



LAKETIDES

The newsletter for people interested in Wisconsin lakes

Town of Hazelhurst Hosts Three Part Discussion Series

The Town of Hazelhurst in Oneida County is sponsoring a three part forum on the issue of boating on local waters. The idea for the forums arose as a result of an anticipated increase in boating pressure and user conflicts on several lakes within the area. While the topics addressed clearly have local implications, the issues are, in fact, significant for the entire state of Wisconsin.

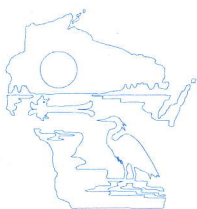
**Volume 22, No. 2
Spring 1997**

The forums in the Town of Hazelhurst have proven to be an effective way to focus attention on key issues such as surface use conflicts, impacts of boating on fish, waterfowl and plants, and the potential for regulatory reform. The Town views this opportunity to gain information and exchange ideas as the first step in a sequence of efforts to arrive at more effective lake management on a regional scale.

On March 20, Bob Ballard from Bombardier Motor Corp. of America discussed noise reduction measures and other innovations within the PWC industry. Robert Korth and Tamara Dudiak, from the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership, UW-Extension, spoke on the environmental impacts of boats and personal watercraft. Participants expressed concerns regarding safe operation of personal watercraft, responsible advertising by the PWC industry, and impacts of boating on nesting waterfowl, to name a few areas.

Elmer Goetsch from the Wisconsin Association of Lakes, State Rep. Joe Handrick, and John Hogan from the Oneida County Board of Supervisors came before a large group on the 24th of April to discuss existing law and pending legislation related to Wisconsin lakes. The discussion focused on personal watercraft and how access might be restricted in certain zones and within lakes of a certain size and quality. State Rep. Spencer Black's bill limiting personal watercraft to no-wake speeds within 200 feet of shore was discussed as was legislation imposing a slow no-wake zone 100 feet from shore on all watercraft. Rep. Handrick commented on the need to ultimately balance private rights to use personal watercraft with the community's interest in maintaining a certain level of development and use. Elmer Goetsch also discussed the potential for a state-wide lake classification system to limit development in certain areas and to curb the number of conflicts taking place on lakes of high quality.

The three part series concluded on Thursday, May 8. Tom Kroeplin from the Department of Natural Resources discussed enforcement of boating and personal watercraft, and John Czarnezki from UW-Extension, Oneida County, presented a talk on lake courtesy codes. As user conflicts grow more prevalent across the state, the need to discuss the issues and interests involved becomes crucial. Public forums such as those at Hazelhurst give individuals the opportunity to listen to each other, to express their concerns, and to plan for the lake with a more enlightened perspective.



**Wisconsin Lakes
Partnership**

To continue with the successful 1997 Lakes Convention history theme, and to celebrate the Badger State's sesquicentennial, Lake Tides will continue to feature articles that probe the great history of Wisconsin's lakes.

SALVAGING THE PAST

20,000 Logs Under The Sea

The year was 1891. The snow had been deep that winter and the spring floods pushed tens of thousands of logs down the rivers to saw mills like R.D. Pike's mill in Bayfield. Not all the logs would make it. Some lost their buoyancy and sank to the bottom of many of Wisconsin's rivers and lakes, to lay undisturbed for one hundred years.

We have been following an unusual story. From *USA Today*, to *Outsider Magazine*, to the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife publication, *Masinaigan*, the press has carried the piece. It has all the elements of a great tale: sunken treasure, mystery, intrigue, suspense.

A native Milwaukeean with roots in the Ashland area, Scott Mitchen enjoys SCUBA diving the clear water of Lake Superior. He became enthralled with the possibilities for the sunken logs he saw there. He formed a company to salvage the timber called Superior Water Logged Lumber.

The City of Ashland saw an economic upside, and it helped the company obtain a vacant saw mill for their operation. Mitchen and his crew hope to recover up to 20,000 logs a year and to employ up to 150 people. There is also talk of a museum and a theme park. According to Mitchen, veneer from the old trees shows up in a wide range of places, from the executive offices of Boeing Corporation in Seattle, to violins in Texas.

Along with the logs, controversy and questions have risen to the surface. The focus of concern revolves around the scope and possible cumulative impacts of such an operation. Some of the sites border tribal lands. Both the Red Cliff and Bad River bands of Ojibwe are concerned with potential impacts to the lake ecosystem such as the resuspension of contaminated sediments. Local diver charters are worried about underwater impacts on diver sites, and local and state fishing organizations are troubled with the potential disruption of fishing habitat and spawning areas. Professional archaeologists are concerned with the possible loss of artifacts and other historic evidence related to early logging practices.

In order to make salvaging the sunken logs economically feasible, state statutes needed to be changed. Representative Barbara Linton sponsored legislation in 1991 which set up a regulatory basis for underwater logging in the Wisconsin waters of Lake Superior. In 1992, Governor Thompson signed AB 623 into law. Wis. Stats. section 170.12 rendered the prevailing law, requiring a one year waiting period before possessing abandoned property, virtually obsolete. The Wisconsin Rural Development Committee approved a loan application for \$13,000 for a feasibility study on the operation of a saw mill in the Bayfield area.



To recover the logs a \$50 permit is required. Each permit must be reviewed by the DNR and the State Historical Society within 30 days of receipt. The permit covers 40 acres of bottom and is good for one year. One difficulty is figuring out how to accurately define the edges of each permit site. Wisconsin's surveyed township and range land descriptions do not extend over state waters making traditional marking of property lines unsuitable. Last year, three companies applied for seven permits.

This year, the commissioner of Public Lands was swamped with over 200 permits. The Superior Water Logged Lumber Company applied for the bulk of those permits. To review this huge increase in permits in the 30-day time frame is a formidable, if not impossible task for limited DNR and Historical Society staff. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will also be holding public hearings on the permits as part of their review process, also increasing the time required for permit processing.

Normally when people take something from public lands for their own profit, the

state gets a portion of the receipts. Western grazing and mining are examples of this policy. Debates as to whether or not the public is getting its fair share are common across the nation. Current Wisconsin law sets the state's portion of the under water log sales at 30% of appraised market value. Language in the upcoming state budget lowers the state's cut to 20% of the appraised value. Representative Linton has proposed an amendment to the budget which would increase the size of the permit areas from 40 to 160 acres, extend the duration of the permit from one to five years, and increase the permit fee of \$50 to somewhere between \$200-400.

Mitchen and his team are aware of the many concerns that come with this novel business. They hope to work with those concerned to address the issues. At this time, the business of recovering sunken logs is focused on Lake Superior. There are a number of inland lakes that have the potential for underwater logging. Lake Wausau, on the Rib River in Marathon County, was mentioned as one such lake.



The North American old growth forests flourished before Europeans realized that the sparsely populated continent was a great development prospect. Loggers struggled to make fortunes from the great pineries. Between 1862 and 1930, over 40 sawmills operated in Bayfield County alone. The only logs left from those times lie on the bottom of our state's waters. Who could have dreamed that these lost logs and the struggle to saw them would surface again?



Researching Your Lake History

Resources of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Research material to start discovering your lake history may be as near as your own attic, your local library or historical society, or the recollections of your community elders. The State Historical Society of Wisconsin is also an important source of information on all aspects of Wisconsin history. If your research progresses very far, you will probably want to examine the Society's collections.

The Society's Archives Division maintains fourteen archival repositories around the state which contain geographically-based collections of manuscripts, maps, government records and photographs. These repositories, known as Area Research Centers, are located in Eau Claire, Green Bay, LaCrosse, Milwaukee, Oshkosh, Kenosha, Platteville, River Falls, Stevens Point, Menomonie, Superior, Whitewater, and the main archives in Madison. Plans are being developed for a Northland Center in Ashland. Phone the **Main Archives Reference** to request a brochure on the Wisconsin Area Research Center Network and detailed information on the research center nearest you. Extensive photographic, sound and film collections are also maintained in Madison. The Society also has a network of affiliated historical societies and museums around the state. For information on historical societies in your area, contact the **Office of Local History**.

The State Historical Society Library, located in Madison, contains over 3.5 million items, and is the world's single largest collection of material devoted exclusively to North American history. It contains one of the nation's largest newspaper collections as well as nationally-recognized holdings in Midwestern history and genealogy. Much of the library catalogue is computerized and may be accessed via the Internet. Many of the Society's published and microfilmed holdings may be requested through your local library using interlibrary loan. Contact the **Library Reference** desk to obtain

information on use of the Society library collection, including factsheets covering family history, genealogical resources and research tips, and a general guide to the Society's research collections.

The Society's **Historic Sites Division** includes seven museums and living history sites which interpret various aspects of Wisconsin's pioneer, agricultural, political, social, industrial, military and maritime history. The Madeline Island Historical Museum (715/747-2415), located in Lake Superior's Apostle Islands, interprets Madeline Island's Native American, fur trade and maritime history, and will be of particular interest to lake history enthusiasts. The **Society's Museum** on Madison's Capitol Square tells the story of the state from the glaciers to the present, supplemented by changing exhibits on a variety of Wisconsin history topics. Among the permanent exhibits is a lake cottage illustrating northern Wisconsin's important tourism and resort history.

The Society's **Historic Preservation Division** works to preserve the state's historic buildings, burial places and archaeological sites, including underwater sites such as historic shipwrecks and Native American watercraft. The Historic Preservation Division also maintains the National Register of Historic Places, and administers state and federal tax credits programs for the preservation of qualified historic buildings, catalogued burial sites and registered archaeological sites. The Historic Preservation Division may have information on historic buildings in your community and can assist you in preserving the burials and archaeological remains of your lakes' earliest residents. You can also help preserve underwater archaeological findings at your lake by reporting them to our **Underwater Archaeologists**. Ask divers to help preserve your lake's history by not collecting artifacts and souvenirs, but "take only pictures and leave only bubbles."

The State Historical Society Museum tells the story of the state from glaciers to the present...

The Society Library contains the world's largest collection of North American history.



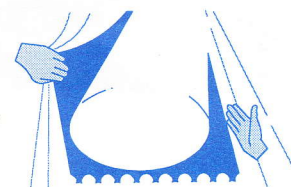
We invite you to become more involved in the study and preservation of Wisconsin's history by joining us as a member of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. There are a range of membership benefits, including discounted historic site admissions, publications, and museum store purchases, a bimonthly newsletter, and the quarterly *Wisconsin Magazine of History*. For information, contact the **Membership Office**, or write to the Membership Coordinator, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State St., Madison WI 53706-1488.

State Historical Society of Wisconsin Contacts

Archives Reference	608/264-6460
Burial Sites Preservation	608/264-6502
Historic Preservation	608/264-6500
Historic Sites	608/264-6540
Library Reference	608/264-6535
Local History	608/264-6583
Membership	608/264-6587
Museum	608/264-6572
Public Information	608/264-6586
State Archaeologist	608/264-6495
State Underwater Archaeologist	608/264-6493

Spotlight-New Lake Specialist:

Tamara ("Tam") Dudiak joined the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership as an Extension Lake Management Specialist in March. Tamara will be based at the University of Wisconsin in Stevens Point. Tam brings a host of valuable skills to the position. In addition to her undergraduate English degree (integral to our education mission), she has a M.S. in water resources management with an emphasis in aquatic ecology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Tamara also has a degree in environmental law from Syracuse University in New York state. Tamara has worked with lake communities conducting plant surveys, monitoring water quality, and performing related field work. She has also worked with the Wisconsin DNR on several legal issues including the issue of nonconforming uses in shorelands and floodplains.



Tam has a strange and deep affinity for water which she attributes to distant amphibious origins. She is a keenly enthusiastic x-country and downhill skier. Regardless of the weather, she intends to have a pair of skis with her at all times during the winter months (that would be nine in this state.)

*Introducing
Tamara Dudiak,
our new lake
specialist.*

Serving and supporting communities is important to Tamara. She assisted her father with the organization and operation of a medical humanitarian project, currently operating in Ukraine, designed to promote medical and dental care to women and children affected by the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. This native Wisconsinite is thrilled with the prospect of traveling the state, meeting people, and assisting lake communities as they work through the issues facing Wisconsin lakes. The Wisconsin Lakes Partnership welcomes Tamara to the great tradition of friendship and caring for our exceptional lakes.

Announcing: New Lakes Publications!



Through the Looking Glass: A Field Guide to Aquatic Plants will be available this summer from the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership. With over 250 pages and 120 superb illustrations of plants common to Wisconsin and the Great Lakes area, this guidebook is one of a kind. Check the next issue of *Lake Tides* for ordering information. *Your Aquatic Plant Management*

Program: A How-To Field Manual, is sponsored by the Wisconsin Waterways Commission in cooperation with the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership. If your lake group is in the plant harvesting business or thinking about it, this "how-to" guide is for you. The manual covers all aspects of a plant harvesting program from planning to public relations. Contact your DNR aquatic plant specialist after June 15th to request your free copy.



WATER FROM ANOTHER TIME

The Wisconsin Lakes Convention is History!

The 1997 Wisconsin Lakes Convention now fits perfectly into its theme... it's history! *Water from Another Time* focused on the history of Wisconsin Lakes. We were reminded of our historical roots and the Convention helped us preserve a sense of place. Speakers and attendees linked past practices with today's issues and many came dressed in period clothing adding to the sense of timelessness.



This gathering is one of the largest of its kind in the nation and it lived up to its billing once again. Senator Alice Clausen, Representative Spencer Black and Toni Remondini, aide to Senator Cowles, joined a panel to discuss issues that impact Wisconsin lakes. On the top of the list was personal watercraft. The legislators discussed pending legislation which would require personal watercraft to maintain a slow-no wake speed when a certain distance from shore (AB 288). The possibility of introducing a bill addressing lakes classification was also discussed.

The three days of the Wisconsin Lakes Convention are crammed with a huge serving of information that is indispensable to organizations that deal with lake issues. If someone from your lake organization hasn't attended this convention in recent years, it may be a good idea to send a representative.

*Serve your lake community by participating in this time honored convention. **The 1998 Lakes Convention will be held in Stevens Point on March 12, 13 and 14. See you there!***

Stewardship Awards

Recognizing the dedication of volunteers is an important part of the Lakes Convention. This year, Stewardship Awards were given to **Fred Ellerman** of the Silver Lake P&R District in the Individual category, **Lake Redstone Protection District** in the Group category, and the **Northwoods Lake Fair Planning Committee** in the Public Service category. Youth groups receiving



Adopt-A-Lake signs for their communities include: Advanced Biology Class, Cambridge High School (Lake Ripley); Wood River Beavers 4-H Club (Big Wood Lake); Asa Clark Middle School (Lake Pewaukee); and Three Lakes Fish and Wildlife Improvement Assn., Advanced Biology Students (Maple Lake). We thank these folks for their dedication and outstanding volunteer efforts.

Youth Participation at Lakes Convention

Once again, students from around the state gathered at the Lakes Convention to share their research projects and stories about their lakes. Students from North Lakeland Elementary School presented information on the "Carlin Kids Lake Association." Asa Clark Middle School students from Pewaukee shared information on their "River Keepers Klub Stream Flow Volume Project" and "Learning from the Past to Guide Our Future." Three Lakes High School students provided results from their advanced biology class research projects on "Toxicology of Purple Loosestrife Natural Herbicides" and "The Effect of Rock Walls on Aquatic Insects." Youth in the Wood River Beavers 4-H Club presented "The Many Faces of Big Wood Lake." Joining in the historical theme of the conference, Lucky Hills 4-H Club members shared "The History of Lake Kathryn from People Who Lived It." Cambridge High School's Advanced Biology class presented "The Multi-Faceted Classroom: The Community Connection," which has won national recognition. Several of the groups also shared their projects through poster sessions and displays of their many activities, including river and lake clean-ups, lake fair booths, and other Adopt-A-Lake projects.



We feel very honored to have our youth share their school and club projects with the Lakes Convention audience. It's great to know that these dedicated students and club members are working hard and taking action to help protect Wisconsin's lakes for the future.

They all did a great job!



White Water provided delightful entertainment for a memorable closing ceremony.





Letters to Lake Tides

To the Editor:

I was just given a copy of Lake Tides, Vol. 22, No.1, Winter 1997. I found the article about ice harvesting very interesting.

I thought perhaps you would be interested in a follow up story. The Eagle River Area Fire Dept. still harvests ice for an Ice Castle that has been traditionally built in Eagle River since the 1920s. We've been doing it for the past ten years. Although we do not use horses, we still use the same equipment and many of the same techniques written about in the article.

We use original equipment from the Hanke family who once was in the ice making business for years in our area, until the need for block ice was no longer profitable.

Some of the equipment are an old Wisconsin 4 cylinder engine that runs an inverted buzz saw which cuts and scores the ice approximately 3/4ths of the ice thickness, pipe poles, break off bars, ice chisels and hand ice saws. The blade on the buzz saw is especially designed for cutting ice.

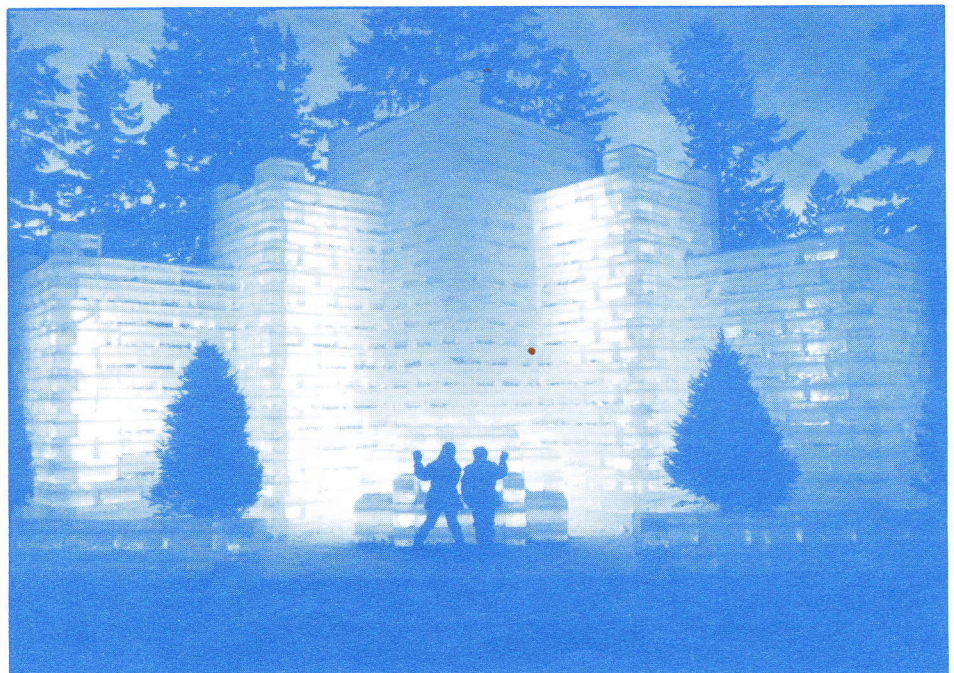
We still have to scrape off snow from the ice field, measure and square off the ice field, score the ice (10" x 20" blocks), hand cut the ice into ice rafts (10 blocks to a raft), break the ice with a break off bar and then haul the ice downtown for assembly of the ice castle.

The ice harvesting normally takes place between Christmas and New Years when the ice is approximately 15 to 18 inches thick. The ice has historically been taken from Silver Lake in the City of Eagle River. The 10" x 20" blocks of ice can weigh anywhere from 65 to 75 pounds depending on the thickness. The Ice Castle will usually use from 2,200 to 2,700 blocks of ice and takes 4 to 5 days to complete. We place colored lights in it and at night it is really a sensational sight. To our knowledge, we are the only ones who still harvest ice anywhere in Wisconsin or the midwest.

The Ice Castle has been designed by the Hanke family for many years and Jack Thomas has been carrying on this family tradition by designing the Ice Castle for the past 10 years.

Sincerely,

Jim Bonson;
Captain,
Eagle River
Area Fire Dept.



All ethics so far evolved rest upon a single premise: that the individual is a member of a community of interdependent parts. His instincts prompt him to compete for his place in that community, but his ethics prompt him also to co-operate (perhaps in order that there may be a place to compete for).

The land ethic simply enlarges the boundaries of the community to include soils, waters, plants, and animals, or collectively: the land.

This sounds simple: do we not already sing our love for an obligation to the land of the free and the home of the brave? Yes, but just what and whom do we love? Certainly not the soil, which we are sending helter-skelter downriver. Certainly not the waters, which we assume have no function except to turn turbines, float barges, and carry off sewage. Certainly not the plants, of which we exterminate whole communities without batting an eye. Certainly not the animals, of which we have already extirpated many of the largest and most beautiful species. A land ethic of course cannot prevent the alteration, management, and use of these 'resources,' but it does affirm their right to continued existence, and at least in spots, their continued existence in a natural state.

In short, a land ethic changes the role of *Homo Sapiens* from conqueror of the land-community to plain member and citizen of it. It implies respect for his fellow-members, and also respect for the community as such.

In human history we have learned (I hope) that the conqueror role is eventually self-defeating. Why? Because it is implicit in such a role that the conqueror knows, *ex cathedra*, just what makes the community clock tick, and just what and who is valuable, and what and who is worthless, in community life. It always turns out that he knows neither, and this is why his conquests eventually defeat themselves.

- Aldo Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac* -

BWCA Negotiations End With Both Sides Pointing Fingers

After meeting 21 times over the past eight months, the committee that had hoped to end the fight over the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCA) ended its negotiations this week without reaching agreement. The committee's two major factions, motorboat proponents and environmentalists, remained divided over the volatile issues of motorboats in the wilderness and the use of trucks to get them there. Two Minnesotans, Senator Rod Grams and Representative James Oberstat, plan to introduce bills calling for greater motorboat access to the 1.1 million acre wilderness. A third Minnesotan, Senator Paul Wellstone, also plans to sponsor a bill to resolve the fight. Although not outlining the specifics of his proposal, Wellstone characterizes his bill as a "fair, balanced, durable" approach to protect "this unique, world-class resource for current and future generations." [Minnesota Tribune 4/29/97]

*News Around
the Midwest*



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CALENDAR

June 10 Project WET Workshop, Aldo Leopold Nature Center, Dane County (contact Suzanne Wade, University of Wisconsin-Extension at 608/265-3257)

June 14 Burnett County Lake Issues Forum, Voyager Village Stables Conference Building, Siren WI (contact John Preissing, Burnett County Extension at 715/349-2151)

June 17/19 Project WET Workshop, Bethel Horizons Nature Center, Iowa County (contact Mark Breseman at 608/935-5886)

June 17-20 Project WET Workshop/Canoe Trip, Outdoor Skills Center, Sheboygan (contact Scott Johnson at 414/893-5210)

June 21 Washburn County Lakes Stewardship Workshop, Badgerland Civic Center, Spooner WI (contact Beverly Stencel, Washburn County Extension at 715/635-3192)

June 27-July 13 Great 1997 Secchi DipIn! Sponsored by the U.S. EPA and North American Lake Management Society (contact Libby McCann, Adopt-A-Lake Coordinator at 715/346-3366 or Susan Graham, Self-Help Monitoring Program at 608/266-8117)

July 9, 16, 23 Native/Natural Landscaping for Northern Wisconsin, Nicolet College, Lakeland Campus in Minocqua (contact Nicolet at 715/356-6753)

July 28-August 1 Project WET Workshop, Southwest Academy-Fennimore (contact Don Tinchler at 414/361-1968)

WAL Regional Lake Leader Workshops: Contact Jo Ellen Seiser, Wisconsin Association of Lakes, at 1-800-542-LAKE for more information on these upcoming workshops.

Sept. 11 in Rice Lake; **Sept. 12** in Eagle River; and **Sept. 13** in Oshkosh