faith to witness the divine in this creation and this morning, at this moment, it seems as though this place is more favored by God than anywhere else on earth.*

# Kayaking Offers Novel Way to Enjoy the Water

By Carl Hertzman

WHEN MY WIFE AND I lived in Washington, D.C., we went white water canoeing with a local group. Going down a rapids, I would yell at her in the bow, fearing she would cause us to upset; she probably felt the same about me.

We moved to the Cincinnati area and soon switched to kayaks suitable for white water. I remember our going down a rapids with a Sierra Club group. We eddied out at the foot of the rapids and watched as canoeists came down it: husbands yelling at wives in the bow, dates yelling at girl friends. Women were looking at the men, wondering who is this guy? We started laughing. Togetherness in some activities can be stressful for a couple (sound familiar to some of you bridge players?). We were a lot happier in our own boats.

MARY BUILT TWO single 15-foot Folbots out of kits in 1970. We soon brought them to Ten Mile, opening a new vista for us in flat water kayaking. These are fairly large, stable, seaworthy boats, safer in waves and easier to handle than a canoe (unfortunately Folbot does not make this model any more).

In a kayak, one sits near the water. There is a sensory experience of being aware of the water, the fish. Gliding quietly along the shore, one is aware of the birds and other wildlife. Unlike in a canoe, one is not dependent on a partner. I find a kayak easier to handle, to stop when observing a bird, for instance. It is quiet, unobtrusive and good exercise.

PICKING A KAYAK for lakes is more exacting than selecting a canoe. Go for stability over speed. There are long, narrow cruising solo kayaks that are fast but tippy; these are for experienced individuals who can reliably do a self rescue if capsized.

Choose a kayak with a cockpit large enough that, when sitting, one can bend the knees to some extent. Otherwise the sitting position can become uncomfortable, especially for us older individuals. If the boat is stable enough, using a cushion to elevate the sitting position makes paddling less tiring. The boat should be designed for what is called flat water, not white water. The two uses are not compatible.

A DOUBLE KAYAK can be difficult for a solo paddler in wind; stay with the single style. An exception of which I am aware is the 17-foot Folbot, which can be converted to solo use and some other designs can be converted as well. Paddle length should be adequate for the width of the boat and height of the paddler; a light weight paddle is less tiring.

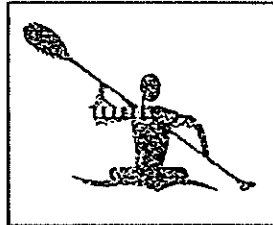
Some use a paddle that is feathered for the wind. I prefer a nonfeathered one. Drip rings are needed to prevent water from running onto one's legs; even so a waterproof apron may be desired. It is essential that the cockpit be comfortable for sitting and that there be an adequate back rest. If not, one can buy or construct a decent removable back rest.

LEARNING TO PADDLE the boat is easy. At first it can be tiring to hold the paddle up but one's muscles become used to the position; elevating the sitting position helps. Kayaks are much easier in a wind than a canoe. Be sure the boat has sufficient flotation. If not, buy flotation bags.

Getting in and out of a kayak poses more difficulties than is the case with a canoe. I prefer to place the kayak parallel to the shore, grounding it on the shore if necessary, depending on its stability. I step into the boat, holding the gunwale, lower myself quickly and shove off. Getting out is trickier. Again, I line the boat up the same way. Folbot backrests can be flipped up to sit upon, so I sit on mine, place one foot in the water, lean forward and step out. The paddle can be used as a brace.

USING A DOCK to board and get out can be even more difficult. In our 12-foot Folbot, Mary gets out by leaning forward and lifting herself onto the dock. Getting in is the reverse, stepping into the boat from the sitting position and lowering oneself. This requires adequate upper body strength and balance; a dump into the lake is always a possibility. Incidentally, getting out of these boats and sitting in them can aggravate a bad knee or back. A solo canoe may be a better choice in such cases.

As to the use of a dock, an exception may be boats such as the 17-foot Folbot, which is quite stable and should be easier to get in and out of. We have this model and I recommend it for two people. It is well built. The same applies to the 12-foot single, the craft we have, although it (Next page ---->)





## Study Findings Back "No Fertilizer" Advice

FOR YEARS WE have been advising lake residents to avoid using lawn fertilizers. Our reasoning: That which makes the grass green also makes the lake green because fertilizer nutrients leach into the lake and stimulate explosive algae blooms.

The latest Minnesota research lends emphasis to what we have been saying. A Hennepin County study isolates phosphorus, a common fertilizer ingredient, as the culprit. What compounds the problem is that most soils in the upper Midwest have naturally high levels of phosphorus and don't need additional supplies for lawn care. Generous watering will, in most cases, do the job.

THE SITUATION BECOMES even more acute when one realizes that it takes only a pound of phosphorus to generate 500 pounds of algae. When that happens on a large enough scale a lake becomes less and less suitable for such recreational activities as boating, swimming and even fishing.

What can you do about it? Besides not using fertilizers:

- (1) Keep grass clippings and leaves out of the lake.
- (2) Avoid beach fires (ashes have a high phosphorus content).
- (3) Never discard fish cleanings, or gar-

## Kayaking --

is not as easy to get out of as the 17-foot.

THE DECEMBER ISSUE of *Canoe & Kayak* magazine is an extensive buyer's guide (1-800-323-3525). It is a good resource. Also you should check with local suppliers. An unusual design worth considering is the Phoenix Pokbot, a solo kayak with a stable, flat bottom and a very large, open cockpit (not suitable for large waves without a spray skirt). It is liked by birders, anglers and duck hunters. The Klepper single Aeriis, although expensive, is similar to the Folbot I use and would be ideal for Ten Mile Lake.

One also might consider a very different type of kayak -- the style that is a sealed hull. One sits on top in a shallow cockpit with wells for the feet; a removable seat and backrest are used. These boats are quite stable and come in various sizes, including for children. I am told one can get into these boats from the water. In fact some are

bage of any kind, into a lake or wetland.

(4) Encourage the growth of natural plants along your pressure ridge and beach area to filter nutrients out of runoff water.

(5) Do whatever it takes to reduce or prevent soil erosion along your lake frontage.

## Well Water Testing Day to be Saturday, July 17

THIS SEASON'S well water testing day will be Saturday, July 17, a service to residents being sponsored by the Environment and Ecology Committee and the TMLA Board.

Kits and instructions for drawing samples may be picked up and returned between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at one or another of two sites: For the North Shore, at the Buzz Converse workshop driveway. For the South Shore, the driveway area for what in earlier days was the Woock Store.

WHEN DRAWING your water sample or samples, please read the instructions carefully. It is possible to contaminate the sample in a number of ways: by touching the inner rim of the container cap or the faucet, or by failing to run the water for about five minutes before taking the sample.

If the sample becomes contaminated by improper handling, the test's integrity will be compromised. Water should be drawn from the faucet most often used for drinking.

used as swimming platforms, such as by life-guards. One can get easily into the 2-man from a dock. Getting out again requires adequate lifting strength, possible for most people. An alternative would be to get into the boat from the water if use of the dock does not work.

THESE BOATS STRIKE ME as more suitable for warm rather than cool weather. Yukon Jack carries an extensive line of this boat type. Incidentally, a kayak with a deep cockpit is much warmer than a canoe in cool weather. If you decide to pick a solo canoe, go for stability over speed; some of these boats can be tippy. Consider the solo kayak/canoe your own quiet, unobtrusive personal water craft.

Phone numbers for kayak manufacturers are: Phoenix, 1-800-986-2236, Berea, KY; Klepper, 1-800-323-3525, Calgary; Folbot, 1-843-744-3483, Charleston, SC; Old Town, 1-207-827-5513, Old Town, ME. There are numerous other manufacturers, but these offer a good cross section.



## IN MEMORIAM

### Yvonne Marie Gardeen

Yvonne Marie Gardeen, 72, a regular summer visitor and resident of Ten Mile Lake, died December 28 in Edina. She was born in Minneapolis in 1926, the only child of Milton and Ruth Sundin, a son and granddaughter of Swedish immigrants.

When she was 12 years old her father was stricken with crippling arthritis, a disease that confined him to a wheelchair for the rest of his life. Mrs. Sundin became the provider and Yvonne the family cook. It was the beginning of a lifelong gift for Yvonne of enjoying the creation of beautiful meals and the extension of warm hospitality.

Mrs. Gardeen was graduated from Minnehaha Academy and the Northwest Institute of Medical Technology where she earned a degree as a medical and x-ray technician. She worked

in Two Rivers, WI, and later in the offices of two physicians in the Twin Cities.

In 1948, she was married to John Gardeen, whom she had met at Minnehaha Academy. They were parents of four children: Gary, David, Karen and Scott. Over the years, they visited friends and relatives on Ten Mile and about five years ago built a summer home in the southwest region of the lake just north of the public boat access.

Mrs. Gardeen is survived by her husband, John, their four children and their spouses, 11 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

-0-

### Cecilia Roles

Cecilia Roles, of Crystal, MN, a long-time visitor to Ten Mile, passed away September 21, 1998. Her family has spent weekends at their cabin in Lundstrom's Bay since 1968. The Roles place was the original Blue Bay Resort, also known as Abraham's Campground. Mrs. Roles is survived by her husband, Wallace.

## Hope Levellers on Boy River Will Foil Beavers

AS WAS REPORTED in the Fall Newsletter, a crew of Birch and Ten Mile Lakers cooperated in an October project that it is hoped will help control water level problems on both lakes. In the case of Ten Mile, lake levels have tended to be too high, while the opposite has been true for Birch. The Ten Milers who collaborated on the project were Jerry Mills, Don Patterson, Don Brown and, a lake visitor, Tim Hollerback. Birch Lake crew members were Bill Quinn, Dick Anderson, Terry Gardner and Chris McKeown.

The men installed three "Clemson levelers" at the beaver dam on the Boy River about one quarter of a mile above Birch Lake. Clemson levelers are long culvert-like devices, enclosed in wire mesh, that are placed on the river bottom. The device transports water in such a way that beavers cannot detect it and, therefore, do not try to plug the levelers.

THE IDEA WAS BORN after consultation with Curt English, Department of Natural Resources and Dave Enblom, Cass County Engineer. To accomplish the task, a section of the beaver dam approximately 15 feet wide and 20 feet long was blown to a depth of 5 feet. Leveler intake sections 10 feet long were attached to 60 feet of discharge pipe, making each

pipe about 70 feet long. The units were assembled on a boat landing and loaded on styrofoam blocks and a small sailboat. The men then walked the units out, positioned them, and rolled them into the river.

The levelers were submerged, the caged end of the three side-by-side intake openings on the river bottom with about a foot of water over them. The attached pipes rested on the bottom, a minimum of 2 feet of water covering them at the outlet end. Installation required about eight and a half hours and cost the two lake associations about \$2,200. As part of the overall project, a second beaver dam was removed near the Highway #6 bridge under the supervision of Enblom.

BASED ON THE DNR hydrologists' information the levelers should provide a 24-hour-a-day water flow of from 13 to 14 cubic feet per second. There also will be some flow over the center of the device, unless the beavers rebuild the dam, but that should not interfere with water flow through the levelers themselves. To help control the beaver population on the river, Rick Grewe and Charley Green had trapping operations under way last fall. The leveler "solution" is being tried because earlier efforts to manage water levels in the lakes by pulling dams and trapping beavers were not successful.

Brown has been taking water level measurements at the Birch Lake dam and Walt Kane reads the water level gauge on Ten Mile on a regular basis through the open (Next Page >)

## Q. & A. on Watershed Coordinator Position

By Sarah Cox, Associate Editor

TEN MILE LAKE Association now has a part-time position with the title of "Watershed Coordinator." The position involves about 8 hours a week at an annual cost of \$8,000, including expenses. John Alden, a long-time Association member and former president, is serving as our first coordinator. Some TMLA members have questioned the need for the position and wondered about the role the coordinator will play, so this article will try to answer some of those questions and introduce you to the work John is doing.

### ■ Why do we need a Watershed Coordinator?

TMLA's principal mission is to protect and improve the lake and its environment. For years dedicated volunteers have carried out the work of the Environment and Ecology Committee (EEC) and have invested many hours of time with no compensation to plan and do the research, writing, monitoring and work projects that have helped to keep the lake as beautiful and clean as it is. Jim Schwartz has been particularly devoted to this effort and is all too familiar with demands that have been placed on volunteers. We cannot, however, expect these volunteers to go on forever protecting the lake on our behalf.

In order to be sure that an accountable person will be available to oversee all the issues relating to the quality of the lake and the protection of its watershed, the Board of Directors determined that a paid position was necessary. The Board wants to make decisions that are appropriate for the lake, and is prepared to mobilize volunteers for action projects when needed, but it cannot act without information and without being in touch with other developments around

the State. Assembling, assessing and communicating this kind of information requires ongoing attention that seasonal volunteers often are not prepared to give.

■ What led the Board to suggest this position? About three years ago, the Board of Directors and the EEC began to think seriously about the lake's future and what the TMLA should be doing. A number of research projects were suggested, but as the leadership reviewed the issues involved, it was clear that the complexity of contemporary ecological management is beyond the grasp of untrained volunteers who may only be available in the summer. Someone needs to monitor these issues year round. Someone needs to attend meetings held all over the State to review and plan actions concerning natural resources. And the people who had been doing these things for many years were not being replaced by younger volunteers, or were no longer able to devote the time and effort required for the work that needed doing.

The proposed solution was to establish a part-time position, reporting to the Board. The leadership wanted to find someone willing to do the research, read the reports, attend the meetings, and pay attention to the Ten Mile environment with a professional eye. After some consideration, they decided to title the position Watershed Coordinator.

■ What are John Alden's qualifications to be our Watershed Coordinator? John has been coming to Ten Mile Lake for 40 years and has been a year-round resident since the middle 1970s. He has worked in the field of lake shore development and in 1991 graduated from Bemidji State University with a degree in Geography/Regional Planning. Since receiving his degree he has worked as a consultant in planning and conservation for the State and Cass County. He is currently involved as a consultant with the Cass County Soil and Water Conservation District. In his work he attends many of the meetings that are of interest to TMLA.

When John first heard the Board discussing what became the Watershed Coordinator position he knew he would be interested. He recused himself from further involvement and applied when the position was created. When the Board interviewed John, there was agreement that he had the professional qualifications and the experience they were looking for and, additionally, was a year-round area resident who, by his past and present activities, was firmly committed to the preservation of Ten Mile Lake.

## Levellers --

water season. These records will be used over time to determine whether the levelers are effective. Buoys are being located at the project site to alert boaters to their presence. Before the devices were planted, it was estimated that six to eighteen inches of water was being held back by the beaver dam. (Editor's note: Much of the information for this article was adapted from an account in the *Pilot-Independent*, Walker, February 4, 1999.)