

Ten Mile Lake Association

Newsletter

Summer, 2002

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

DON'T FORGET to attend the TMLA Annual Meeting!

TMLA Annual Meeting
August 3, 2002
9:30 AM
The Senior Center
Hackensack, MN

Please note that this will be our FIFTIETH Annual Meeting. Golly!! 50 years!! Our lake looks as pristine to me as the day my neighbor **Jake Fleisher** (TMLA President, 1968-71) asked me to become a member. Joining this association has given me the opportunity to meet and work with the very nicest people.

At this annual meeting, we will hear brief committee reports and updates. We will also review and discuss our short and long-range planning goals. A copy of these goals is included in this mailing. Also **Marty McCleery** has a brief article on Page 2 describing the Long Range Plan.

I am looking forward to seeing you Saturday, August 3rd.

Don Willis, President, TMLA

DO YOU HAVE YOUR TMLA HANDBOOK?

If you have not yet obtained your copy of the TMLA Handbook that was handed out at the 2001 Annual Meeting, copies are still available. Please call **Gail Becher** at (218) 547-3214 to arrange to receive your Handbook.

KENFIELD BAY PROJECT

by Al Hoover, Chair, Environmental Protection Fund

TMLA AGREED TO PURCHASE the Anderson property in Kenfield Bay in 1998, after a real estate agent had planned a 12-lot development on the site. The TMLA Board began negotiations with the developer and purchased the property for \$170,000

AS OF JULY 10, 2002, we still have a balance due on the Contract for Deed of \$60,570. Of this amount, \$54,337 is due on July 10, 2003. We currently have \$44,590 in the James W. Schwartz environmental Protection Fund. We must raise \$15,980 by July 10, 2003. If each of 666 members were to give \$24 extra this year, the Kenfield Bay property would be paid for. Since some may not be able to contribute at all, we hope that some will be able to provide larger donations. Please note that **none of the Kenfield Bay funding has been taken from TMLA dues.**

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS that you give serious consideration to participation in this worthwhile project.

HAVE ANY NEW NEIGHBORS?

If you know of any new residents on Ten Mile, why not invite them to join our Lake Association? The simplest way: call or e-mail **Phoebe Alden**, our Membership Coordinator, and give her their name and address. She will send them a welcome letter and information about TMLA, Inc. People who like Ten Mile enough to move here may want to know there is a way for them to help maintain and improve the beauty of the lake!

Phoebe can be reached at (218) 547-3114 or phoebealden@netscape.net.

For a table of contents for this issue of The Newsletter, please see the final page.

Ten Mile Lake Association Officers

Don Willis, President	675-6231
Tom Cox, Vice-Pres.	675-6844
Al Griggs, Treasurer	675-6312
Anne McGill, Secretary	675-6652

Resident Directors

Gail Becher	547-3214
Heidi Hoppe	675-6265
Bob Horn	675-5314
Stuart Lane	675-6998
Jerry Mills	547-1164
Larry Urbanski	547-3107

Summer Resident Directors

Stan Benbrook	675-6810
Ray Black	675-6903
Don Harris	675-6285
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 - Robert Nelson (North), David Losby (South), Judy Bryngelson

Advisory Committee - Bob Crom, Jack Adams, Al Hoover, Ross Melgaard, Jim Miller, 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, Ken Regner, 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, Tom Cox, Al Griggs, Stuart Lane, David Losby, Ross Melgaard, Ted Mellby, Jim Miller

Fisheries - Nick Mellby, Larry Urbanski, Don Brown, Pat Carey, Adam Gislason, Bob Horn, Dick Horn, Rod Owre, Karl Reuland, Jim Schwartz

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

Healthy Lakes - Marty McCleery, John Alden, Gail Becher, Tom Cox, Bob Crom

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

Lake Level - Walt Kane, Don Brown

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

Lake Safety - Jerry Mills, Terry Cook, Pat Gjevre, Don Harris, Jim McGill, John McManus, 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

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

THE TMLA LONG-RANGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

by *Marty McCleery, Chair, HLP*

THE HEALTHY LAKES PROGRAM) COMMITTEE (HLP), in coordination with other Ten Mile Lake Association (TMLA) officers, directors, and committees, has updated the Ten Mile Lake Long Range Management Plan (TMLLRMP). **Please take a close look at the draft of this plan that is enclosed with this Newsletter.** The plan is organized into long-term goals for the period 2003-2050, and objectives and strategies for the period 2003-2005 to help TMLA move toward these goals. It is a living document that can be updated as necessary to help us meet our goals. HLP will present the plan for review, discussion, and, we hope, approval at the August annual meeting.

HLP HAS WORKED HARD to capture the ideas of everyone interested in the long-range planning process. Once approved, the plan will serve as a basis for seeking participation and, where appropriate, funding to carry out the various initiatives. It is an ambitious plan, but HLP believes it is on the right track and that we have the resources within the membership and interested agencies to achieve these goals. We hope you will agree!

WE WELCOME PARTICIPATION by all of the TMLA membership in working toward these goals. We are always looking for persons who have the time and interest to serve on the various TMLA Committees. If you can help, please contact any of the officers, directors, or committee chairs listed in the box on the left. Work on these committees can be very rewarding as well as a lot of fun!

Meanwhile, please review the draft TMLLRMP, and plan to attend the annual meeting to share your ideas with the HLP Committee, and the officers, directors, and members of TMLA.

Please direct any questions to Mr. Martin McCleery, HLP Chairman, 3975 Lower Ten Mile Lake Road, Hackensack, MN 56942. Telephone: (218) 675-6908.



ASSOCIATION BOARD APPROVES MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE

by Tom Cox, Vice President, TMLA Inc.

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Finance Committee and the Association Treasurer, at its meeting on July 13 the TMLA Board of Directors approved a \$5.00 increase in membership dues, from \$25.00 to \$30.00, for the fiscal year 2002-2003.

WHY A DUES INCREASE AT THIS TIME? Of course our annual expenses for lake research, administration, newsletter publication and other program support increase each year for inflation. But the principal reason for an increase this year is that for several years we have followed the practice of paying our operating expenses out of a combination of dues income, general savings and the income from our Fixed Income Fund. Our General Savings Fund was comprised of special gifts to the Association in years past. Our Fixed Income Fund, which was donated to the Association many years ago, with restrictions, has typically produced from \$4000 to \$5000 in unrestricted income which the Board has placed in a Piper Jaffray Money Market Fund and drawn on each year to help meet operating expenses.

Now, as of the end of fiscal 2001-2002, both our General Savings Fund and the Piper Jaffray Money Market Fund have been completely drawn down. While the Fixed Income Fund will continue to generate

interest income which we can use to help fund operations, the total of our interest and dues income will fall short of our anticipated operating expenses by about \$3300 in coming years. The Board further believes that the membership supports the Association's current environmental and educational programs and is reluctant to curb them.

OUR ASSOCIATION Now has 666 paid memberships. The approved \$5.00 dues increase will provide \$3,330, which, together with the Board's prudent management of expenses, will enable the Association to continue the current array of activities that mean so much to the environment and to the Ten Mile community.

THE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL Notice included with this newsletter reflects the dues increase, and provides an opportunity for members to make additional gifts to the James W. Schwartz Environmental Protection Fund, from which we fund the Kenfield Bay Project, as well. Please note -- no income from dues or from the Fixed Income Fund is used for the Kenfield Bay land purchase: the land purchase is made exclusively with special gifts donated to the Association and designated especially for that purpose.

ROAD PROJECT REPORTS

by Rebecca Hauschild, WSB and Associates

CSAH 50

Cass County is continuing with the plan development for the CSAH 50 corridor based on comments collected at Project Management Team meetings and property owner meetings. The concept to date includes an alternative alignment (Alternative 2) from Choke Cherry Lane to Bearberry Trail. This new alignment would be located north of the existing garages and cabins on the north side of CSAH 50. The existing alignment would be maintained, except for minor adjustments to meet a 40 mph State Aid design standard, on the remaining portions of CSAH 50 from CSAH 71 to Bearberry Trail and Choke Cherry Lane to Trunk Highway 371. Possible intersection revisions have been identified at CSAH 71 and TH 371.

CSAH 71

Cass County is continuing with the plan development for the CSAH 71 corridor based on the previous agreement with the Chippewa National Forest Service and comments collected at the August, 2001 open

house. The next step in this process will be to present the revised concept plan for additional public input. **An open house will be held on Friday, August 2, 2002, from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M., at the Hackensack Senior Center.** The proposed plan includes maintaining the existing alignment, except for minor adjustments to meet the Natural Preservation Route standards and a few potential new alignment areas to address issues and concerns raised through the public involvement process and environmental investigation. Possible intersection revisions have been identified for consideration at Bachelor Road, Hiram Loop Road and CSAH 50. The potential new alignment areas include: Angel Island, Lundstrom's Bay, and Hiram Loop Road. Final plan development for CSAH 71 will begin after the Cass County Board has approved the design features.

Please contact **Ron Bray** (763-541-4800), **Becky Hauschild** (763-541-4800), or **David Emblom** (218-547-1211) if you have any questions or concerns.

LAKE SAFETY REPORTS

by Don Harris, Lake Safety Committee

ABOUT THE CASS COUNTY SHERIFF'S WATER SAFETY PATROL BOAT:

It appears that the Water Safety Patrol Boat program is now back on track. **Bob Crom** has offered to provide docking space for the Patrol Boat for the summer of 2002. **Northwoods Dock and Service** has donated a boat lift and installed the lift at the Crom's dock. The boat should be in service by the time you receive this Newsletter, so you may already have seen it on patrol. If not, look for it!

Training for volunteers who will man the Patrol Boat was conducted by the Cass County Sheriff's Water Safety Officer, **Sgt. Tim Borglund** on Saturday, June 15th. In addition to volunteers from Leech, Woman, and Pleasant Lakes, five persons from Ten Mile Lake attended this first training session. Additional training on Water Safety and Patrol Boat Operation will be organized at a later time.

Many thanks to **Bob Crom** and to **Northwoods Dock and Service** for their generous support of this safety program!

ABOUT THE WATERCRAFT OPERATOR'S PERMIT TRAINING:

Twenty-four youths between the ages of 12 and 17 attended this year's Watercraft Operator's Permit Training Session on June 27, 2002, in order to qualify for the Watercraft Operator's Permit. The training was provided by Cass County Sheriff's Patrol Officers: **Sgt. Tim Borglund, Fred Foy, and Gary Sommers**. Permits are required for children ages 12 to 17 to operate a boat with a motor larger than 25 horsepower.

The training was in three parts: Part I was classroom instruction including literature reviews and video presentations; Part II was review of the written test; Part III was hands-on training at Birch Lake. Three different watercraft were used: a tiller-steering outboard, a steering wheel controlled boat, and a personal watercraft.

Ten Mile, Birch, and Pleasant Lake Associations were supported in the presentation of this training program by the generosity of the Hackensack Lions' Club, which provided snacks, lunch, and the use of the Hackensack Community Center.

SOME BOATING SAFETY TIPS

from the Minnesota DNR's Boat and Water Safety Guide

- **WEAR YOUR LIFE PRESERVER**, or personal flotation device (PFD), especially in small boats. Approved PFD's are now stylish, comfortable, and practical. Models are available for all ages and for various boating activities. Wearing your PFD is the best "life insurance policy" afloat!
- **IF SOMEONE IS IN TROUBLE** in the water, use elementary rescue methods first, such as throwing something that floats to the victim. Only as a last resort should YOU ever enter the water to save someone. If you do, take a buoyant object, such as a PFD, with you.

ON FISHING AND FISHERIES — AN ADDITION TO THE TMLA HANDBOOK

Included in the mailing with this Newsletter, you will find materials prepared by the Fisheries Committee for inclusion in your TMLA Handbook. The materials include rules and regulations, a history of stocking of fish in the lake, recommendations on tackle, a fishing log to use every time you go fishing, and other useful

information for fishermen. Be sure to put this material in your Handbook (the one you received at the the Annual Meeting in 2001). If you don't have a Handbook, call **Gail Becher** at 675-3214, and make arrangements to get a copy.

A REPORT ON THE FISHEAD STUDY: WHERE DO THE WALLEYES IN TEN MILE LAKE COME FROM?

*by Chris Vandergoot, Fisheries Specialist
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Fisheries*

In 1945 the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR), Division of Fisheries began stocking juvenile walleye in Ten Mile Lake to enhance the population. Since 1980 more than 500,000 walleye have been stocked into the lake but the contribution of stocked fish to the fishery has never been thoroughly evaluated. Prior to stocking, fisheries biologists with the MN DNR tagged 9,675 juvenile walleyes with metal tags in the fall of 1998. Stocking contribution was assessed with angler-caught fish during the 2001 open-water fishing season. Anglers fishing Ten Mile Lake were encouraged to drop-off the heads from harvested walleye at Quiet Woods and Happiness Resorts. Association members also delivered walleye heads to the DNR office. The fish were aged and examined for the presence of a tag.

Of the 274 walleye caught from the 1998 year-class

(the year that a fish is born) 50% were stocked fish, indicating that natural reproduction occurs in Ten Mile Lake. Additional evidence indicating that natural reproduction occurs on Ten Mile Lake was the presence of numerous fish harvested by anglers from non-stocked year-classes (Figure 1). Tagging juvenile walleye stocked in 1998 provided the MN DNR with a lot of valuable information. The results of this study indicate that stocked fish as well as naturally reproduced walleye were an important component of the angler harvest in Ten Mile Lake. Because 1998 was the first year the DNR stocked marked fish we are unable to fully understand the extent of natural reproduction in Ten Mile Lake. If you have any additional question about this project or other fisheries management issues please feel free to contact the Walker office at 218-547-1683.

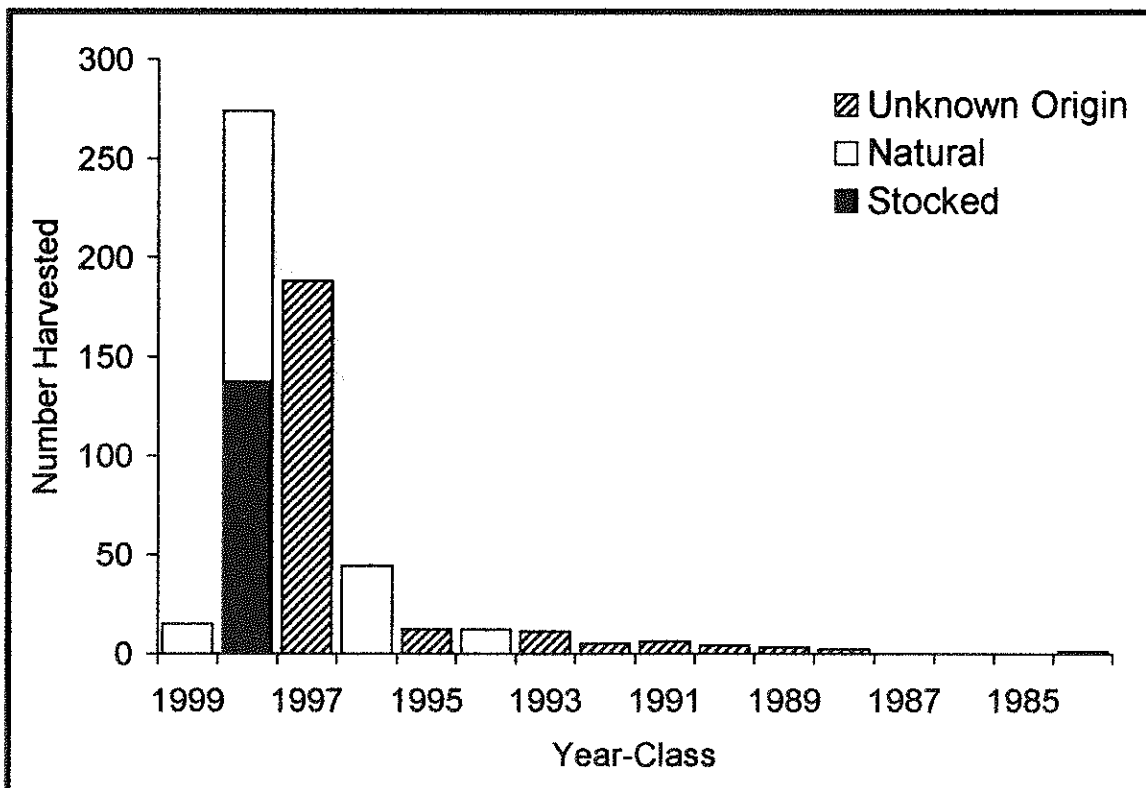


Figure 1. Year-class distribution of walleye harvested from Ten Mile lake during the 2001 open-water fishing season.

THE LOON JOURNAL

by Bob Moe, Loon Committee

MAY 25, 2002:

It looks as if our cool, late spring is not going to have a negative effect on our resident loon population. As of this date the loons are on the new platform in Flower Pot Bay, on the platform near Angel Island, nesting near the platform in the narrows of Long Bay, and looking for place to nest in Kenfield Bay. The extra platform is going to be placed by **Rod Owre** along the east shore of Kenfield Bay with the hope that the loons will still use it this year. We are hoping for the best and will look for chicks between the 5th and 20th of June.

Between the 7th and 19th of June:

- 2 chicks in the narrows of Long Bay, by the Crows
- 1 chick in Long Bay by the Boy River outlet
- 2 chicks in Flower Pot Bay
- 2 chicks in the nest on the south side of Angel Island
- 2 chicks in the small bay on the north side of Angel Island

July 9, 2002

No one has reported the loss of any chicks, so we assume that all nine chicks are still alive. But the eagle who cruises the shores of TML has had to be shooed away several times by having guns fired into the air nearby!

EXTRA DIRECTORIES

Did you leave your 2001 TMLA Membership Directory at home, and now find you need or want a second one for the lake cabin? There are approximately 80 directories still available for sale at \$5 each. First come, first served. Contact **Phoebe Alden**, at

(218) 547-3114

or e-mail at

phoebealden@netscape.net

THE ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY REPORT

by Bob Nelson, Adopt-a-Highway Committee, North Side

MANY THANKS TO

- ▶ **Phoebe and Sarah Alden**, who cleaned up Route #71 for one-and-a-half miles from Park Point to Bachelor Road
- ▶ **Don Patterson, Jerry Mills, and Larry Urbanski**, who cleaned up Route #50 from Route #271 to the Kruger gravel pit.

THE RESULTS?

- ▶ 18 glass bottles
- ▶ 44 Aluminum pop cans
- ▶ 56 aluminum beer cans
- ▶ 19 plastic bottles
- ▶ 1 full bag of paper articles

YOU HAVE TO WONDER, with each piece of trash you pick up: who are these people who have no concern for this beautiful area??

WATER LEVEL REPORT

by Tom Cox, Chair, Water Level Committee

Summer rains have brought the lake up somewhat from its levels of early spring, but on July 11 it was still four inches lower than a year ago. Walt Kane provides the following readings taken since the spring Newsletter went to press:

Jun. 8	1379.19	Down 13.6" from 6/14/01 Down .8" from 5/1/02
Jun. 28	1379.65	Down 6" from a year ago Up 4.7" from 5/1/02
July 11	1379.67	Down 4" from a year ago Up 4.9" from 5/1/02

THE HISTORY PAGE

(It has been suggested that we include something on the history of Ten Mile Lake in each issue of The Newsletter. The following accounts, of TMLA's President's family and immediate Past President's family, were among those family histories submitted for the history volume being assembled to honor the Centennial celebration of the Town of Hackensack.)

THE DONALD S. WILLIS FAMILY

In 1951, Mary Lou and Don Willis were vacationing at a resort on Woman Lake. They decided to look around the Hackensack Area for other places to stay. It was a beautiful summer day when they discovered Ten Mile Lake. They walked to the water's edge near the Jensen cabin and decided that this was the lake on which they wanted to vacation. Later and for several summers they stayed at Fred and Macie's Resort, on the North Shore. The family has great memories from those days: sailing, skiing, fishing, and walking to the Des Moines Store on the North Shore. Joint vacations were shared with other Des Moines families, the Rutledge Schropps, and the Glen Nielsens. All three families eventually purchased property on Ten Mile Lake.

The Willises purchased a cabin in 1967 from the Murphy family who had owned it for two years. It was built by Don Fleisher and located next door to Jake and Alice Fleisher. (Incidentally, Fred Zweifel, of Fred and Macie's Resort, had built the Fleisher cabin.) Ted, Sr. and Ruth Mellby of "Mellby's Green Acres Resort" were located to the west of the new cabin, and were great summer neighbors. The Willis family, consisting of Don and Mary Lou, Jeffrey (17), Nancy (15), and Joe

(11), moved into their new summer home in October, 1967, and have summered on the South Shore of Ten Mile Lake ever since. Many fond memories are of sailing the C-Boat, going to the drive-in movie theater on Highway #371, picnicking on Sandy Beach, and riding bikes to Woock's Store on the South Shore.

Mary Lou passed away in the fall of 1995. Don married Carol Hewitt in the spring of 2001. Don has been active in the Ten Mile lake Association, and has served on various committees throughout the years. He is now serving as President. Meanwhile, a third generation of Willises is discovering the Lake and its culture. The family likes to quote Stan Skaug, who said "The Lake brings the people and the people bring the people back." They also have a doormat that borrows from *The Prairie Home Companion*:

"The Willis Family
Where the women are strong
The men are good looking
And all of the children are above average."

(Written by Donald S. Willis and Nancy Rae Willis.)

THE ROBERT AND LUCY CROM FAMILY

We and our children — Penny, Linda, Randall (Randy) and Richard (Rick) — came to love the lakes and landscape of northern Minnesota over a quarter century of vacationing here. The quiet beauty of the lakes and trees, the fun of fishing, the cool crisp mornings, and beautiful sunsets, and clear night skies were all part of the attraction.

In 1980, long-time friends Jim and Toni Schwartz, called our attention to property for sale on Ten Mile lake. Hackensack realtor **Don Jensen** helped us acquire the four acres we now call home. Located at the entrance to Long Bay, the property had been part of a

property known as "Hijotepe," owned for many years by the Clyde Thomas family. In the Mid-1920's, Dr. Walter Lloyd Hyde, a dental surgeon from Minneapolis, had leased the spot and built a summer cabin which the Hyde family used and enjoyed for over 25 years. When the lease on the site could not be renewed, the structure was moved across the winter ice to Boone Point where, remodeled and expanded, it is still in use. (In fact, Dr. Hyde's son Colin, and some members of his family still return almost every summer.)

Continued, next page:

(History: The Crom Family, Continued)

The journey that actually brought the Crows to Ten Mile Lake extended over forty-three years and took us through five states. Born in Hampton and Newton, Iowa, respectively, we met while students at Iowa State University in Ames, and were married June 9, 1950. From Mason City, IA, where Bob was Farm Service Director with Radio Station KGLO, we went to Washington, DC, where Bob served as U.S. Department of Agriculture radio and television information specialist and Lucy was employed with an insurance adjustment firm. Our first child, Penny, was born in Alexandria, VA in 1952. A year later, the appeal of university work and the attraction of rearing our family in the Midwest drew us to Fargo. Bob served as Director of Communications at north Dakota State University, and in 1959, became Assistant to the President. Linda, Randy, and Rick were born in Fargo. The pursuit of doctoral degree took us to Michigan State University for a year on two separate occasions. In 1966 we moved back to Iowa State

University where both of worked for the University until 1988— Lucy as receptionist in the Office of Admissions and Records, Bob as Director of Alumni Affairs (1968-71) and as Dean of University Extension (1981-88).

It was during our Iowa days that we purchased our home site on Ten Mile Lake. However, it wasn't until 1993, after Bob had completed five years with the national Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges in Washington, DC, where he served as Director of Extension and Outreach, the Crows officially became Minnesotans. Since 1993, we have become involved as year round residents in the Hackensack community, as members of the United Congregational Church (UCC) and members of TMLA. Our surviving children, Penny Crom, husband Chris and children Hilary and Max Mroz (Grand Junction, CO); Linda Kearney, husband Bill and children Alisa, Scott, and Nick (Winfield, IL); and Randy and wife Julie Ryan Crom (Washington, DC) continue to vacation with us on Ten Mile Lake.

The Dance

Often, on my early morning walk,
I see the tracks where deer have danced
At night, by moonlight.
Our sandy by-ways offer ample ballrooms
Where their tiny tap-shoes make no sound
But leave a multitude of tracks
Moving right, moving left, heading off
On barely discernable paths
Leading into deep woods.
Sometimes I see the deer themselves —
A laggard doe,
Reluctant to quit the dancefloor.
We stop and stare politely at each other.
Her eyes say,
Are you coming to the dance?
You are too late. It's all over.
I'm the only one left. Bye!
She leaps for the woods, then stops
And turns to watch,
To see whether I know
How to dance.

by Sarah Cox
July 11, 2002

A Letter to the Editor — Concern for Light Pollution

To the Editor:

All of us have our list of reasons, our special memories, why Ten Mile Lake occupies such an important place in our hearts. Near the top for me is the beautiful night sky. My commute to the cabin usually ends after dark, and before I unpack the car, I must walk to the dock and commune with the Milky Way; the city and its tensions are then left behind.

Our Association has focused, as it must, on maintaining the water quality in our lake. But at least one other environmental issue is unfortunately emerging. Whether from yard and security lights, dock lamps, or the casino, light pollution is beginning to degrade the quality of our north country nights.

If others share my concern, perhaps our Association could begin a program of education and encouragement to our property owners, so that yard and security lights could be shielded and directed away from the lake toward the ground. That would be a wonderful start.

Signed: Clarke Pasley

Orthodox Baptism in Ten Mile Lake: An Historic "First"?

by Tom Cox

Last summer our son and daughter-in-law, Tom and Oksana Cox, asked whether their 14-month-old daughter could be baptized in Ten Mile Lake. Of course, Sarah and I agreed, not knowing just exactly what we were in for. Our daughter-in-law, Oksana, who grew up in Slavgorad, in Siberia, was becoming a member of a small Orthodox parish in the Midway neighborhood in Saint Paul. She planned to invite her priest, Father Andrei, and members of the parish to Ten Mile Lake for Tanya's (and her own) baptism by immersion in the lake.

So it happened that on Sunday afternoon, July 29, 2001, Fr. Andrei Boroda, his children, and Fr. Andrei's lay reader, Nikolai Alyonov, and Nikolai's wife Linda, son Noah, and daughter Nadya (who was to be Tanya's godmother) arrived and moved into our guest cabin. They had come bearing not only liturgical paraphernalia but also a large cooler and several bags full of hamburgers, buns, salads and desserts, paper plates, etc., for a delicious outdoor picnic supper.

It was a hot, still day, perfect for swimming, and for a baptism. About five in the afternoon, with several other Fernhurst families gathered for the occasion, Fr. Andrei and Nikolai, with the help of a TV tray, arranged a lakeshore altar, complete with candles, icons and scripture. Next to it they raised a stand to hold a silver censer. Father Andrei, in priestly regalia, Nikolai, Tom, Oksana, Tanya and Tanya's godmother Nadya formed a close circle in the path on the ice berm under the trees in front of the guest cabin, just a few feet from the water's edge. In a soft voice, Fr. Andrei began to read the Orthodox baptismal service, in English, from a loose leaf notebook. Because Orthodoxy is profoundly Trinitarian, he repeated each part of the service, with only slight variation, three times. Occasionally he lifted his eyes to Tanya and her parents, and once in a while would touch Tanya, and blow gently on her to symbolize the touch of the Holy Spirit.

After what seemed to be an almost interminable reading, Fr. Andrei looked at me and said, "Now we begin the baptism." What we had heard him read to this point were only the preliminaries! While Nikolai lit the incense in the hanging censer, Fr. Andrei began reading again. At one point he handed his notebook to Nikolai, walked to the water's edge, knelt down and three times scooped water up in his hands and gently blew on it while he pronounced words of blessing. It was only after another twenty minutes or so that he handed off his notebook, and motioned Oksana toward the lake. Fr. Andrei in his ankle-length black robe and gold and silver embroidered stole, and Oksana in a simple white ankle-length dress holding Tanya (wearing nothing at all) in her arms, stepped down the short sandy path to the water. They walked out along the side of the dock until the water was about waist high. Speaking the baptismal words, Fr. Andre immersed both Tanya and Oksana three times. Remarkably, neither Tanya nor her mother made any complaint, not even as much as a sputter.

The climactic moment having passed, the three returned to the shore. Oksana changed her clothes and dressed Tanya in a beautiful white baptismal dress and bonnet. The small circle of priest and family formed again and Fr. Andrei read the concluding liturgical words. The service had lasted an hour and thirty minutes. What followed, of course, was a feast — hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, coke, etc. — and swimming, picture-taking, opening of baptismal gifts and socializing among the gathered family and neighbors and guest parishioners.

We have never heard of another baptism in Ten Mile Lake, let alone by Orthodox rite. It may be that Tanya's baptismal immersion, along with the blessing of the Lake, was an historic "first." If you know of other Ten Mile baptisms, we would love to hear about them.

REPORT FROM THE WATERSHED COORDINATOR

At the Annual Meeting on August 3, John Alden, the TMLA Watershed Coordinator, will report on the following activities

- Cass County Long Range Comprehensive Plan Development
- Work with Pro-West in Walker to integrate a Geographic Information System that will identify environmentally sensitive areas in the TML watershed.
- Work with Stan Kumpula and Tammy Fairbanks to study water flow and water quality in the Boy River from TML to Deep Portage. The project is funded by a \$35,500 grant from the Mississippi Headwaters Board.
- Approval by Cass County of grant funding for an evaluation of septic systems on the South Shore of TML. Inspections of 138 individual septic systems should be complete by August 2, 2002.

REMEMBERING OUR TEN MILE LAKE FRIENDS

Glenn Robert Aagaard

Glenn Robert Aagaard, 76, of Audubon, Iowa and formerly of Hackensack, MN, died Tuesday, June 4, 2002 at the Friendship Home in Audubon. He was born August 20, 1925 in Hamlin, Iowa to Hans and Enger Mortensen Aagaard. He was baptized and confirmed at the Hamlin Lutheran Church, attended school in Atlantic and Hamlin, Iowa, then graduated from Audubon High School in 1943. He enlisted in U.S. Air Force and served in the Pacific Theater in World War II. He was honorably discharged in 1946 and returned to Audubon, where he went into the construction business with his father.

He married Dolores Potter on August 29, 1947 at the Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs. They lived in Audubon where he owned and operated Aagaard Construction. He built homes and businesses in Audubon, Atlantic, Ames, and Lincoln, NE until he retired in 1985. They lived in Audubon until 1990, when they moved to TML, where they had vacationed since 1958. He loved to fish and play golf, and enjoyed the outdoors. In January 1999 they returned to Audubon, and Glenn, suffering from Alzheimer's Disease, moved to the Friendship Home in February.

Glenn was an active member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Audubon, and also was a member of the Jaycees, Dale Christensen VFW Post 4119, Audubon American Legion Post 120, and Lions' Club. He is survived by his wife, Dee, of Audubon; three sons, Jeff (Cathy) of West Des Moines, John (Faith) of Wheaton, IL, and Jim (Pam) of Edina, MN; one daughter, Julie (Jim) Hoite of Coralville, IA; one brother, Robert (Ardyce) of Tavares, FL; two sisters, Bertha Bradbury of Palos Verdes Estates, CA, and Mary Ann Nelson of St. Cloud; special cousin Maxine (Richard) Nelson of Audubon, 15 grandchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews, friends, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held June 10 at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Audubon with Pastor Walter J. Kukkonen officiating. Interment was in the Maple Grove Cemetery in Audubon.

(Information from the Walker Pilot Independent, June 13, 2002)

Richard (Dick) B. Fryer

Dick Fryer, 72, of Shorewood, Minnesota died February 22, 2002 in St. Louis, Missouri from the sudden onset of viral encephalitis. Dick and his wife were on their way to Florida, where they spent the winter months, when Dick became ill. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Marilyn; 2 daughters, Cindy Feldmeier (Steve Schmirler) and Sue Wanous (Michael); and 5 grandchildren, Meghan and William Feldmeier, and Kristina, Kimberly and Steven Wanous. Also, by his special pal, the little white bishon dog, "Mitzi".

Born February 8, 1930 in Rochester, MN Dick spent childhood vacations in the Hackensack area, visiting TML resorts. As a young father, he returned here to vacation with his family. When he and Marilyn decided to build a family cabin, TML was Dick's first choice. He spent many happy hours at the Lake, building the cabin with his brother Bob Fryer, fishing, boating, watching his grandchildren play in the water and watching the wildlife and birds.

Dick spent 4 years in the Navy during the Korean conflict as a electronic technician. After obtaining his Electrical Engineering degree from University of Illinois in 1957 he went to work for Honeywell for 34 years. Dick received 4 patents for his work at Honeywell and participated in the development of a special memory capable of fulfilling the computer memory needs of the first vehicle to land on Mars (the Viking Lander). Known as "Opa" to his grandchildren, Dick was also an accomplished woodworker and made each of his grandchildren a hope chest. Dick had just completed a history of the Fryer/Snow families from 1500-present which he distributed prior to Christmas 2001.

Funeral Mass was held at The Church of St Therese in Deephaven, Minnesota where Dick and Marilyn had been members for over 40 yrs. Dick built the benches in the cry room of this church. "Opa" is loved and missed by his family. He would have loved to watch the bald eagles which are flying directly over the cabin this year!

(Information provided by Cindy Fryer Feldmeier.)

REMEMBERING . . . Continued**Marnie Fahr Steyer**

Marnie Fahr Steyer, 78, died May 21, 2002 in her home in New York City. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ray. She is survived by her sons, Hume, Jim, and Tom, her brother Sam, and nine grandchildren. Marnie graduated from Welles College, and worked for a time as assistant to the editor of Harper's Magazine and in television. After her marriage to Ray Steyer and the raising of her three sons, she attended the Bank Street School of Education in NY and taught remedial reading at Herron High School in Harlem for 15 years.

In memoriam, her brother **Sam Fahr** writes:

"In New York City, after her marriage to Ray Steyer, Marnie for a time devoted her love and boundless energy to Ray and her three sons. Later she was able to concentrate her efforts on the poor and dispossessed of Harlem, and on choral music. For a long time she taught remedial reading in Harlem at Herron High, which she called 'Heroin High.' Later she was a Prison Visitor at Riker's Island. She explained this added burden by saying that in that way she could keep in touch with her former pupils. Tirelessly active, she sponsored and raised funds to support theatrical, dance and musical groups among the young people of Harlem.

"Loving all kinds of music, she was especially active in choral music, singing at home and abroad in the New York Choral Society and the Canterbury Choral Society. At her funeral these two ensembles sang a glorious 'In Paradisum' from Fauré's *Requiem*.

"But through all these demanding years, a part of her heart was always at Ten Mile Lake. In 1931, when she was seven, she and her family first saw TML; in a sense, she never left it. Seventy years ago, things here were comparatively primitive. There was no electricity, nor running water. Kerosene lamps furnished uncertain light; wood first served for cooking and heating. People who wanted to travel on the lake often had to row or paddle. Outboard motors were scarce, small, and cranky. Families rowed to picnics on the Hillaway Sand Beach. Many families came en masse (except for fathers) in June and left just before school began in September. Consequently children got to know each other very well all up and down the south and lower southern shores. Young people made up their own games mostly in or near the lake. Card games filled evenings and rainy days. In this period, Marnie formed enduring friendships

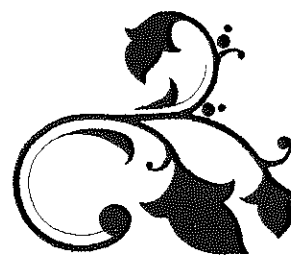
with, among others, Molly Brandt Bliska, Beth Carlson, Jean Stange, Katy Benbrook, and Judy Bryngelson.

"Though she lived in New York after the War, Marnie resisted the charms of Nantucket (preferred by her husband, where they usually rented for a period each summer) and came as usual to Ten Mile Lake. Eventually, she bought her place at Hillaway. Though she was not happy at all the changes in the Ten Mile Lake area, her love for the lake never faltered. She kept her small boat (once, Beth Carlson's) and swam every day. She regretted the coming of indoor bathrooms. Last year, though ill and frail, she continued to walk, swim, and fish. Only days before her death, in her New York home, she heard some complaints about our getting to the Lake later than usual. 'Lucky you,' she said. We knew what she meant."

Her friend **Molly Bliska** remembers Marnie as a young girl: "Marnie and I were summer playmates on the south shore of Ten mile in the late 1930's. I was 10 years old and Marnie 13 when we were old enough to have exciting and wonderful adventures on our own. One, that Marnie loved to tell about, involved an overnight on my family's X-boat, the *Molly B*. Frequently we would sleep on the boat overnight, tied to a buoy in front of the cabin. However, one night we decided to be very brave and move the boat a short distance and drop anchor for the night. Imagine our fright and surprise when we awoke to find ourselves clear across the lake by the island! There was no wind, and it was a long paddle home! Marnie loved Ten Mile, and I will miss her company in the coming years, though I know her spirit is all around."

Marnie's funeral service, attended by hundreds of people whose lives she had touched, was held Wednesday, May 29th at Saint Bartholomew's Church, NYC. Memorials may be addressed to the Harlem School of the Arts, 645 Saint Nicholas Avenue, N.Y., NY 10030.

(Information provided by Sam Fahr and Molly Bliska.)



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'FIXIT' COMMENTS ON WASHBOARD ROADS**SIMPLE GRADING WON'T FIX 'WASHBOARD' ON GRAVEL ROAD**

from *The Minneapolis Star Tribune*, Sunday, April 14, 2002, Page E6

Q: What causes gravel roads to washboard? Will grading solve the problem?

A: Washboarding, the series of regular bumps in the wheel-paths of gravel-surfaced roads, is caused by the slipping of tires over the surface, according to the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Minnesota.

As the vehicle attempts to gain traction, the material loosens as the wheels slip. This eventually becomes the valley between the bumps. The vehicle pulls forward a short distance over the bump and the process begins again.

Usually faster traffic will produce more washboarding. Dry weather contributes to the problem because moisture helps hold soil particles together.

Once washboarding has begun, it cannot be fixed by merely blading off the bumps and filling in the holes; the problem will reappear in a short time. Scraping and recompacting the road will fix the condition for a longer time.

Washboard road surfaces require slower speeds for safe driving. At higher speeds, the tires lose contact with the road and you can lose control of the vehicle.

(Information sent in by Jack Adams.)