



THE PELICAN BRIEF

A summer newsletter for the residents of Pelican Lake, Little Pelican, Fish and Bass Lakes • July 2006

Something New For The Lake

As this issue of *The Pelican Brief* was going to print, lake residents Dell Arneson and Dale Lian (both Haugen's Point) were getting ready to close on the purchase of the Crystal Pierz Marine property on the northwest side of Pelican Lake, next to Zorbaz.

Before they get anything on the drawing board, Arneson and Lian plan to remove the buildings on the property and clean up the 75 acres they are purchasing.

"We're in the very early planning stages and still exploring a number of options," said Arneson.

High on the list of options is a condominium project with an indoor pool, and an event room that would be available to rent for wedding receptions, big parties, etc. by lake residents.

"There's definitely a need for that kind of facility and I'd like to include that in whatever plan we develop there," Arneson said. What he and Lian have in mind is "no big monster deal" and will be a very nice addition to the lake.



This little honey getting ready for the Fourth of July is Katherine Collins, granddaughter of Bill & Mary Pat Collins (Midland II Beach).

Fireworks!

This year's show is in memory of Wayne Gustafson

The 4th of July fireworks celebration this year will be done as a tribute to long time Pelican Lake resident Wayne Gustafson who died in April. It was Gustafson who started the fireworks celebration on our lake some 20 years ago and footed the bill for the entire fireworks show in the early years.

"We thought this would be a nice way to honor the man who did so much for Pelican Lake," said PLPOA president Dave Majkrzak. "Wayne loved the 4th of July and always made sure we had enough money to put on

a great show."

But Gustafson is remembered on Pelican Lake for much more than the fireworks. "He was a visionary," says Vic Horne who was part of a group of five including Gustafson, who created the Pelican Group of Lakes Improvement District. (George Martin, Malcolm Lee, and Kermit Bye were the others).

Horne says Gustafson had great ideas and he did so much for the lake. "He was a good man and a leader. We'll miss him, that's for sure," Horne said.

July 4th Events

Get those American flags out and open a box of sparklers. It's time for another Independence Day celebration. The Pelican Lake Property Owners Association will again sponsor a boat parade and the annual fireworks show on the Fourth of July.

Parade participants should show up at the Yacht Club about 8:30 on the morning of the 4th. The parade will begin promptly at 9:00 and will move clockwise around the lake this year. If you'd like to enter a boat float in the competition, call boat parade chairperson Skip Duemeland (Pelican Point) for more details, 532-5601 or 701-221-2222, or check the website at www.pelicanlakemn.org.

Spend the afternoon and evening playing croquet, taking a leisurely boat ride or getting ready for a cookout, and then join hundreds of other Pelican Lake residents for the fireworks show near Fair Hills Resort. The first bottle rocket will be sent up about 10:30 and the show should wrap up by 11:00.

Be sure to bring a can of bug spray and a blanket or two, and turn your radio to Wild Country 104.1 FM. The fireworks show and the music complement one another.

VOLUNTEERS

President's Pen



by
**Dave
Majkrzak,**
president of
PLPOA

Volunteers keep things running in our group of lakes. Consider this your invitation to pitch in and make life here even better.

I'd like to say thank you to members of the Pelican Lake Property Owners Association (PLPOA) and the Pelican Group of Lakes Improvement District (PGOLID), who put in many volunteer hours.

Acting as a chamber-of-commerce-type organization and supported totally by contributions of lake residents, the PLPOA publishes the phone directory, sponsors the Fourth of July events, the annual trash pick-up and much more. This group also organizes the beach captains and majors who in turn help keep their neighbors informed of lake happenings. PGOLID which has authority granted by the county to spend tax dollars, tackles larger lake wide projects, such as water quality issues and mosquito control.

These unpaid positions are the backbone of the great lake environment we all enjoy. But we need more volunteers to step up in order to continue building on what has been established. Check the Events Calendar on the back page of this newsletter and join us at one of the meetings this summer to share your ideas and volunteer.

And be sure to say thanks to those who are already volunteering.

PGOLID Board: Members of the PGOLID Board are elected to three year terms. The next time you see one of them, tell them thanks for their time and commitment to the betterment of our group of lakes.

Front row: Fred Manuel (Little Pelican), Skip Duemeland (Pelican Point); Back row: Jeff Peltier, (Broadwater), Faye Engkjer (Pelican Point), Brent Jenkins (Lakeview), Lisa Wheeler (Knollwood), Mike Ostbye (Lakeview), Butch Poolman (Clearview). Not picture Vance Stueness (Lakeview).



Volunteers Needed: **Traffic Control**

Hundreds come by boat to watch the fireworks, but another 500 cars converge north of Fair Hills as well.

Fireworks chairman Nick Valentine (Haugen's Point) is looking for a few volunteers to help with traffic control on the Fourth of July. Call him if you can help (863-5107).

Dues Reminder: **Keep Involved**

If you haven't sent your \$45 PLPOA dues for 2006, please do so. The money is used to support all of the programs mentioned in the President's Pen, and for the printing and mailing of this newsletter. Mail your dues check to: PLPOA P.O. Box 1782 Detroit Lakes, MN 56502

Photos Needed: **Mailbox Feature**

In the next issue of *The Pelican Brief*, we'd like to showcase a photo gallery of unusual mailboxes on our lakes.

If you have a special one, send a digital photo of it to claudia@pelicanlakemn.org.

Be sure to identify who's mailbox it is and on which beach it's located.

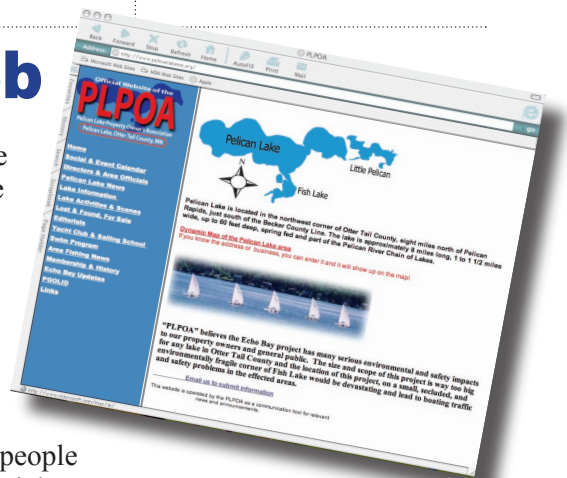
Find It On The Web

Has your favorite swimming tube floated off, or have you found a stray cat at your cottage? Maybe you're wondering about the depth of Pelican Lake or who's on the Board of Pelican Lake Property Owners Association.

A great source for lots of information about our lake is located on our updated web site, www.pelicanlakemn.org Be sure to check it out.

Web masters Jeff Peltier and Michelle Sletten will update the site regularly. They predict the Lost and Found link will be used frequently once people get the hang of it. Also feel free to send your editorial comments to be posted on the web. Hear what your friends and neighbors have to say about issues that affect our lakes.

If you want information about the Pelican Group of Lakes Improvement District (PGOLID) visit that web site at www.PGOLID.org.



Come Sail Away With Me

THE FORTY-FIRST RUNNING OF THE WALLWORK REGATTA

Look for a lot of sails on Pelican Lake the weekend of July 29th as sailors test their skills against one another during the annual Wallwork Regatta.

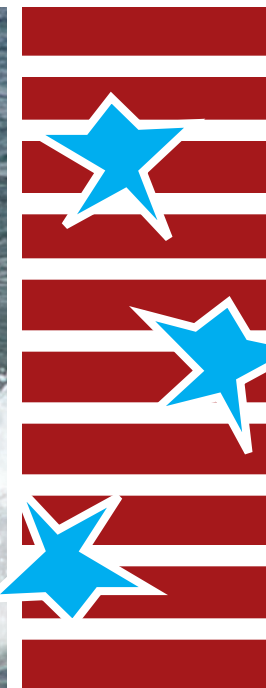
Thirty boats are expected to enter this year's event. Some will be in the class of traditional flat bottom racing boats called C Scows and E Scows, and others will compete in the open fleet, which includes the larger cruising style sail boats.

The regatta originated on Lake Melissa in 1966 where the founder of the event, the late Bill Wallwork of Fargo, had a summer residence. During its 40 year history, the Wallwork Regatta has been hosted on four different lakes but has been held exclusively on Pelican Lake since 2001.

Sailors from Pelican who've participated in the event since the mid 70's include brothers Brad and Doug Burgum, Rick Burgum and Russ Freeman, Gary Ostbye, Mike Ostbye, Jeff Peltier, and Jeff Schlossman.

In addition to sailors from Pelican Lake this year, there will be others representing Cormorant Lake, Gull Lake, and Lake Minnetonka.

It's a great event to watch, even for the novice. Race planners say the regatta will move toward the center of Pelican Lake this year, rather than on the west end, so more people can enjoy watching.



And All That Jazz!

Many of us have dogs that enjoy a boat ride, but how many of them like to climb on a jet ski and go for a spin? Jazz, the beautiful collie owned by Dave and Pam Hanson (Liberty Beach), loves it when one of her family members invites her onboard on a hot day. Miles Hanson says he has to go slow when Jazzie is with him but she enjoys the breeze and the splash of the lake as they cruise along the shoreline.

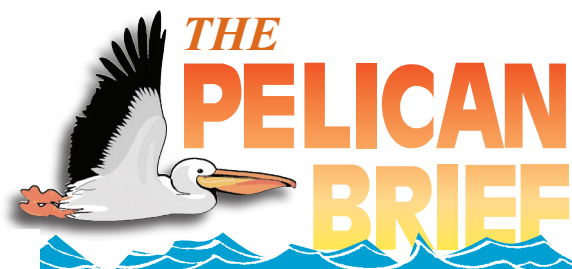
Top 10 things to do

on Pelican Lake

- 1** Take a boat trip through the channel toward the dam and look at the lily pads in bloom. Remember...no wake.
- 2** Have breakfast or a burger basket at P.J.'s at Bayview Shores.
- 3** Anchor your boat in the middle of the lake and read a good book.
- 4** Sign your kids up for sailing lessons at the Yacht Club. There are two sessions left. Call 532-3388.
- 5** Go to Fair Hills Resort on a Tuesday night where you can get a buffet and a show for \$18 a person. Reservations required. Call 532-2222.
- 6** Pick up a pizza at Zorbaz and eat it on your boat. To order ahead, call 532-2254.
- 7** Dock your boat at the sand bar on a sunny Saturday or Sunday afternoon.
- 8** Cruise under the bridge into Little Pelican and watch the Eagles.
- 9** Get a group together and boat out to watch the fireworks.
- 10** Go for a sunset cruise.

Do you have a favorite thing to do that's not on the list? Let us know and we will try to update this every summer.

PLPOA
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The Pelican Brief will be published three or four times a year by a volunteer editorial team made up of lake residents, this year led by Claudia Danovic (Liberty Beach), Doris Clyne and Jeff Peltier (both Broadwater Beach).

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

If you have comments about the publication, story ideas or pictures, contact claudia@pelicanlakemn.org

SUMMER 2006 • • • Calendar of Events

July 3	9:00 am	Sailing lessons (call 532-3388)
July 4	9:00 am	Boat Parade
July 4	1:00 pm	Pelican LakeYacht Club 4 th of July race
July 4	10:30 pm	Fireworks show
July 6	--	Swim lessons begin (call 532-7066)
July 8	8:00 am	PGOLID board meeting, Cormorant Hall
July 17	9:00 am	Sailing lessons
July 29	9:00 am	Wallwork Regatta (sponsored by PLYC)
July 30	9:00 am	Wallwork Regatta
Aug 5	8:00 am	PLPOA board meeting, Fair Hills
Aug 19	8:00 am	PGOLID Annual meeting, Fair Hills
Aug 25	4:00 pm	PLPOA board meeting, Fair Hills
Aug 25	5:30 pm	Appreciation Dinner, Fair Hills
Sept 3	11:00 am	Yacht Club Labor Day Race & Annual Mtg
Sept 23	8:00 am	PGOLID meeting, Cormorant Hall