

# HORSEHEAD LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT NO 1



September 20, 2007

## Chairperson:

Dennis Batchelet  
6461 Pigeon Road  
Lake Tomahawk, WI  
54539  
(715) 277-4212  
(262) 670-5067

## Secretary:

Linda Kay Houghton-  
Bowen  
7717 Trout Road  
Lake Tomahawk WI  
54539  
(715) 277-3123 or  
277-2261

## Treasurer:

Beverly Fagan  
6459 Goose Road  
Lake Tomahawk WI  
54539  
(715) 277-2080

## Town Board:

Rick Mazurczak  
8575 W. Bluebird  
Lake Tomahawk WI  
54539 (715) 277-  
4159

## County Board:

Thomas Rudolph  
1740 Larsen Drive  
Rhinelander WI  
54501  
(715) 362-6222



[www.horseheadlake-wi.org](http://www.horseheadlake-wi.org)

## District Members

Sunset lovers watch the sun slip beneath the trees and campfires can be seen twinkling in the darkness. Random laughter echoing across the water reminds that we're not alone in the big woods.

There's no denying that fall is in the air. The leaves haven't yet begun to fall, but our outdoor weekends are numbered for 2007. Toasty fires help drive away the chill.

Although lake levels on numerous lakes have dropped dramatically, due to the absence of rain, ours has remained close to the normal because we have ample springs to replenish water loss.

Our weed problem has receded for the time being, due to many

reasons, not the least of which is removal of 140 harvester loads of the "green stuff" over the past three years. For the first time in many years, August anglers have been able to fish without snagging weeds with nearly every cast of the line.

Credit needs to be given to residents for no reportable accidents on the lake. With the number of people who use our lake, that's somewhat remarkable. Keep up the good work!

## August 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Notes

- Accepted our 2008 Budget; \$11,200 tax levy (17.3% lower than 2007). That translates into \$59 per \$100,000 property valuation.
- Continued 80 hours weed harvesting funding for 2008.
- Noted a slight improvement in lake quality as measured by DNR lake sample data.
- Noted Audit Committee approval of financial records to date.
- Noted new 15-year land lease agreement with DNR for aerator placement; cost \$1.
- Noted removal of landing donation box per DNR lease agreement.

- Voted to continue membership in Oneida Co. Lakes & Rivers Association.
- Voted to continue membership in Wisc. Assoc. of Lakes (WAL) minus money for political fund.
- Voted to authorize inspection and maintenance of aeration system in fall.
- Voted to accept revised By-laws with gender-neutral language.
- Voted Dennis Batchelet as commissioner for 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3 year term.
- Commissioner's meeting later voted to continue current commissioners in their posts: Dennis Batchelet - President/Chair, Beverly Fagan - Treasurer, Linda Houghton-Bowen - Secretary.
- Received updated resident list derived from Oneida Co. property records.

**Horsehead Lake web site**

There have been over 1500 "hits" on our web site since it debuted in January 2006. Stay connected to what's going on. The site is updated regularly.

## **Lake Study Committee**

The Lake Grant Planning Committee is comprised of Kris Batchelet, Hans Delius, Beverly Fagan, Mary Ellen Zickus, Jim Watters, & Pat Donnicks.

There will be approx. four meetings, beginning this fall, with several important tasks for the leaders to accomplish:

- ◆ develop and tally a survey
- ◆ coordinate with residents
- ◆ evaluate final results of the study
- ◆ discuss possible recommendations for Lake Policies.



## **Weed Cutting**

Cliff Schmidt of Schmidt's Landscaping, Iola, WI, did weed cutting this year beginning July

14th. Cliff has been contracted for 80 hours in 2008 for about the same time in July.

For whatever reason, we had fewer weeds this year, and Cliff used only 40 hours and collected 11 harvester loads. In 2006, he collected 55 loads. At that time, the weeds were mostly Elodea and Coontail. This year, the weeds were mostly Narrow Leaf Pond Weed. So far, there's been no evidence of Eurasian Water Milfoil, which plagues many of our northern lakes. We need to be especially vigilant of the boat landing for signs of the Eurasian Milfoil, as that's where most of our off-lake boats enter the lake.

## **Meeting Minutes**

Minutes are available on the web page or by request to Linda Houghton-Bowen.

## **Lake Tomahawk's web site**

If you want to see more about the Lake Tomahawk area, go to the following official web site of the town:

[www.laketomahawkwi.org](http://www.laketomahawkwi.org)

**Note: Our next newsletter will be in the spring, 2008.**



## From the Chair

By Dennis Batchelet

We had some amazed folks at our last Annual Meeting when all our business was finished and it was only 11 O'clock!

The commissioners have been working hard to organize our meeting to make the best use of our time and the results prove it. With our meeting taking less time on what is usually a nice Saturday morning, we hope more people will decide to attend future meetings.

Now that our lake study is well underway, we can take a look ahead and imagine a time when we will have current scientific findings that will guide our policies.

Having the lake study report will be a milestone for our District, but we won't be "out of the woods" so to speak. After that our Lake Study Committee will have to recommend

policies that will improve our lake. We will all need to read them, discuss them, and vote with the best interests of the lake as our prime objective. We will all need to be as concerned about our lakes' health as we are our own. I've been thinking about getting the necessary cooperation and participation we will need to REALLY move forward. My judgement tells me that we will tackle the tough questions and work together as we have for many years. We must remain positive and open to new ideas so that we will get the best results.

We all have a part to play. I encourage your comments and ask for your help.

### Lake Web Camera

Some web sites have live web cams. Does anyone know how to set one up for our web page? We could have a live picture of our lake updated frequently.

Find the email for the president/chair (contact commissioners tab) on our web page and send a note if you've got some practical ideas.

## Did you know?

A recent DNR press release stated that **40% of boaters "lakehop"**, moving their boat from lake to lake as they enjoy Wisconsin's waters. Leaving weeds behind is a must to protect our lake.

## Volunteers Needed

We've got jobs to get done this year and very few volunteers. That means we'll have to make a number of phone calls to get some things done. So far, we need at least one person to attend the WAL Convention in Green Bay in late April, 2008, expenses covered. We also need two or three hardy folks to put up the winter stakes, and two thoughtful people for the Nomination Committee.

When you receive a call, please say "YES".

**If you can, drag floating debris off the lake.**

**Let's be safe out there.**

Sincerely,  
Dennis Batchelet,  
Beverly Fagan,  
Linda Houghton-Bowen  
Rick Mazurczak  
Tom Rudolph

