



THE PELICAN BRIEF

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

4th of July

The annual boat parade and fireworks will be held on Saturday the 4th of July.

There is a patriotic theme for this year's boat parade. This should provide lots of opportunity for creativity and will hopefully inspire many on the lake to decorate a boat and enter the parade competition. Check the Pelican Lake website for prize details.

The boat parade begins at 10:00 am on July 4th, starting at the Yacht Club and moving counter-clockwise around the lake.

Fireworks begin at sundown (about 10:30 PM) near Fair Hills Resort. Come by boat or car to watch the big show and turn your radios to 104.1 FM for music that coordinates with the explosions in the sky.

A reminder to those coming by car: no littering please, and absolutely no fireworks of your own in the parking area.



Welcome Back!

The ice went off Pelican Lake on Friday, April 24th this year, a signal to get the water turned back on, clean up the outdoor furniture and check your tackle boxes for supplies.

There are lots of activities planned this summer. See the back page of this newsletter for a partial calendar of

events. There is a lot more information at the Pelican Lake website, www.pelicanlakemn.org.

More property owners than ever have joined the Pelican Lake Property Owners Association. Last year we had a record membership of 836. Thank you for your continued support.

With your membership comes a new phone directory, access to the clean up event (see next article), mosquito control, fireworks, summer newsletters and more.

If you haven't already sent your annual \$45.00 dues, please send it today to the PLPOA mailing address on the back page of this newsletter.

Lake Season: TIME TO CLEAN UP!

The annual Clean Up of our lake property is scheduled for Wednesday, June 17th.

This is the time to clean out your garages and attics and put all the items you want to discard near the road for pick-up.

This is a PLPOA-sponsored event, a benefit of being a dues paying PLPOA member. The Clean Up event is for members only. You can toss almost anything into your pile of discarded items: furniture, appliances, bikes, barbecues, lawnmowers, etc. Excluded from items that will be picked up are tree branches, paint, tires, batteries and construction materials. Ballard Sanitation also asks that you wait for your regular trash collection day for your weekly trash pickup.

President's Pen



by **Rocky Swanson**

Welcome back to the 2009 lake season! As the residents of Fargo-Moorhead and surrounding communities were contending with record flood levels of the Red River for the second time in less than three weeks, the thought of summer seemed a long ways away. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the homeowners who battled the rising waters, and sometimes lost the fight.

The annual Lakes Directory has been in process over the winter months and will be available from your beach captain after the May 30th spring meeting at Fair Hills. For a complete listing and schedule of all Association events please go to our website at www.pelicanlakemn.org.

The Association lost a very good member when Vic Horne died on February 22, 2009. Vichad been a member since 1988. He was a very active PLPOA Board member and officer, as well as a board member and officer of the PGOLID. He was a good example of the "Greatest Generation" who served his country proudly during World War II aboard a Navy destroyer. He was a very good friend to many and his leadership and enthusiasm will be missed.

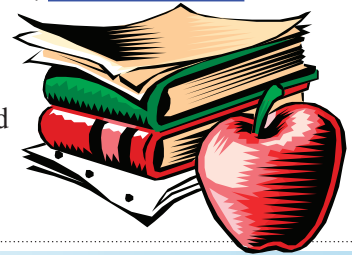
Can you afford the Pelican Rapids School District's Operating Tax Levy? *By Faye Enkger Spitz@cableone.net*

There has been some confusion regarding the tax levies presented by the school district in the past couple of years. There are three main classifications of taxpayers: Seasonal Residential Recreational, Homestead, or Agriculture-Homestead. Only Homestead/Ag-Homestead taxpayer's are allowed to vote for local tax levies. These taxpayers pay for Operating Tax Levies and account for about half area tax base.

All classifications of taxpayers pay for bond referendums which includes new schools or building construction. The vote the PR school district attempted last November and plan to attempt again this November is an Operating Tax Levy.

The average educational cost per pupil in PR was \$7500 with 993 students K-12 in 2007-2008. PR was found above average in cost per pupil. In November the voters were presented with an Operating Tax Levy for \$ 1.2 million which covered \$1100 additional funding per pupil due to deteriorating financial conditions as a result of declining student enrollment and inadequate government funding. The 2008 Operating Tax Levy was defeated 2076 NO to 1932 YES with 75% of Pelican Rapids in support and the majority of Dunn and Scambler opposed. Homestead-Ag would only be taxed on one acre of land while regular Homestead would be taxed on the total amount.

Superintendent Wanek said they are also looking at combining services with other area schools as a way to reduce costs as enrollment continues to decline but have no intention of closing. She also said a new school is still on the list of needs. The school district feels confident that the Operational Tax Levy will pass this coming November. Please stay informed, attend meetings, and vote. For a more detailed report, go to the PLPOA Website <http://pelicanlakemn.org/Education.html>



Denny Tollefson

Pelican Lake Resident is a candidate for Lake Region Electric Cooperative Board of Directors

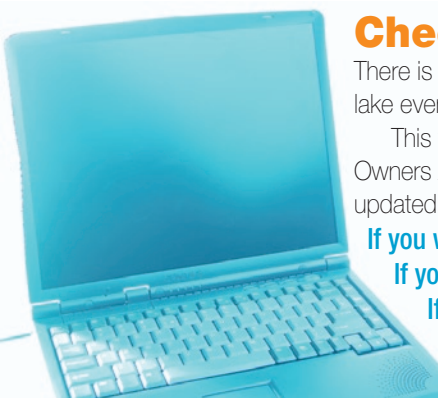
Denny Tollefson, 51324 County Hwy. #9, Pelican Rapids, MN is a candidate for a Board of Directors position from District 1.

Denny has a knowledge and understanding of the cooperative business model from working for a dairy cooperative for over 34 years in various management and executive positions.

He is a current director on the PGOLID Board of Directors.

Denny indicated, since he is retired, he will devote the time necessary to study key issues impacting the electric cooperative in order to make sound business decisions. He wants to represent District 1 on the LREC board to provide leadership in carrying out the cooperatives mission of providing members with safe, reliable, cost effective electric and related services.

Pelican Lake residents living in Scambler and Pelican townships are eligible to vote for this director position for which ballots will be sent out in early May by LREC.



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

New DNR Aquatic Plant Management Rules

By Moriya Rufer, PGOLID Water Resource Coordinator

There is a misconception that all aquatic plants are bad or create nuisances. Aquatic plants, in fact, play a major role in the aquatic environment. These same plants that may sometimes cause problems for people, filter nutrients from the water, create habitat for fish and wildlife, produce food for fish and wildlife, provide nutrient buffers, and protect shorelines from erosion. Without native aquatic plants in any lake, water quality and recreational use would take a dramatic change for the worse. The usual consequences are massive algae blooms, low water clarity, shoreline erosion, and negative changes in fish population composition and structure.

Aquatic plants growing in public waters are owned by the state, and their control is regulated through the DNR. The DNR does allow some limited control of aquatic plants. These rules have changed recently, and the new guidelines are summarized in this article.

Without a permit you may remove submerged (underwater) plants in an area up to 2,500 square feet, not to exceed along more than 50 feet or half the lot width. You may include a 15 foot wide boat channel (included in 2,500 square feet).

Any chemical treatment below the ordinary high water level requires a permit. For emergent plants (above water such as bulrush, cattails), you need a permit for removal. You may obtain a permanent, non-transferable permit to cut a 15 foot wide boat channel. You do need a permit for a weed roller. This year, it will be easier to get a 3-year weed roller permit. The following materials and actions are prohibited: plastic underwater mats or fabric, and controlling vegetation on undeveloped shoreline to improve appearance or alter aesthetics.

For more information about what you do and do not need a permit for:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/permits.html>

For more information about the DNR's aquatic plant management rules:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/regulations.html>



CLEARING UP BAD PLANT MISCONCEPTION:

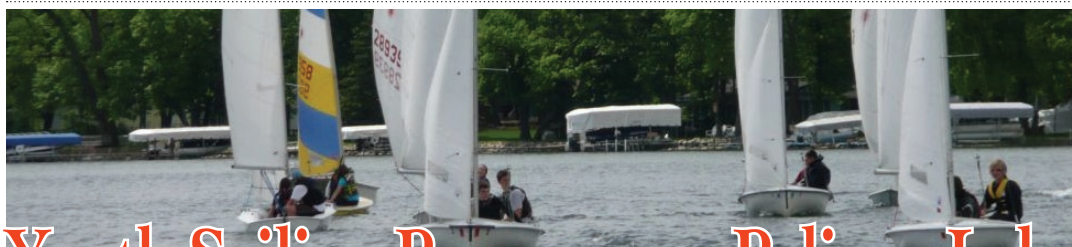
Without native aquatic plants in any lake, water quality and recreational use would take a dramatic change for the worse.

TOP TEN ways to combat mosquitos

Together, we can control mosquitoes and enjoy the great outdoors

YARD & HOME CHECKLIST:

- ✓ Get rid of old tires, tin cans, buckets, drums, bottles or any water holding containers
- ✓ Fill in or drain any low places (puddles, ruts) in yard
- ✓ Keep drains, ditches and culverts clean of weeds and trash so water will drain properly
- ✓ Cover trash containers to keep out rain water
- ✓ Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets
- ✓ Empty plastic wading pool at least once a week and store indoors when not in use
- ✓ Fill in tree rot holes and hollow stumps that hold water with sand or concrete
- ✓ Change the water in bird baths and plant pots or drip trays at least once each week
- ✓ Keep grass cut short and shrubbery well trimmed around the house so adult mosquitoes will not hide there



Youth Sailing Program on Pelican Lake

Pelican Lake children and teens have an opportunity to learn how to sail and improve their skills in the sport of sailing at a very low cost. Pelican is one of the few lakes in the area to offer this, with the next closest lake being Gull Lake, by Brainerd.

This year, Pelican Lake Sailing School is very excited to introduce a new beginning training boat, the "Open BIC". It replaces the Opti that PLSS has used in the past. The Open BIC is able to accommodate a larger range of student sizes, it sails like a larger sailboat, and above all, it's a lot more fun to sail!

For intermediate and advanced training, the "Club 420" will still be used. This is a flexible, 2 sail, 2 person, 14' boat that has the option of adding a spinnaker for advanced training. It is also used extensively for college competition.

The Schedule for the 2009 season consists of 2-two week sessions:

Session 1: June 29th-30th July 1st-2nd (Mon-Thu), July 6th-9th (Mon-Thu).

Session 2: July 13th-16th (Mon-Thu), July 20st-23th (Mon-Thu).

Sessions run from 9:00 to 11:30am each day and the cost is \$125/ Person.

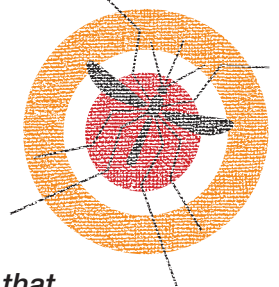
Contact: Jeff Peltier peltier@plyc.info (218) 532-3388 for further information.

For 2009, Clarke Mosquito will offer extra services

for those that would like to supplement the weekly program provided by PGOLID.

Call Clark Mosquito (800) 240-4262 or check out our website for prices.


www.clarkemosquito.com





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 PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
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 DETROIT LAKES, MN 56502

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THE PELICAN BRIEF

The Pelican Brief is published during the summer months by a team of volunteer lake residents including Editor Kathy Hovey (*Blyberg's Point*), Aldie Kelsven (*Broadwater Beach*), Sandy Ostbye (*Broadwater Beach*), Michelle Sletten (*Senn Beach*) and Jeff Peltier (*Broadwater Beach*). If you have comments or would like to submit a story idea or photo, please contact the editor, khovey@loretel.net

The design, printing and distribution of the newsletter are paid for in part by PLPOA dues, and as a budget item of PGOLID as a vehicle to distribute its meeting minutes.

SUMMER 2009 • Calendar of Events

May 29	5:00 pm	PLPOA board meeting (Fair Hills)
	6:30 pm	PLPOA member social
	7:30 pm	PLPOA spring meeting (Pavillion)
May 30	9:00 am	Captains & Majors meeting (Fair Hills)
June 17		CLEAN-UP DAY (one day only)
June 20	8:30 am	PLPOA board meeting (Fair Hills)
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 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 21	4:00 pm	PLPOA board meeting (Fair Hills)

PELICAN GROUP OF LAKES IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Cormorant Town Hall

Saturday, September 27, 2008 8:00AM

Present: Vance Stueness, Bill Zimmerman, Gary Hart, Fred Manuel, Nick Valentine, Jeff Peltier, Denny Tollefson, Michael Ostbye, Jonal Uglem, Rocky Swanson and Moriya Rufer

President Ostbye called the meeting to order at 8:00 am

Peltier moved, Stueness seconded motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Ostbye welcomed Nick Valentine and Gary Hart to the board following their election and congratulated Jeff Peltier on his re-election. Peltier moved, Tollefson seconded motion to appoint Bill Zimmerman to fill Skip Dumeland's vacant position. Motion carried.

Peltier moved, Stueness seconded the approval of the June minutes. Motion carried.

Fred Manuel presented the financial statements which were accepted by the board. The costs of the annual meeting were discussed and found to be necessary to meet the statutory requirements set forth by the legislature. Uglem moved, Peltier seconded motion to pay Larry Harington bill for aerial photography of potential problem areas around lake.

Moriya Rufer presented the Lake Coordinator's report. She plans to present 4 individual lake seminars (one for each of the PGOLID lakes). Lake monitoring results will be posted on the website. Moriya will review the Lake Management Plan which is located on the website and will update one hard copy. Peltier moved, Hart seconded cessation of culvert monitoring based on Coordinators findings that little can be done about culverts draining natural wetlands. Peltier reported conversation with Little Pelican landowner who offered to assist in monitoring. He has not since contacted Peltier. Rufer continued with reports on invasive species and shoreline restoration projects. Status of Bob Creek inlet information was reviewed as well.

It was reported that the original contract remains in effect in the Cormorant Watershed District regarding lake levels and the release of water between the lakes included therein.

Curly leaf pondweed remains a concern for the PGOLID chain of lakes. Discussion was had regarding current research and studies, the board will remain vigilant. Tollefson secured price quotes for spraying for curly leaf in 2009.

Peltier moved, Hart seconded motion to accept the bid of Ron Duy.

Nick Valentine was elected Treasurer following motion by Uglem and a second by Peltier. Ostbye and Valentine are authorized as signators on the PGOLID accounts. They should execute appropriate documentation.

The following portfolio assignments were made:

Public Access-Bill Zimmerman, Buoys-Gary Hart, Curly Leaf-Denny Tollefson, Mosquito Control-Vance Stueness
Communication-Jeff Peltier

The following were elected as officers:

President-Mike Ostbye, Vice Pres-Jonal Uglem, Secretary-Lisa Wheeler, Treasurer-Nick Valentine

Peltier reported on the status of the Dam repair and will continue to update membership through the website. Discussion was had regarding the repair becoming a budget item at sometime in the future.

Sewer abatements and the "Star Lake" designation were discussed and the board will continue to stay abreast of these issues.

The board agreed to continue to meet at the Cormorant Hall and a motion by Tollefson, seconded by Peltier (carried) authorized the payment of a \$250 donation for the meeting space.

The next meeting is scheduled for 8:00am Saturday December 6th, 2008

Respectfully submitted, Lisa J Wheeler

PELICAN GROUP OF LAKES IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Cormorant Town Hall
Saturday, December 6, 2008 8:00AM

Directors Present: Gary Hart, Nick Valentine, Jeff Peltier, Denny Tollefson, Michael Ostbye, Jonal Uglem, Lisa Wheeler
Directors Absent: Vance Stueness, Bill Zimmerman
Others Present: Rocky Swanson, Moriya Rufer

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

Peltier moved to accept the agenda as presented. Tollefson seconded that motion and the motion passed. Peltier then moved to accept the minutes of the last board meeting as prepared. Hart seconded the motion and it was passed by the Board members.

Nick Valentine presented the financial report. Tollefson moved to accept the report as prepared. That motion was seconded by Peltier. The board passed the motion.

Moriya Rufer reported that the 2008 stream monitoring results were consistent with historical averages and that no red flags were noted. She also reported that flowering rush is the most pressing issue for PGOLID presently and will remain so in the near future. The present plan is to physically remove any clumps found in Buck Lake and to continue multiple surveys and treat chemically if necessary. Additionally she reported that Upper Cormorant Lake has a large population of curly leaf pondweed and that they are planning to chemically treat it.

Peltier reported on the public access areas. The cost for the boat inspections and surveys was shared by DNR. Fewer inspections were performed this year. A more complete report can be found on-line. Bill Zimmerman will be responsible for future public access issues.

Hart reported that the buoys have been removed and that the cost was below budget.

Tollefson presented the 2009 plan for treatment of Curley leaf pondweed.

Ostbye discussed the mosquito control contract stating that it is essentially the same as last year. Tent caterpillars are also a threat for the spring of 2009.

The Board thanked the retiring Board members----Skip Duemeland, Fred Manuel and Brent Jenkins for their years of service on the Board.

The damn at Fish Lake was discussed. Peltier has been meeting with the stream habitat program head who is a proponent of natural habitat dams. This type of damn costs between \$40,000 to \$50,000, significantly less than a concrete damn. It was noted that the present damn is owned by the DNR and that they also prefer the natural habitat. Peltier will continue to investigate this possibility.

The meeting schedule for 2009 was established and is published in detail on the web site.

Mike Ostbye adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Lisa J Wheeler