

PELICAN LAKE • LITTLE PELICAN LAKE • FISH LAKE • BASS LAKE

# the PELICAN brief



## A LATE SPRING • ICE OFF THE LAKE

*The ice went out on Wednesday, April 27th this year. It's been a long, cold winter season and many at the lakes even woke up the first of May with a fresh blanket of snow.*

## HELLO SPRING! WELCOME BACK TO THE LAKE

### *Welcome back to the lake friends and neighbors!*

There are many activities planned this summer. See the back page of this newsletter for a partial calendar of events. Plus, there is a lot more information on the Pelican Lake website, [www.pelicanlakemn.org](http://www.pelicanlakemn.org).

**DATE CHANGE:** *The Spring PLPOA Member meeting date has been changed to June 3rd with a social hour at 6:30 and the membership meeting starting at 7:30. A PLPOA Board meeting will be held at 5:30. Majors and Captains meeting will be Saturday, June 4th at 9:00 am.*

**E UPDATES:** E-communications will continue to be sent out monthly (more if necessary) during the lake season. The PLPOA website (<http://pelicanlakemn.org/>) is updated

regularly as things change and covers more information than we can put in an email. If you know of someone that is not getting email updates, we might not have their correct email address.

**THE PELICAN BRIEF:** This newsletter will be sent out three times during the season to our entire lake community. Sue Hinsperger (Beauty Bay) is our new newsletter editor. Be sure to email her ([suzyjoan@live.com](mailto:suzyjoan@live.com)) with any information that could go in the newsletter. *Thanks, Kathy Hovey for your time as Editor of the Pelican Brief!*

**MEMBERSHIP REMINDER:** PLPOA Membership fees of \$45 are now due. Many have paid already, but if you haven't, you can pay online by going to our website membership page or sending a check to: PLPOA, PO Box 1782, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-1782.

**LAKE AREA DIRECTORY:** Aldie Kelsven is putting the finishing touches on the 2011 Directory and paid members can expect a copy to be delivered by their Beach Captain shortly after the June 4th Captains and Majors meeting.

**LAKES COUNTRY WAVE:** The Pelican Rapids Press has started a weekly e-newsletter "Lakes Country Wave" with upcoming lakes area events and happenings in and around Pelican Rapids, Cormorant, and Vergas. If you'd like to sign up for this weekly email, please email Julie Meyer ([julieprpress@loretel.net](mailto:julieprpress@loretel.net)) at the Pelican Rapids Press.

### *Have a Great Summer Everyone!*

## SPRING SNOW } SUPER CUTE SNAPSHOT

**Late season "Snowman" poses with Owen Ostbye, two year old grandson of Gary & Sandy Ostbye (Broadwater Beach).** Owen helped his dad (Jason) and Grandpa (Gary) build the snowman on Sunday April 17th as a testimony to what spring is REALLY like at the lake.



## LOOKING AHEAD



**KEN ERICKSON**, president

Membership increases the benefits to all.

### Greetings,

We look forward to another lake season. The Association is yours so please participate. If you have any helpful concerns feel free to contact any Board member or myself.

Our first membership meeting is scheduled for June 3rd at Fair Hills, so mark your calendars. A speaker will talk on Zebra Mussels and other invasive species.

I was happy with the increased membership last year and would like another year of increased membership. I have set a 2011 goal of 900 members. We need your help to contact non-members and let them know of all the benefits available for just \$45.00 a year.

June 15th is clean-up day, which is available to all paid members.

I would like to thank all the Majors, the Beach Captains, the Board, and all the other volunteers who continue to bring us the 4th of July Fireworks/Boat Parade.

Have a safe and enjoyable lake season. -Ken

## BUSY WINTER PLANNING

Check the PGOLID website [www.pgolid.org](http://www.pgolid.org) which has been updated with all the 2010 monitoring data.

Pelican Lake Dam replacement continues to slowly move up the DNR ladder to the 16th spot. There is a remote possibility it could happen this year, but the odds are better that it would happen next year. The landing inspection cost-sharing grant has been approved for 2011 for hours similar to last year. PGOLID will be using Clarke Aquatic Services for the survey and treatment of Curley-Leaf Pondweed in 2011. There has been some progress over the winter regarding possible control of Zebra mussels, but nothing that will be available this coming season. On March 29th, PGOLID helped sponsor an Aquatic Invasive Species Seminar for Lake Service Providers with over 60 people in attendance. Shoreline restoration grants are filled for this coming year, but money is available for 2012. Interested people should contact Moriya Rufer ([moriyar@rmbel.info](mailto:moriyar@rmbel.info)).

## 45 YEARS OF THE YACHT CLUB

*"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination."*

-JIMMY DEAN

Pelican Lake Yacht Club starts its 45th year! PLYC was established in 1967 with Warren Diederich as it's first Commodore. Over the years, there have been many improvements, starting with the purchase of property on the lake in 1979. In 1990, slips were established for members that wanted to moor their boats and shortly thereafter, the clubhouse was upgraded to its current status. PLYC provides a location for the Pelican Lake Sailing School to operate and some of its members volunteer their time with the operation of the school. Over time, PLYC has evolved from a strictly racing club to its present offering of about half racing and half social functions held both on and off the lake as well as sailboat slips for PLYC members. Interested people can contact current Commodore Roger Stadum or Carol Schlossman, Communications. Check the PLYC calendar at <http://plyc.info/> for events.

### PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS OF FUTURE SAILORS

This time of year, we're all looking forward to summer and planning what will happen during the months of summer. Jeff Peltier has been busy with the sailing school program, as sign-ups have already begun for some of last year's students. Here's the schedule for sessions this summer so you can begin planning as well.

**SESSION ONE:** June 27 - 30 (Mon-Thu), July 5 - 8 (Tue-Fri) 9:00am to 11:30am

**SESSION TWO:** July 5 - 8 (Tue- Fri), July 11 - 14 (Mon Thu) 1:00pm to 3:30pm

**SESSION THREE:** July 11 - 14 (Mon-Thu), July 18 - 21 (Mon-Thu) 9:00am to 11:30am



# FIRE CALL COSTS INCREASE

## PROPERTY INFO

**Frazee Fire Department adopts fee schedule.** The Frazee Fire Department, which also services the townships of Burlington, Silver Leaf, Evergreen, Height of Land and part of Hobart, recently adopted a fee schedule for 2011. The fire department charges \$1,000 for the first three hours of a structure fire, then \$250 per hour. Grass fires are \$500, and responding to an initial alarm call is \$150, while a second response to an alarm call is \$500. The previous rates the fire department set were in 2008, when there was a flat \$500 charge for the first three hours of a call, then \$250 per hour.

*This article originally appeared in the Frazee-Vergas Forum Wed, March 16, 2011 and was written by Barbie Porter.*

**Vergas Fire Department increases fees.** The Vergas Fire Department recently increased its rates to \$750 the first hour and \$300 each additional hour. Fire chief Justin Helmke said the previous rates were \$500 the first hour, then \$250 per hour. Helmke explained the increase was due to the department not being able to cover its wages, fuel and other damages that occur to equipment while on a call.

*Local insurance agents recommend residents check their insurance policy to see if they have sufficient coverage.*

“We aren’t in this to make money, but to at least cover expenses is what we are after,” Helmke noted. “The budgets are getting tighter and we need to make sure that the budget will cover the average expenditures. If we have a large fire, it is costing us money to fight the fire, and that doesn’t make sense.” He added even a small brush fire or chimney fire generally takes an hour because after the fire is extinguished firemen also check for “hot spots” or other fires smoldering in a dead tree, attic or elsewhere.

**Insurance agents recommend checking policy.** United Community Insurance agent Rita Steltzer said the fire call coverage is one of the most affordable premiums to increase. “For an extra \$3 to \$5 a month you can raise the coverage significantly,” Steltzer said. She noted the average policy has a minimum call coverage of \$500 to \$750, but recommends homeowners consider being covered up \$1,000 at least. For those who have additional structures, such as barns and sheds, she recommended increasing the fire call coverage to \$2,000.



Vergas State Bank Insurance agent Sherri Hanson said the average policy generally has \$500 coverage for fire calls, which doesn’t cover the first hour of a call by the Vergas Fire Department, which is \$750. “I’d never recommend less than two hours,” she said. “I think about structure fires and it’s not often a fire department is in and out in an hour.” She added extra coverage is cheap, noting it may be worth it to those “who are proactive with their insurance needs,” and “don’t want to deal with extra costs during a time of loss.”

“It is a good idea to look at your policy, and see if you need more coverage,” Hanson added. “If you have questions, call and double check what you have.”

# RHUBARB COFFEE CAKE

## RECIPE CORNER

1/2 cup butter	1/2 tsp. salt	<i>topping:</i>
1 1/2 cup sugar	2 1/2 cups flour	1/2 cup butter
1 egg	3 cups rhubarb, sliced 1/4" thick	1/2 cup light cream or evaporated milk
1 cup buttermilk	1 cup brown sugar	1 cup sugar
1 tsp vanilla	1/2 cup walnuts	1 tsp vanilla
1 tsp. baking soda		

*Submitted by:  
Vonnie Halstenson  
(Pelican Beach)*

*It's Yummy!*

Mix butter, sugar, egg, buttermilk, vanilla, soda, salt, flour and rhubarb. Pour into 9x13 greased pan. Sprinkle the brown sugar and the nuts over the top. Bake at 350 for 45 minutes. Cook topping until sugar is dissolved, 3-4 minutes. Spread topping while the cake is still hot.





the **PELICAN** *brief*

PELICAN LAKE  
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION  
PO BOX 1782  
DETROIT LAKES, MN 56502

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Fergus Falls, MN  
Permit #210

**PUBLIC IS WELCOME:**

*Shriner's Parade*  
*(Fair Hills Resort)*

**SATURDAY 1:30-2:30 PM**  
**MAY 21, 2011**

Fair Hills Resort will be hosting the annual Shriner's Convention May 19-22, 2011. That Saturday, there will be a parade around Fair Hills. Participants will include clowns, the motorcade, both cars and motorcycles and the honor guard. Public is welcome to attend, please park at Wildflower Golf Course.

the **PELICAN** *brief*

The Pelican Brief is published during the summer months by a team of volunteer lake residents including: EDITOR **Sue Hinsperger** (Beauty Bay), **Aldie Kelsven** (Cha Rosa Beach), **Sandy Ostbye** (Broadwater Beach), **Michelle Sletten** (Senn's Beach), and **Jeff Peltier** (Broadwater Beach). If you have comments or would like to submit a story idea or photo, please contact the editor, [suzyjoan@live.com](mailto:suzyjoan@live.com)



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**SUMMER 2011 • Calendar of Events**

May 25	Wednesday	7:00 pm	PGOLID Board Meeting (RMB Labs)
June 3	Friday	5:30 pm	PLPOA Board Meeting (Fair Hills)
		6:30 pm	PLPOA Member Social
		7:30 pm	PLPOA Spring Meeting
June 4	Saturday	9:00 am	Majors and Captains Meeting (Fair Hills)
June 15	Wednesday		Clean-up Day (one day only)
June 18	Saturday	8:30 am	PLPOA Board Meeting (Fair Hills)
June 22	Wednesday	7:00 pm	PGOLID Board Meeting (RMB Labs)
June 25	Saturday	3:00 pm	Sail-Fest (contact Carol Schlossman)
June 27	Monday	9:00 am	PLSS 1st session of sailing school starts
July 4	Monday	10:00 am	Boat Parade
		1:00 pm	Sailboat Race
		10:30 pm	Fireworks
July 5	Tuesday	1:00 pm	PLSS 2nd session of sailing school starts
July 6	Wednesday	7:00 pm	PGOLID Board Meeting (RMB Labs)
July	TBA		Swimming Lessons

**HAVE A GREAT, SAFE AND MEMORABLE SUMMER EVERYONE!**

# \*\*\*ALERT\*\*\*

## PLEASE PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ZEBRA MUSSELS FROM PELICAN TO OTHER AREA LAKES

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Zebra mussels were found in Pelican Lake in September, 2009. Zebra mussels are an invasive species that has been spread throughout Minnesota Lakes, including Mille Lacs and the Alexandria area lakes. Zebra mussels are ¼ to 1 ½ inches long and are D-shaped with alternating black and brown stripes. Zebra mussels are tricky to find when they are larvae, because they are not visible to the naked eye. The larvae can live in your live well if there is water there, or in your minnow bucket and then spread into other lakes. Zebra mussels can attach to hard surfaces such as boat lifts and docks and clog water intake pipes.



At this time there is no treatment for zebra mussels; however, research projects are in progress and we are hopeful that in the future a treatment will be available. Until then, it is imperative to prevent spread to other lakes so that the problem remains contained.

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### AVOID SPREAD

Please take the following steps to prevent the transport of zebra mussels and other aquatic invasive species to new waters:

- **Inspect** and **remove** aquatic plants, animals, and mud from your boat, trailer, and equipment.
- **Drain** all water from your motor, livewell, bilge, transom, etc.
- **Dispose** of unused bait in the trash.
- **Wash** your boat and equipment with hot and/or high pressure water, particularly if moored for more than one day, **OR**
- **Dry** your boat and equipment thoroughly (in the sun) for five days.



### PROTECT YOUR BOAT

Is your boat protected against zebra mussels? Unfortunately, some boat owners are seeing and feeling the damage caused by zebra mussels first hand. Their boat hulls are being damaged and their motors are overheating because they do not know how to minimize the impacts zebra mussels can cause.

- Use a boatlift to completely remove the watercraft from the water.
- Use your boat (run the engine) at least twice a week at slow speeds (4 mph) for 10-15 minutes. The hot water will kill the zebra mussels in your engine's cooling systems.
- Lift motor out of the water between uses if mooring.
- Tip down the motor and discharge the water when leaving a water body.
- Rinse your boat and equipment if you leave Pelican Lake and intend to visit another lake.
- Apply antifouling paints to the hull and the engine's cooling system. In-line strainers can also be installed in some cooling systems.
- Apply protective paint to your boat's hull. For details visit <http://www.pelicanlakemn.org/>

PELICAN GROUP OF LAKES IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

**Directors Present:** Hart, Tollefson, Oksendahl, Wheeler

**Directors Present by Phone:** Valentine, Peltier

**Directors Absent:** Uglem, Johnson, Kohler

**Also Present:** Moriya Rufer

President Oksendahl called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Wheeler moved that the Agenda as proposed be accepted. Tollefson seconded the motion and the Directors passed it. Peltier moved that the minutes be approved as written. Hart seconded the motion. The Board then passed the motion.

Valentine presented the financial report. Tollefson moved that the financial report be accepted with a correction reclassifying one item (vegetation survey). Hart seconded the motion and the Directors passed the motion.

Moriya Rufer presented the Star Lake Program and discussed the application process. She has applied for three more years of funding for Shoreline Restoration Projects. Zebra mussels are a continuing and serious issue for the lakes. The water quality reports remain essentially unchanged with the exception of increased phosphorus at site 205 on the east end. Average Clarity is 13 feet. A tour in the summer of 2011 of the property involved in Shoreline Restoration Projects was discussed as was the landing inspections and conservation easements. Wheeler moved that contract with RMB for the year 2011 be approved. Peltier seconded the motion and the Directors passed it.

Tollefson reported that the bid process for the curly leaf pondweed has commenced. Two areas, one in Little Pelican and one in Fish Lake, will be treated and the west end will be inspected and treated if indicated.

Peltier reported that a tentative agreement remains with the watershed district but progress continues. He also stated that the number of landing inspections completed in summer 2010 was down from previous years but that the hours of inspecting had increased.

There being no further business Tollefson moved that the meeting be adjourned, Wheeler seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion and at 8:05 PM the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa J Wheeler