



THE PELICAN BRIEF

A summer newsletter for the residents of Pelican Lake, Little Pelican, Fish and Bass Lakes • July 2009



Independence Day: Patriotic theme open to creativity

The annual Pelican Lake parade will take place on Saturday, July 4th. The competition was especially keen last year and the Pelican Lake Property Owners Association (PLPOA) recognized that the cost of decorating the pontoons/boats was going up so they increased the prizes by \$50 per place. Third place will be \$100, second will be \$150 and first place will be a \$200 prize. The floats last year exhibited a wide range of creativity. The classic boats always add a special element to the parade. We hope you will consider joining in this traditional event this year. It's lots of fun for families, neighbors, or even entire beach areas. So get your creative juices flowing and join in the parade!

The theme this year is "PATRIOTIC" which is general in nature so that a broad range of themes and decorations will be appropriate. We hope you will let your imagination run wild so that the judges

will have a difficult time picking the winners. The parade will begin at 10 a.m. at the Yacht Club. All entrants must be checked in no later than 9:45 am. The parade route will be counterclockwise beginning with the classic wooden boats, followed by decorated pontoons and boats. All other power boats and sail boats may join any time and leave at any time from the rear.

When the parade is finished, there will be a picnic at the Yacht Club for all participants, families and friends. The picnic will begin at 12:30, with the prizes being awarded at the picnic.

It is requested that participants preregister. Questions and registration should be directed to Jim Prondzinski, 532-2066 or by email to prondz@aol.com. Your input is vital. If you have ideas for next year's theme or any input regarding the parade, please let Jim know as soon as possible.

Have a Safe
& Happy
4th of July!



The fireworks show will begin about 10:30 pm near Fair Hills Resort. Don't forget to tune your radio to 104.1 FM for music that coordinates with the display.

President's Pen



by **Rocky Swanson**

The spring meeting of the PLPOA was held on May 29, 2009, at Fair Hills Resort with excellent attendance. The social hour was very "social" with lots of catching up on "news" amongst the members after the long winter break. Our thanks to Moria from RMB Labs and Darrin and Nathan from the MN DNR for an excellent presentation on aquatic plants.

By the time you read this, Clean Up day on June 17th will be completed. I hope all of our members did their part in beautifying the lake and adjoining properties by discarding their unused and unusable "stuff". A reminder that Ottertail County has provided 2 recycling bins on the lake. One is by the Pelican Hills RV Park and General Store and the other is just on the north side of County Road 20 just east of Fair Hills Resort.

The July 4th activities are in full swing with lots of planning and behind the scenes work. I sure hope the weather co-operates for our annual celebration with fireworks and boat parade. Enjoy the festivities with your families and friends.

COUNTY ROADS 9 & 20

Corridor Study Update

As many of you know, a Study Review Committee (SRC) has been appointed to review the use of County Highways 9 and 20, which run along the west and north sides of Pelican Lake. The purpose of this committee is to study the direct impact that the use of these roads have on Pelican Lake owners as well as the general public. The committee is also studying whether a by-pass highway should be constructed as an alternative to using the above roads. The SRC will make a recommendation to Otter Tail County regarding the best alternative based on engineer studies, public input and economic constraints.

The committee on which I serve as your lake representative commenced the study last summer. Rick West, your Otter Tail County Engineer in conjunction with his staff and the professional Engineering Firm, SRF Consulting Group of Minneapolis have presented a great deal of study material and data to our committee. The SRC has met numerous times and there have been two public forums held. The most recent forum was held May 30, 2009 at the Lake Region Electric Coop meeting room.

Throughout this study there have been a number of common themes discussed within the study committee, which were also brought forth by those attending the public forums. Those themes include safety, speed, construction of bicycle or walking paths, and elimination of commercial and regional traffic by use of a by-pass, just to mention a few.

Presently, your lake association is on record as favoring a by-pass around both County Highways 9 and 20, which would move regional and commercial traffic away from Pelican Lake. Immediate improvements to the existing roads to calm traffic for the safety of motorists, pedestrians, pet owners etc. are also favored.

Material on this matter is posted on a web-site. Go to the county's home page at www.co.otter-tail.mn.us. At the top right under search options enter csah 9 project. Written comments may be submitted to Rick West, P.E. Otter Tail County Engineer, 505 South Court Street, Fergus Falls, MN 56537 or e-mailed to Mr. West at rwest@co.otter-tail.mn.us as soon as possible.

Comments, which were received at the last open forum and any additional public input, along with additional engineering reports and recommendations will be reviewed by the SRC. A final committee recommendation will be made sometime this summer.

Submitted by Gary Lawrence, Pelican Lake Representative SRC Committee



Check the Web Site

There is lots of information about our lake, our governing bodies and lake events on our Pelican Lake web site.

This web page is another extra provided by the Pelican Lake Property Owners Association. Like this newsletter, the web page is prepared and updated by PLPOA members who volunteer their time and talents.

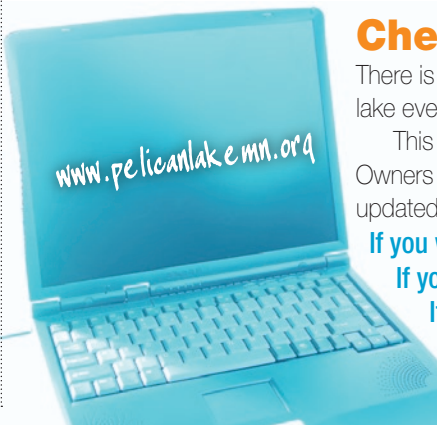
If you want to report lost or found items...

If you want to know how many cottages there are on the lake...

If you want the name of the PLPOA Board member nearest you...

If you want a past issue of The Pelican Brief...

check the web site: www.pelicanlakemn.org



Let's Go Swimming!

It's that time again to prepare your summer activity schedule. Dunn Township and the Pelican Lake Property Owners Assoc. will offer FREE swimming lessons.

These lessons are free of charge and open to the public regardless of residency. Classes are offered for pre-beginners thru swimmers. Classes are Tues. and Thurs. afternoons for 4 weeks, starting Tuesday July 7, 2009 .

Class dates are: July 9th 14th 16th 21st 23rd 28th 30th.

Class times are as follows:

Primary Skill/Pre-Beginner.....	12:00 - 12:30
Stroke Readiness/Beginner I	12:30 - 1:00
Stroke Readiness/Beginner II	1:00 - 1:30
Stroke Development/Advanced Beginner I	1:30 - 2:15
Stroke Development/Advanced Beginner II	2:15 - 3:00
Intermediate and/or Swimmers	3:00 - 3:45

Depending on the program participation, class times may vary and class sizes are limited. Pre-registration is not required but very helpful. Lessons will be held on Pelican Point Dr. next to Fair Hills Resort, on the North shore of Pelican Lake at 51628 Pelican Point Dr. Parking is available across the road. If you have further questions regarding the program or would like to register, please contact Faye Spitzley-Engkjer at 218-532-7066

CURLY-LEAF PONDWEED Treatment Program

By Moriya Rufer, PGOLID
Water Resource Coordinator

Curly-leaf pondweed is an invasive plant that can form large mats early in the summer and interfere with recreational activities. When curly-leaf pondweed dies off in late June – early July, these large mats wash up on shore and create a nuisance.

This pondweed was first documented in the Pelican Group of Lakes in 2005. In 2006 PGOLID started their treatment program, and since then a total of approximately 31 acres have been treated each year.

Over this time period there has been an approximate 95% reduction in curly-leaf pondweed density from 2005 to 2008. This spring (2009), two surveys have shown no areas of curly-leaf pondweed dense enough to chemically treat. It is possible that the last three years of treatment have significantly set the plant back. One more survey is planed for the second week of June. We have a new professional chemical applicator this year that does not require property owners to keep their docks out of the water for treatment.



All property owners in treatment areas are welcome to put their docks in at any time.

Eradication of this exotic species is not likely within any body of water but continued management practices can keep detrimental effects of this plant to a minimum. PGOLID will continue to have the lake surveyed each spring and continue treatment where necessary.

Six Ways to Be a Good Lake Neighbor

Let's face it, we live close to people down here at the lakes. Here are some tips for being pleasant and appreciated by those next to you.

- 1** If you have a dog, try to keep the barking to a minimum and please clean up any "gifts" left in their yards. 
- 2** Everyone loves a good time but keep the music at a decent decibel and make sure the party ends at an appropriate time.
- 3** Yes, people love a well manicured lawn but no one appreciates hearing a mower at 7:30 on a Saturday morning. 
- 4** Follow boating rules. Especially be aware of no wake zones, designated swimming areas, and the noise made by jet skis and boats operating too close to shore.
- 5** If you borrow a tool or a cup of sugar, make sure you return or replace the item in a timely manner.
- 6** If you have goofed-up over time and relationships have become strained, bake your neighbors some cookies or bring them a basket of fresh vegetables or fruit.





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

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Fergus Falls, MN
Permit #210



The Pelican Brief is published during the summer months by a volunteer team of lake residents. If you have comments about the publication, story ideas or pictures, please contact the editor, khovey@loretel.net

Additional information is available at the Pelican Lake web site at www.pelicanlakemn.org

MID-SUMMER 2009 • Calendar of Events

June 29	9:00 am	PLSS Sailing Session 1 (peltier@plyc.info)
July 4	10:00 am	Boat Parade
	1:00 pm	Sailboat Race
	10:30 pm	Fireworks show
July 13	9:00 am	PLSS Sailing Session 2 (peltier@plyc.info)
July 23	7:00 am	Hidden Talent Show (Cormorant)
July 26-27	--	PLYC Wallwork Regatta
August 1	8:00 am	PLPOA board meeting (Fair Hills)
	9:30 am	PLPOA member breakfast
	10:30 am	PLPOA annual meeting
August 15	8:00 am	PGOLID voter registration begins
	9:00 am	PGOLID Annual Meeting (Fair Hills)
August 21	4:00 pm	PLPOA board meeting (Fair Hills)
August 21	evening	Lobster Dinner (Cormorant) Limited tickets available, contact Nancy Sitz, 439-3309

PELICAN GROUP OF LAKES IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Saturday, April 18, 2009
Cormorant Town Hall

Directors Present: Gary Hart, Jeff Peltier, Denny Tollefson, Michael Ostbye, Lisa Wheeler, Nick Valentine
Directors Absent: Jonel Uglem, Bill Zimmerman, Vance Stueness,

President Ostbye called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM. The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Peltier moved to accept the agenda as presented. Tollefson seconded the motion and the motion passed. Peltier then moved that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as presented. Valentine seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Nick Valentine presented the financial report. Wheeler moved to accept the report. The board approved the motion after it was seconded by Tollefson.

Peltier reported that Luther Aaland's proposal for a natural dam at the Fish Lake Outlet has a preliminary cost of \$50,000 as compared to around \$250,000 for a concrete dam. Since this dam is owned by the DNR. Discussions regarding sharing the cost of repair or replacement continue.

The Board discussed the bid proposed by Professional Lake Management for treating curly leaf pondweed. This bid proposal was significantly less than the proposal presented by Minnesota Shoreline Restoration Inc. Peltier moved and Hart seconded a motion to accept the proposal from PLM. This motion was tabled until Ron Duy had an opportunity to address the Board later during the meeting. Ron Duy discussed his bid later. After considering the large price spread and the due diligence conducted by Denny Tollefson, the Board voted to reconsider the award of the bid to Minnesota Shoreline Restoration Inc. and accept the lower bid from PLM. The motion passed unanimously.

Peltier related that boats entering the lake at the public access will be inspected again this summer for invasive species. Tollefson stressed the need to educate the public on zebra mussels. It was agreed that the inspections are especially important during the fishing tournaments.

Hart reported that the buoys are ready for placement and anchoring in the lake.

Moriya Rufer presented the Lake Coordinator Report including 2008 data analysis and website update, water levels, and 2009 monitoring plans. She also presented the 2009 Eurasian flowering rush contingency control plan and emphasized that this is the single greatest threat to the lake at this time. She also confirmed that there has been significant density reduction in curly leaf pondweed since 2005.

The Board Member election will be at the annual meeting at Fair Hills in August. Wheeler moved that Norm Robinson be hired to handle the meeting and election requirements. After a second by Ostbye the Board passed the motion. Wheeler and Uglem are eligible for re-election. Stueness has served the maximum two terms.

The PGOLID meeting recessed at 9:30AM and the Mosquito and Pest Control meeting commenced. Spraying will be provided by Clark and will begin the Thursday before Memorial Day provided the weather is consistent with spraying and will continue throughout the summer. Tent caterpillars are a concern again this year. Their appearance would require aerial spraying. The Mosquito and Pest Control meeting was adjourned and PGOLID resumed.

Hart moved the adjourn the meeting, Peltier seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 10:25AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Wheeler, Secretary

PGOLID Annual Meeting

Election held at Fair Hills Resort

August 15 , 2009 • 9:00 am

The annual meeting and election will be held August 15th at Fair Hills resort.

Voter registration is at 8 AM. The meeting will begin promptly at 9:00am.

Three people will be elected to the Pelican Group of Lakes Improvement District

(PGOLID) Board in August. Any property owner can be a candidate and all property owners are encouraged to attend the meeting and participate in the election of board members. Nominations for candidacy must be received by

the nominations committee chair Lisa Wheeler before 5 PM, July 17th.

The nomination should include a candidate statement of less than 150 words.

Contact Lisa at lisa@pgolid.org or Lisa Wheeler, 17 S 7th St, Fargo, ND 58103.

A complete package of information about the annual meeting, the election, candidates, important issues, past expenditures and proposed budgets will be sent to all property owners after July 17th.

For more information check the website – www.PGOLID.org.