

Ten Mile Lake Association

# Newsletter

Summer, 2001

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

## ANNUAL MEETING TO FEATURE PRESENTATION OF NEW TMLA HANDBOOK

### August 4 Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Ten Mile Lake Association will take place as follows:

**August 4, 2001**

**9:30 a.m.**

**At the Hackensack Senior Center  
(next to Post Office)**

The featured item on the agenda for this year's meeting will be the presentation of the new TMLA Handbook, which will be introduced and handed out at the meeting. This Handbook has been in preparation for two years, under the supervision of the Board of Directors, by a committee consisting of **Gail Becher** (Chair), **Phoebe Alden**, **Willa Martin**, and **Sarah Cox**. It is in the form of a three-ring binder, with the expectation that members will be able to keep their TMLA Directories in it along with the materials developed by the committee. Some members may also wish to use the notebook to store their own papers relating to their house or property, or to keep recent newsletters. **Gail Becher** and other TMLA Committee Chairs will explain the maps, management plans, safety materials, and other information provided in the Handbook.

Please note: **these handbooks cannot be mailed to members. Your best opportunity to obtain a handbook is to attend the annual meeting.** For those who are unable to attend, the committee will make handbooks available at the Hackensack Senior Center on the following dates:

<b>Tuesday, August 7</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. to noon</b>
<b>Wednesday, August 15</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. to noon</b>
<b>Thursday, August 23</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. to noon</b>

If these dates are not possible, you may call **Sarah Cox** (675-6844) or **Gail Becher** (547-3214) to make arrangements to receive a handbook.

The Annual Meeting will open with a coffee hour at 9:30, during which members can view exhibits and chat with Association officers. The business meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.

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**Ten Mile Lake Association Officers**

Bob Crom, President	547-2473
Don Willis, Vice-Pres.	675-6231
Tom Cox, Treasurer	675-6844
Lisa Tuller, Secretary	675-6906
Jim Miller, Ex Officio	547-3337

**Resident Directors**

Gail Becher	547-3214
Heidi Hoppe	675-6265
Dick Horn	675-6163
Stuart Lane	675-6998
Jerry Mills	547-1164
Larry Urbanski	547-3107

**Summer Resident Directors**

Stan Benbrook	675-6810
Ray Black	675-6903
Bob Crabb	675-6120
Al Griggs	675-6312
Dave Losby	675-6066
Hank Sandvig	675-6521
Randy Vosbeck	547-3840

**Watershed Coordinator**

John Alden	547-3114
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**Committees**

**Adopt-A-Highway** - David Losby, Robert Nelson, Judy Bryngelson

**Advisory Committee** - Jim Miller, Jack Adams, Al Hoover, Ross Melgaard, Jim Schwartz, Stan Skaug

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

**Environ. Protection Fund** - Al Hoover, Ray Black, Rod Owre, Stan Skaug

**Finance** - Bob Crabb, Al Hoover, Jack Adams, Stuart Lane, David Losby, Ross Melgaard, Ted Melby, Jim Miller

**Fisheries** - Nick Melby, Larry Urbanski, Don Brown, Pat Carey, Adam Gislason, Bob Horn, Dick Horn, Gary Marchwick, Karl Reuland, Jim Schwartz

**Handbook/Directory** - Gail Becher, Phoebe Alden, Sarah Cox, Willa Martin

**History** - Willa Martin, Stan Benbrook, Don Buck, Tom Cox, Sue Eikenberry, Deb Hamilton, Anne McGill, Ross Melgaard, Lorraine Stromquist, Larry Urbanski

**Lake Level** - Walt Kane

**Lake Level Mgmt.** - Tom Cox, John Alden, George Brandt, Don Brown, Dan Eikenberry, Marty McCleery, Walt Kane, Jim Schwartz

**Lake Safety** - Jerry Mills, Terry Cook, Pat Gjevre, Don Harris, Jim McGill, Barbara Roberts, Mary Ann Schmidt

**Loons** - Dick Horn, Bob Moe, Bob Crom, Chet Malek, Lynn Martin, Ken Regner, Murry Towler

**Membership Coord.** - Phoebe Alden

**Newsletter** - Sarah Cox, ed., Jim Schwartz

**Webmaster** - Geoffrey Cox

**Zoning & Land Use** - Ellie Nelson, John Alden, Bob Nelson, Don Patterson, Dick Roberts

**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**

*by Bob Crom, TMLA, Inc. President*

Research grants totaling \$45,000, secured through the efforts of our Watershed Coordinator John Alden, will greatly expand our research capacity in the coming year and beyond. These projects will be directed toward a better understanding of water movement and other critical environmental influences within our watershed as articulated by committees central to those interests.

According to a study reported in one of the workshops at the most recent annual meeting of Minnesota Lake Association the average productive tenure of a volunteer in any given organization is three years. Although our Association is extremely fortunate to have many committee members, chairs, co-chairs, and Board members who have greatly exceeded that length of dedicated service, the study points up the need to constantly involve new people. Again this year, we will be asking those with interests in becoming involved in the Association to indicate the nature of their interests as part of the annual meeting.

And, speaking of the annual meeting, I'd again urge you to attend. It will be your best opportunity to receive a newly prepared loose leaf handbook developed for Ten Mile Lake homeowners. This handbook will hold the updated directory and will include a map showing locations of hazard buoys, loon nest sites, and slow "no-wake" zones; and other materials which will provide insights on lake safety, what's proposed as part of our updated long range management plan, and much more. Those who arrive at 9:30 will have a chance to have a cup of coffee and visit with friends or one or more of the TMLA committee representatives available for questions and discussion. The meeting will begin promptly at 10 a.m.

I hope to see you Saturday morning, August 4, at the Hackensack Senior Center!



## AWARD FOR THE NORTH TEN MILE LAKE SEWER PROJECT

The North Ten Mile Lake Cluster Sewer Project is the recipient of a Year 2000 County Achievement Award by the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC). AMC President Tom Delaney, who is a County Commissioner of Chisago County, presented the award (along with awards to seven other counties) at AMC's annual conference in Rochester in December. All recipients were nominated by their counties; winners were selected by a committee of county officials chaired by AMC First Vice President, Tony Bennett, a Ramsey County Commissioner. Craig Gilbertson, of Cass County Environmental Services, accepted the award for all participants in the Ten Mile Lake Project.

An article in the Summer 1999 issue of this Newsletter described the North Ten Mile Project as it was in its development stage. The project was necessary because septic systems along the North Shore were failing and the homeowners had no space to develop new individual systems, because of the narrow strip of land they occupy between the lake and

County Road 50, beyond which stretches a broad swamp. Instead, as authorized by a fairly recent Minnesota statute, the homeowners formed a Subordinate Services District to develop a new wastewater treatment system serving 22 properties.

Cass County assisted the project by making County land available by permanent easement for the drainfield, and through assistance and advice of County staff as the project went forward. The Tri-County Leach Lake Watershed Project (TCLLWP) granted funds toward design of the project. Finally, a federal grant provided most of the funds for construction of the project. A committee of homeowners chaired by Jerry Mills put in hours of work to bring the whole project together, prepare grant applications, and see the project through to completion. The committee, now chaired by Tim Thatcher, continues to oversee the operation of the system.

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## EAGLES AND LEAD POISONING — A FOLLOWUP REPORT

*by Sarah Cox, Editor*

LAST SUMMER THIS NEWSLETTER ran a brief article about the danger to loons and eagles in the use of lead sinkers by fishermen. (See "Loons and Eagles — Yes! Lead Sinkers — No!" TMLA Newsletter, Summer, 2000.) Those of you who subscribe to the Walker Pilot-Independent or occasionally check the TMLA Website saw the truth of that article borne out this winter, in news of the discovery of a disabled eagle by Christian Bliska on December 10 while driving away from the lake with his family. They spotted the eagle in a ditch by the road near the lake home of Christian's mother, Molly Bliska. When spotted, the eagle did not fly off but hobbled into the woods. Asked for help by Christian, Molly checked on the eagle and found it agitated but still unable to fly. Christian decided to notify the University of Minnesota's Raptor Center, a nationally known rehabilitation center for birds of prey. Ultimately, Christian, having arrived in Minneapolis, headed back to Hackensack in his own plane, along with his daughter, Anna, and Terry Headley, a volunteer with the Raptor Center. The Bliskas and Terry were able to capture the eagle and deliver it to the Raptor Center, where the eagle was sedated and X-rayed.

SINCE NO INJURIES WERE FOUND, the Center team suspected lead poisoning; blood analysis showed a lead concentration of 3.34 parts per million — well above the expected fatal level. The eagle was placed in treatment, initially seemed to respond, but died on

December 16. Dr. Pat Redig, director of the Raptor Center, believed that the eagle died of "acute heart failure, ... [since] lead is toxic to heart muscles ... as well as nervous tissues throughout the body."

THE EAGLE, ESTIMATED TO BE at least five years old, was a female weighing about twelve pounds. Dr. Redig believed the eagle had gotten one exposure to a small amount of lead which remained in the stomach only a few days, probably three to five days before the eagle was found. Eagles ingest lead when feeding on lead-contaminated fish or waterfowl, or gut piles left in the woods by deer hunters. The effects include anemia, anorexia, vision and motor-skill impairment, weight loss, vomiting and diarrhea, as well as increased susceptibility to disease. While lead shot has been outlawed for waterfowl hunting, it is still legal for game hunting, and is still widely used for fishing sinkers. The Raptor Center, which treats some 120 bald eagles every year, reports that one-quarter of these suffer from lead poisoning.

IF YOU LIKE TO WATCH THE EAGLE make its swooping fishing runs over Ten Mile Lake in the early evening, put aside those lead sinkers and discard your lead-shot shells. If not, whatever your intended quarry, you may be killing an eagle.

*[Taken from articles by Gail DeBoer, Walker Pilot Independent, December 21, 2000.]*

## From the Notebook

by Jim Schwartz

NEW RESEARCH suggests that lakes, if left undisturbed, do not age in quite the way it had been assumed. The prevailing assumption has been that once lakes are born, they go through a natural aging process, picking up more nutrients and algae as they grow older. Two University of Minnesota scientists, however, have a different scenario, based on studies of several lakes in the Alaskan wilderness that were from 10 to 14,000 years old. They found that, as these remote lakes aged, they actually became clear-er and nutrient concentrations decreased. What this study tells us is that the heavy hand of man can and usually does have a profoundly negative effect on a lake's aging. Obviously, we would do well to heed Mahatma Ghandi's dictum to tread lightly as possible upon the earth.

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FROM AN ENVIRONMENTAL standpoint, motor-ized watercraft have little that can be said in their favor. They are inefficient, pollution prone, noisy and expensive. We put up with all that because they are needed if we are to enjoy our lakes to the fullest. But that does not mean marine motors cannot be improved. They can be . . . and lake people should be in the forefront of those pressuring manufacturers to step up their efforts to produce cleaner, more efficient, quieter engines.

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MINNESOTA'S STATE BIRD, the common loon, occupies an uncommonly warm spot in most lake-dwellers' hearts. Nothing quite matches the thrill of hearing that first loon call as the ice begins to loosen its wintry grip. Soon a chorus echoes back and forth as others join the choir, serenading well into the nighttime hours those who will listen. It is a haunt-ingly beautiful performance — a magical message from Mother Nature.

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EVERY CHARTED LAKE in Minnesota has what is known as its Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM). Ten Mile's, for example, is 1379.9 feet above sea level. It is determined by noting the highest level at which the lake's water has remained long enough to leave its mark upon the landscape. Generally, it is the point where the natural vegetation changes from predominantly aquatic to predominantly terrestrial. Knowing the OHWM is critical in recording a lake's

water level fluctuations. As you well know, this has been an abnormally high water year for Ten Mile. Walt Kane, who keeps track of Ten Mile's ups and downs, says the lake topped out so far this year at 1380.22, besting by .01' the 1380.21' high established in 1979.

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"SILLY AS A GOOSE" is a popular adage, but at least some Canada goose behavior is anything but. When geese are migrating, for instance, the flap of each bird's wings creates an "uplift" for the bird following. By flying in V-formation, the whole flock adds an estimated 71% range to what each bird's would be if it flew alone. Lesson: community effort pays.

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IT APPEARS THAT we dodged the forest tent caterpillar bullet this year, but a heavy infestation of the pesky critters next season is likely. The caterpillars were much more numerous this year than last, an indication that the buildup is under way. This area's last such invasion came in the early 1990's and lasted a couple of years before predators and other forces, natural and otherwise, brought on a population crash. The caterpillar defoliates hardwood trees, particularly aspen and birch, in May and June, then goes into the pupal stage in preparation for the next season. Affected trees seldom die, but defoliation does put them under stress and exposes them to other problems. One recommended control mechanism is aerial spraying of defined areas with a microbial insecticide (Bt), considered a safe treatment because of its low toxicity to non-target organisms. Other measures include picking the caterpillars and their cocoons from buildings and trees and destroying them, and also identifying and destroying the moths. More information on what to do about the forest tent caterpillar may be obtained from your County Extension Office or from the Department of Natural Resources.

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DO YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM a good turn this year by: limiting your water use, flushing only bio-degradable wastes into your system, eliminating the use of a garbage disposal unit, avoiding the application of bacterial products that promise to "renew" your system (you don't need them and they may do more harm than good), not using chlorinated or other toilet tank cleaners, and, above all, seeing to it that your system is pumped and backwashed at the end of the season, a practice that should be repeated every three to five years, depending on how much your system is used.

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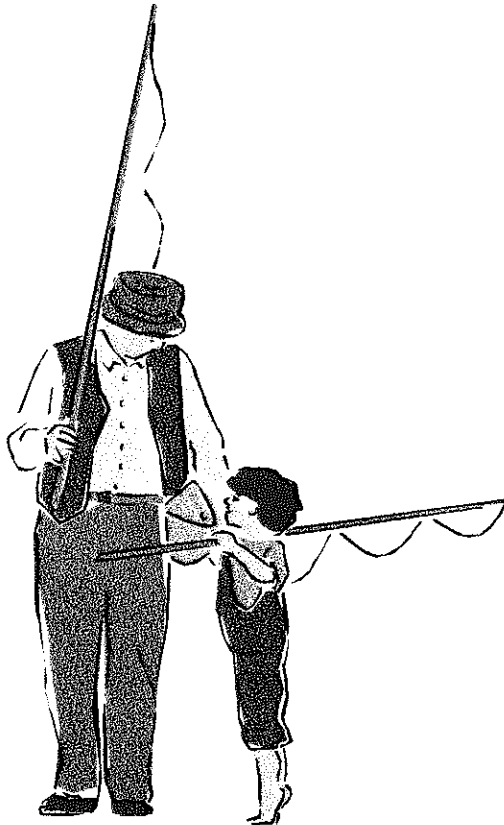
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## FISHING NOTES

by Nick Mellby, Co-Chair  
Fisheries Committee

**WALLEYE HEADS FOR** the DNR study may be dropped off at the following locations in addition to the DNR office located south of Walker: Ted Mellby's (lower Ten Mile), Larry Urbanski's (upper Ten Mile), and Happiness Resort (Long Bay). As noted in the spring newsletter, this is an important study in determining the amount of natural reproduction on Ten Mile and helps us in attaining our goal to improve our fishery.

**THE 20-INCH NORTHERN REGULATION** remains in effect until 2007. All Northerns greater than 20 inches must be released immediately. There is evidence of significant noncompliance with this regulation. Please follow this release practice and encourage others to do so also. The 2000 net survey shows some signs that this is working, as the average Northern size has increased slightly since the 1997 survey.



**PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE** or disturb any aquatic plants. Fish habitat is very difficult to restore once destroyed. Following lakescaping practices will not only help our water quality but enhance our fish habitat. The committee is currently looking into ways of improving

fish habitat on the lake. Anyone with thoughts on creating and protecting habitat is encouraged to contact the committee.

**NO-WAKE ZONE AREAS** are not only subject to shoreline erosion, but also are areas that contain critical fish habitat. Boat traffic can destroy fish spawning and nesting areas. Please be conscious of these areas and other shallow water areas particularly during the spawning season of May and early June. In an effort to identify spawning areas, please contact the fishing committee if you have witnessed specific spawning or nesting activity.

**PERSONAL FISHING LOGS** can be of significant help in assessing fish populations and overall strength of the fishery. Please contact Nick Mellby if you are keeping such a log or are interested in starting one. We can work with DNR in standardizing the format if we have enough interest.

**THE DNR WILL BE STOCKING** 1300 pounds of walleye fry this fall. A similar sized stocking last took place in 1998.

**BAG LIMIT DISCUSSIONS** from early this year will most likely lead to changes in current regulations. Any changes will not take effect until the 2002 season. Look for summary of changes in the spring 02 newsletter.

**THE FISHING COMMITTEE WELCOMES** any comments, suggestions, or experiences. This feedback helps in protecting our precious and limited resource.

**PROMOTE THE PRACTICE OF CATCH AND RELEASE.** This can be as rewarding as bringing in a full stringer. Keep just enough for a meal and don't let tomorrow's trophies become freezer burnt garbage.

**GOOD FISHING!!**

*From the Notebook, Continued*

"LET US LOOK to the earth, to its wealth and beauty, and be proud that we are a part of it. Let us respect it, and time and space, the forces of creation and life itself. As we hold the future in our hands, let us not destroy it." — *Helen Hoover, The Long-Shadowed Forest, 1063. Thomas Y. Crowell Co., N.Y.*

## ROADWORK REPORTS

### PLANS GO FORWARD FOR CSAH 71 & 50

by Rebecca Hauschild, WSB & Associates

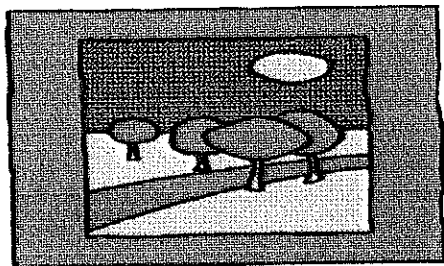
#### County State Aid Highway (CsaH) 71

Cass County is proposing improvements to CSAH 71 from CSAH 6 to CSAH 50 for a total length of 7.3 miles, tentatively scheduled for construction in 2003. A large portion of the route is through the Chippewa National Forest and traverses the northwesterly side of Ten Mile Lake. The roadway has been classified as a Natural Preservation Route by the State of Minnesota. This allows for a more flexible roadway design. The design will focus on preserving the natural environment, improving safety, and providing for non-motorized recreational use.

#### County State Aid Highway (CsaH) 50

Cass County is proposing improvements to CSAH 50 from CSAH 71 to Trunk Highway 371 for a total length of 1.7 miles. This road runs along the northeasterly side of Ten Mile Lake, and southerly side of Portage Lake. The improvement proposes to analyze alternative concepts for the area which is heavily developed between Ten Mile Lake and the large wetland complex. A hydrologic design committee is planned to be assembled for this project and will incorporate the ongoing studies by the Ten Mile Lake Association, the University of Minnesota Duluth and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency as part of the improvements.

A PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM, comprised of local representatives and oversight agencies, has been established to promote input and cooperation for the design of each of these projects. If you have any questions regarding either of the above projects, please contact David Enblom, Cass County Engineer at (218) 547-1211, Ext. 101 or Ron Bray, WSB & Associates, Inc. at (888) 541-4800, Ext. 177.



### HIGHWAY SURFACE TREATMENTS

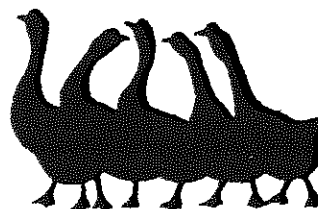
by Jim Schwartz, Associate Editor

SEVERAL HIGHWAYS serving Ten Mile residents are undergoing surface treatments that should be completed by mid-July. In late June, County 50 and 71 were coated with calcium chloride to stabilize the surface and to reduce dust. Shingobee 49 and 51 (the latter now designated as Hiram Loop Road NW) received a layer of gravel, followed by the calcium chloride application. A portion of County 71 remains closed due to high water across the road at two spots. Motorists are being routed on Hiram Loop Road NW to bypass that stretch of highway. Also scheduled for calcium chloride application is Boone Point Road. Meanwhile, an experimental treatment that combines a bituminous mix with fine sand and clay will be tried on Hiram Roads 1 and 2. It's a process that is used in Finland, Sweden and other European countries and is reported to result in a firm, long-lasting surface at relatively low cost.

### A NOTE ON GEESE

by Jim Schwartz, Associate Editor

TEN MILE IS HOME to at least one Canada goose family. Six goslings, along with Mom and Dad, cruise the lakeshore, pausing now and then to waddle up on land and gorge on the goodie they dearly love: lawn grass. In so doing, of course, they always leave a few calling cards, a "gift" not highly appreciated by lake residents.



One way of discouraging geese from invading your property is to let the shoreline revert to natural vegetation. Geese tend to avoid such areas because the high-growing plants make it difficult for them to spot predators. If you are in the habit of feeding geese and other waterfowl, it's probably not a good idea. Not only are their droppings a nuisance, but those nutrients also lead to the proliferation of organisms in the water that produce swimmer's itch.

## ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

*by Dave Losby*

For over ten years TMLA has sponsored the Adopt-A-Highway program, picking up litter along the roadside for 6.5 miles of Highway 6 from 371 to 71 and 2 miles of Highway 50 from 371 to 71. Volunteers assist in half-mile stretches of these roads. While the program calls for pick-ups three times a year (Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and Labor Day), several volunteers pick up litter routinely as they walk the roads.

We need volunteers to assist in this program for the following stretches of Lower Ten Mile Lake Road (Highway 6):

- Meadow Road to Foresman Point Road
- Sandy Beach Lane to 64<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and
- Boat Access Road to County 71.

If you are willing to devote **three hours a year** to this TMLA project, please call **Dave Losby at 675-6066**. You will also have an opportunity to sign up at the Annual Meeting.

This year the following TMLA members are participating in the Lower Ten Mile Highway 6 portion of the program: **John McManus, Molly Bliska, Judy Bryngelson, Sandy Birkholz, Hillaway Association, Don Willis, Ken Regner, Rod Owre, and Dave Losby. Don Patterson, Larry Urbanski, and Bob Nelson** are participating in the Upper Ten Mile portion. We thank all these participants and hope to add more names to this list.

## WATERCRAFT SAFETY TRAINING — A GREAT SUCCESS

Thanks to the concerted efforts of the lake associations of Ten Mile, Birch, and Pleasant Lakes, the Hackensack Lion's Club, the Office of the Sheriff, and the Department of Natural Resources, some 50 young persons received a full day of water craft safety training, leading to Water Craft Operator's Permits, on June 28, 2001. Minnesota boating laws require that young persons between 12 and 17 years old must have these permits to operate boat motors over 25 horsepower.

The idea for this training program originated with **Don Harris**, a member of the TMLA Water Safety Committee. With the strong support of the Committee, Don approached the other organizations to develop the one-day program. Tim Berglund, Deputy Sheriff, and George Jurgenson, DNR, provided the training, The Lion's Club provided lunch and break-time snacks. The Town of Hackensack lent its Community Center for the classroom instruction and its public dock for the in-boat instruction. The three lake associations worked to publicize the event and register students.

In addition to **Don Harris**, TMLA members **Jerry Mills, Don Patterson, Dick Roberts, and Mary Ann Schmidt** helped make the day a great success. Other persons assisting were **Ollie DeGray** (Lion's Club), **Jay Cline, Berna Miller** (Pleasant Lake), and **Jim McCormick** (Birch Lake).

## THE LOON REPORT

*by Bob Moe, Loon Committee*

**IT APPEARS THAT** the loon hatch on Ten Mile is down from previous years, but we have two chicks to report as of this writing (July 7, 2001). The pair on the south side of the island were successful with one chick (on a platform) and the pair in the opening to Long Bay were also able to produce a chick (on a shore nest).

**FOR THE FIRST TIME** in several years, the pair that returns to Flower Pot Bay has not been successful in producing a brood, even though two eggs were laid on the platform and the pair did stay on the nest

for a couple of days. The pair at the south end of Long Bay has also not been able to produce, and it is possible that the high water and wet weather may have driven the loons off their nest there (as it also did in Lundstrom's Bay).

**WE WILL CONTINUE** to check oin the progress of the newly hatched loons, and will look into placing a good platform in or near Lundstrom's Bay next year to aid the loons in their attempts to keep their nests out of the high water.

## WATER LEVEL REPORT

*by Tom Cox, Chair, Lake Level Management Committee*

**WALT KANE REPORTS** that the June 14th water level is the highest on record since the DNR began keeping Ten Mile's water level statistics in 1973. On June 14, Ten Mile's level stood at 1380.22' — .01' higher than the next highest reading, 1380.21', of April 27, 1979. The June 14 level is 2 inches above the May 1st level, 7.9 inches above the level of last November 1st, and 5.3 inches higher than June a year ago.

**ON FRIDAY, JUNE 22ND**, the six members of the Birch Lake Dam—Tri-Lake Management Board met with the Cass County Highway Engineer, **David Enblom**, to discuss the operation of the Birch Lake Outlet Structure. Following the meeting, the Engineer and members of the Board visited the structure, where water was flowing from Birch Lake an inch or more above the top of the structure's wingwalls, or about a foot above the level at which the 1976 DNR Permit stipulates that the stop log be removed. Mr. Enblom temporarily removed the six-inch stop log to observe the downstream effects of the ensuing surge of water. After about an hour's observation, Mr. Enblom reinserted the stop log. Then, on Monday, June 25th, following consultation with **David Ford**, Supervisor of the Surface Hydrology Unit in the DNR

Central Office in St. Paul, Mr. Enblom had the stop log removed.

**IN THE TEN DAYS** between June 27th and July 6th, the TML water level dropped 1.8 inches and on the 6th stood at 1380.00'. This drop was due to both evaporation and increased run-out at the dam.

**AT A COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING** in Pillager on Tuesday, July 3, with the concurrence of the Tri-Lake Management Board, Mr. Enblom proposed that the Commissioners apply to the DNR for an amended permit, one that would call for a "fixed level" structure at the Birch Lake Outlet. The goal of this proposal is to establish a fixed level structure that will address both high and low water problems as well as practically possible from a hydrological and engineering standpoint, and cease the use of an operable stop log altogether. At present, Mr. Ford's St. Paul office is poised to provide technical assistance to **Kirk English's** office in Bemidji with respect to the development of an amended permit. A meeting to coordinate this effort was set for mid-July when this newsletter went to press.

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## REPORT ON GRANT AWARDS

*by John Alden, Watershed Coordinator*

As reported in the last Newsletter, I have written and TMLA has co-sponsored two grants recently awarded for studies of the Upper Boy River Watershed (UBRW). The first is a Challenge Grant funded by the Board of Water, Soil and Resources (BWSR) for projects under \$10,000. Cass County and TMLA proposed an initial study of the Watershed to identify environmentally sensitive areas in the the river and in lakes from Portage Lake to Big Deep Lake. With the support of TMLA, Cass County was granted a cash grant of \$8,500, and will be financial agent for the grant. TMLA will offer voluntary assistance. Action items will include in-stream and lake evaluations of hydrological conditions and structures that may constrict or allow water flow.

The second grant is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency, which awarded \$185,000 to the

Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) to do non-point source pollution protection. Conversations of Bob Crom and Tom Cox of TMLA with Jane VanHunnik, Director of MHB, indicated our strong interest in expanding our existing programs for non-point pollution control, and revealed that our regular expenditures for water quality monitoring and watershed management satisfied grant match requirements. \$36,000 of the EPA funds will be used to focus on water quality and the preservation and protection of ground-water and surface water resources in UBRW. This grant is more technical but will build on the findings of the first grant. Under this grant, the Functional Models developed by U of M Duluth and Cass County will be applied to identify environmentally sensitive areas in need of protection through the County Water Plan.



## \$25,000 WILL BE DUE ON KENFIELD BAY PROPERTY

*by Al Hoover, Chair, JWS Environment Protection Fund*

In 1998, the Ten Mile Lake Association agreeded to purchase the Anderson property in Kenfield Bay for \$170,000. A real estate agent had planned a fairly intensive development — probably 12 lots — on the site. Because of our strong concerns about the environmental impact of such development, The TMLA board began negotiations with the developer and was able to purchase the property.

As of July 10, 2001, we still have a balance due on the Contract for Deed of \$66,814.22.

Of this amount \$54,337.03 is due on July 10, 2003. We currently have \$40,944.12 in the James W. Schwartz Environmental Protection Fund. Therefore we must raise \$25,870.10 by July 10, 2003. If each of our 667 members were to give \$20.00 extra each year for the next two years, the Kenfield Bay property would be paid for.

The Board strongly urges you to consider participation in this very worthwhile project.

## REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

*by Jim Schwartz, Co-Chair*

CLARITY READINGS are off to a reasonably good start again this year. **Jim and Toni Schwartz**, who measure transparency at least weekly after they arrive in April, report that readings ranged from 17' to 22' at the lake's deepest spot and 15' to 20' in Long Bay. Those figures compare favorably with early findings of the last several years, reassuring evidence that the lake's status remains reasonably stable. **Hank Sandvig**, who also measures clarity from time to time, reports readings that run from 11' to 17', but said they were taken in windy conditions after a heavy rain. Both tend to complicate measurements. Enrichment from rainfall stimulates algae growth and wind roughens the surface, impairing vision.

OUR FIRST ROUND of lake water sampling, done in mid-May, found total phosphorus (TP) levels about the same as last year at the three sites tested annually (Main Lake, Kenfield Bay and Long Bay). Lundstrom's Bay TP was exactly the same as it was when last tested three years ago. Total nitrogen (TN) concentrations were up slightly for Kenfield Bay and Long Bay, down a bit for the Main Lake and up marginally for Lundstrom's Bay. None of the variations is considered to be significant.

Swamp water readings from the peripheral wetlands that surround Ten Mile presented a

somewhat different story. Their TP figures continue to be substantially higher than those of the lake, ranging from as little as twice as much to one swamp that measured more than 70 times the usual lake levels.

WHEN THE NEW TMLA HANDBOOK is distributed, a pamphlet entitled Property Stewardship Guidelines will be included. **Gail Becher**, Committee Co-Chair, has been working on the publication for more than a year and has collected a great deal of information on property management, county shoreland ordinances, building requirements and the like that Ten Mile residents will find extremely helpful. Read it for useful tips as soon as you receive your new Handbook.

TWO COMMITTEE MEMBERS, **Marty McCleery** and **Pat Carey**, will be working on a pair of studies over the next several months. Marty intends to sample groundwater from wells around the lake, analyze the samples for chemical content and correlate what he finds with existing lake water data. Pat intends to pull together what he can find about solar intensity history for this region, reasoning that the amount of sunlight over time influences Ten Mile's water clarity and vegetation density.

Don't forget to visit the Ten Mile Lake Website at  
<http://www.tenmilelake.org>  
 and to send your news for the Website to:  
[Geoff.Cox@usa.xerox.com](mailto:Geoff.Cox@usa.xerox.com)

## REMEMBERING OUR TEN MILE LAKE FRIENDS

### Myrle C. Hartzell

Myrle C. Hartzell, born September 20, 1907 in Chester, Iowa, passed away on April 9, 2001 at Methodist Hospital in St. Louis Park, MN. She was preceded in death by her husband, Josiah (Joe) and was a lifelong resident of Edina, MN.

The Hartzell family originally built their summer home on the east side of Ten Mile Lake in 1927. Joe, Myrle, and their two sons spent the summer months enjoying the lake, from the late 1930's until Joe's death in 1982. Upon Joe's death, Myrle sold the property to her son, John, and only visited the lake periodically thereafter.

In her later years, Mrs. Hartzell talked frequently of the early years at "the lake," reminiscing about the lack of electricity, running water, and refrigeration. She often wondered how she ever existed without the taken-for-granted conveniences of today. While she missed her summers on Ten Mile, she always had her fond memories of all the wonderful years spent on the lake.

*(Information provided by John Hartzell.)*



### Ruth Jameson

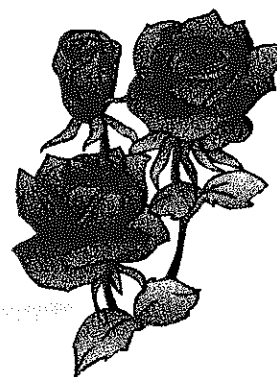
Ruth Jameson, 91, died April 1, 2000 of respiratory failure at Rolling Green Village in Nevada. She was born April 22, 1908 in Blairsburg, Iowa, the daughter of Albert H. And Violet (Read) Clay. She lived most of her life in Ames. She graduated from Ames High School in 1928 and attended Iowa State College. She also attended St. Joseph's Academy in Des Moines for two years. She married Walter "Peely" Jameson on June 22, 1931.

Mrs. Jameson was a homemaker and a member of St. John's By the Campus Episcopal Church and of Beta Tau Delta sorority. She is survived by one daughter, Mary Ruth Pierantoni of Ames, and one son, Harold "Jamie" Jameson of Madison, WI. She was preceded in death by her husband, one son, and two sisters.

The Jamesons first came to Ten Mile Lake in the early 1930's and continued to come for over fifty years. Mr. Jameson's parents built a cabin which the Jamesons later shared with Peely's sister. Eventually

they bought out the sister's share. Peely was the first TML visitor to own a plane which he flew to the lake. He would fly over the lake to buzz the Jameson cabin, and then someone would drive down to Backus to pick him up. Ruth loved the lake, and continued to swim in it into her eighties, including going skinny-dipping with the granddaughters of her neighbors.

*(Information provided by Adams Funeral Home of Ames, and by Joyce McManus.)*



### A Note from the Editor:

Many thanks to TMLA members who have kindly sent me obituaries when members and significant friends of TML have died. It is very helpful to receive this information. It is especially appreciated when you add information about the deceased which pertains to their life and associations at TML. Often that information does not appear in a hometown article. It is also important to note the full name of the newspaper from which any clipping has been taken, and the date on which a printed obituary appeared.

Persons about whom we have received no information, although we have been notified of their deaths, include the following:

**Roger Dunbier**

**Robert and Florence Kruzan**

If you have information about any of these persons, please let me know (by snail- or e-mail — [scoxreston@aol.com](mailto:scoxreston@aol.com).)

## THE HISTORY PAGE

(It has been suggested that we include something on the history of Ten Mile Lake in each issue of *The Newsletter*. We will continue as appropriate contributions come in, and space is available.)

### THE BIG STORM OF 1953

by Virginia Carter Moll

**LOOKING BACK OVER** the history of Ten Mile Lake, I remember the time when Long Beach, along with a major part of Lower Ten Mile, was savaged by a summer storm, on June 29, 1953.

**AT 11:30 A.M.**, the lake was very calm and the sky black as night. Suddenly the storm hit. I was in our cabin with my two small sons: David, 5, and Dan, 1. The winds and the rain were so powerful that the rain came through the shake siding on the upper part of the cabin and down the inside walls, as well as through cracks in the window frames, etcetera. Large hail pitted the roof (which had to be replaced). My family (the Carters) had recently purchased a new, heavy, metal dock; a new lift; and a new 14-foot Larson fishing boat. At one point in the storm, which lasted approximately a half-hour, I looked out front as the water washed up and over the walk to the cabin, and saw that the dock, lift, and boat had all disappeared.

**AFTER THE STORM WAS OVER**, a tangle of boat, lift, and dock was found washed in about 50 feet from the former location and onto the Stahler property. The lift was destroyed, the boat had a large puncture in the side, probably from the pounding in the lift, and the dock was in pieces but repairable.

**THE DAMAGE ON** around the south shore was

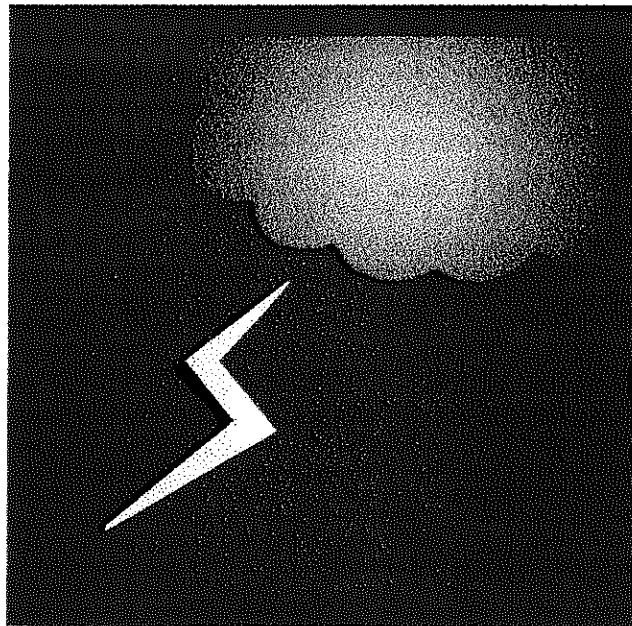
tremendous as docks and boats were driven onto the rocky shore areas, lists were twisted and bent, and trees were down everywhere, closing roads and tearing down power lines. Don Gray estimated that in our bay, fifteen docks were out, ten boats were damaged or destroyed, and nine lifts were out or damaged. Larson Boat Works in Little Falls sent up several flat bed trucks to take damaged boats back for repair.

**IT WAS FRIGHTENING.** The storm moved on from Ten Mile, across Birch Lake, and into Hackensack. Electricity was out for several days. Mrs. Poland's switchboard in

Hackensack (there were very few telephones on Ten Mile in those days) was flooded as seasonal residents called families to assure them they were safe, let them know how much damage was done, and tell them which insurance company to call.

**THE WALKER NEWSPAPER** called the storm a 'cyclone.' Residents who were involved felt it was a tornado; other referred to 'straight-line winds.' Whatever it was, it was a very powerful and never-to-be-forgotten storm.

**OVER THE YEARS**, there have been many bad storms on Ten Mile, but it was not until the summer of 2000 that a similar storm to the one in 1935 came across the lake to the Sand Beach. This time, however, the damage was minimal.



## TMLA History Committee Solicits Family, Neighborhood Histories

*by Tom Cox, for the History Committee: Willa Shonkwiler-Martin, Historian; Stan Benbrook, Don Buck, Sue Eikenberry, Deb Hamilton, Anne McGill, Ross Melgaard, Lorraine Stromquist, Larry Urbanski*

Have you written your Family History for the Ten Mile Lake History Project? Family and Neighborhood Histories are a central focus of The History Committee's efforts to develop a book of Ten Mile history. In addition, the Committee solicits histories of clusters of families who have lived in lakeshore "neighborhoods," i.e., particular stretches of lake-shore that can be more or less well defined in terms of both geography and social interaction. Examples of "neighborhoods" might be the North Shore's Chariton Beach and Park Point and the South Shore's Fernhurst, Plainview Beach and Hillaway.

In the History Committee's files there are already a number of written family histories as well as oral histories on cassette tapes. However, many families are not yet chronicled, and there are few if any "neighborhood" chronicles. The Committee seeks your help. If your family has not already presented a family history, please think about writing up your family's Ten Mile story. If you already have a written account, you may want to update it. If you live in a cluster of families who have become close because of a common residence in a particular shoreline neighborhood, see if you can identify a neighbor who is willing to write about your neighborhood's development and social interaction over the years.

In writing family histories, please remember that the Committee is interested in your history as it relates to the Lake, rather than a chronicle of your family's entire life. Here are some of the questions you might want to cover in your account:

- When did your family first come to TML?
- How did you happen to come to TML?
- Did you camp, rent, homestead, or purchase?
- What is the history of your lot, cabin or homestead?
- What impact did WWI, the Great Depression and/or WWII have on your Ten Mile experience?
- What significant relationships has your family had with other lake families?
- What has your relationship been to the Ten Mile Lake Association? (Officers, committees, etc.)
- What particularly strong memories do you or other family members have about activities and events on or about the Lake?
- Do you have pictures or clippings the committee can copy and possibly publish?

You may send your family or neighborhood history by mail to the History Committee, C/O Lorraine Stromquist, 4175 County 71NW, Hackensack, MN 56452, or by E-mail to Tom Cox at [tcxreston@aol.com](mailto:tcxreston@aol.com).

Your help will be invaluable to the Committee as it seeks to create a chronicle that will be of special interest to all Ten Milers.

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P.O. Box 412  
Hackensack, MN 56452

**Editor:**  
Sarah J. Cox  
5688 Fernhurst Drive N.W.  
Hackensack, MN 56452  
Tel.: (218) 675-6844  
E-mail: [scoxreston@aol.com](mailto:scoxreston@aol.com)

**Associate Editor:**  
Jim Schwartz  
4850 Hiram Loop Road  
Hackensack, MN 56452  
Tel.: (218) 675-5422  
E-mail: [jim@uslink.net](mailto:jim@uslink.net)