



# THE PELICAN BRIEF

A summer newsletter for the residents of Pelican Lake, Little Pelican, Fish and Bass Lakes • June 2008

## 4th of July

Independence Day is on a Friday this year so the annual boat parade and fireworks will actually be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

The theme of this year's boat parade is *My Favorite TV Show*. This should provide lots of the 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 4<sup>th</sup>, starting at the Yacht Club and moving 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 May 3rd 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](http://www.pelicanlakemn.org).

There is news from Helen DeHollander, membership chair of the Pelican Lake Property Owners Association: More people have joined the association early this year. As of mid April, 770 property owners had paid their PLPOA dues for this year. Last year we had total membership of 834, so we're on our way to setting

a record, Helen says.

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

If you haven't already sent your annual \$45 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 18<sup>th</sup>.

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**

**A** hearty welcome back to the lakes for the 2008 lake season. With the return of many of our snowbirds and our seasonal and weekender residents, the four lakes will once again be a very busy and active place to be.

A most sincere thank you to our past president, Dave Majkrzak, who has served us so well the past two years.

His term of office was very busy with a number of controversial issues that have affected all of us on the lake. Dave's commitment and time to this office has been substantial.

As usual, we have a number of important events planned (see the calendar of events on the back page). It's a very busy schedule for the short summer.

A reminder that the decisions we make every year do affect the future of our lakes for years to come. There is always a balancing act of what is best for today countered with what is best for the long term. We need to keep our lakes clean, safe and environmentally suited for the next generation. I welcome your input.

And finally, thanks to the many volunteers who put in hours of work towards the betterment of our lakes on behalf of all property owners. Remember, this is *your* organization.

Have a safe and fun summer at the lakes!

## Fire Drills

On a cold Saturday in April, the Pelican Rapids Volunteer Fire Department came to Pelican Lake to practice working with house fires. About 20 of the 25 volunteers were on hand at an A-frame on Cha Rosa beach for the drills. Don and Micker Wold purchased the A-frame property and have plans to build a new home at the cleared site. The fire department started and put out the house fire a number of times before burning it down completely.



**PELICAN RAPIDS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT:**  
*Practice makes perfect as the team practices drills on a planned burn of an A-frame cottage on Cha Rosa Beach.*

## Monitoring Our Lakes

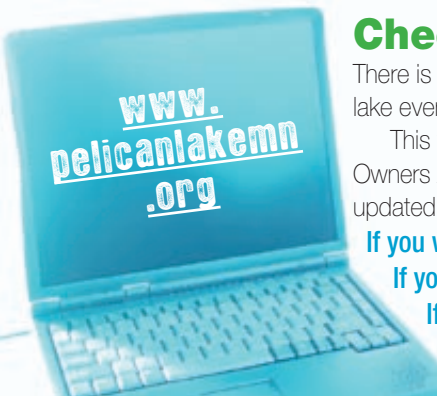
The PGOLID Water Resource Coordinator, Moriya Rufer, collects water samples from Pelican, Little Pelican, Bass and Fish lakes every other week between May and September. These water samples are analyzed for water clarity, phosphorus (which is food for plants and algae), and chlorophyll-a, which is a measurement of algae concentration. Overall, the water quality for 2007 matched historical averages.

### PGOLID Lake Monitoring Sites

Summaries of the lake data can be found in the Lake Management plan that is online at the PGOLID web site: [www.pgolid.org](http://www.pgolid.org)



In 2007, water quality was monitored in Echo Bay for the first time. Echo Bay's water quality was one of the best areas of all PGOLID lakes. It is some of the only shoreline in PGOLID that is still undeveloped. It is not sandy, but is lined with reeds and cattails, which make excellent habitat for aquatic animals and fish. This data is good baseline data to have for any future changes in land use around the lake.



## 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](http://www.pelicanlakemn.org)**

## PGOLID Summer Education Seminars

### Septic and Holding TANK MAINTENANCE

How to prevent impact to Pelican Lake and how often to pump your tank

May 30, 7:30pm  
PLPOA Spring Meeting  
Fair Hills

Get results from the Septic System & Holding Tank study that was conducted last year at the May 30<sup>th</sup> seminar. The program will consist of a short presentation recapping the septic study and a Septic System designer/installer will talk about maintenance, cost and pumping. A short break will then be followed by a question and answer period. Handouts will include a list of tank pumpers in the area with prices and worksheets for calculating cleaning frequency.

### Shoreline MANAGEMENT

How to make your shoreline both beautiful and functional

June 5, 7-8:30pm  
Cormorant Town Hall

Attendees will learn what plants to establish on their shoreline that will be both beautiful and functional for water quality. There will be examples of garden designs, plant lists and local nursery contact information. This seminar will consist of short presentations by a DNR Shoreline expert and the PGOLID Water Resource Coordinator, a short break and then question and answers and hands-on. Those of you who attend this seminar will also be able to apply for the Shoreline Habitat Restoration Grant program for the DNR to receive funds to help with shoreline restoration on your property.



**TOP FOUR**  
things to do  
on a lazy  
summer day

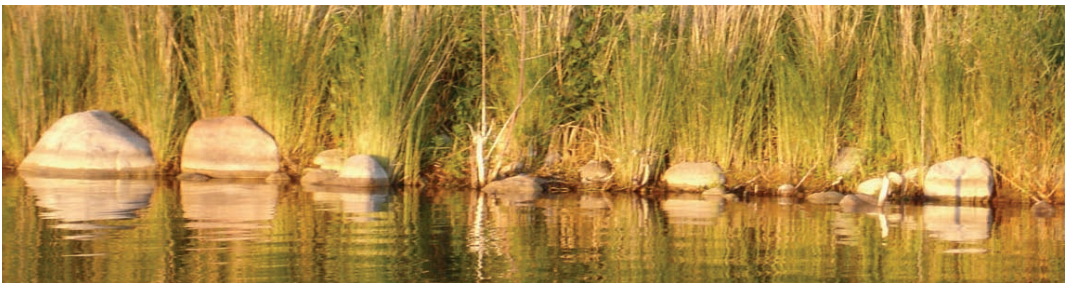
Summer is here and with it, many choices of activities. Below, find info on how to spend your carefree hours.

**1 GOLF:** While there are many courses in the area, the two closest ones are: *Wildflower*—18-hole course located on Cty Hwy 20 across from Fair Hills. There is a Twilight members program for adults, \$250 for the season for tee times after 2:30 pm. There are many other discounts included with this fee. If you want to get your children involved with the game of golf, they have a 7 week lesson program for \$75. You can also buy a junior membership for \$125 for the season with unlimited tee times Monday through Friday. For more information call 888-752-9945. *Rolling Hills*—Nine-hole course located on Cty Hwy 9. This course is open from May to October and offers a single season pass for \$275 and a couple or family pass for \$375. For more information call 218-532-2214.

**2 SAILING:** Get your children involved with this great sport. \$125 per student for eight 2 ½ hour lessons spread over a 2 week span. Two sessions are scheduled. One starting June 30<sup>th</sup> and the second starting July 14<sup>th</sup>. The price includes the use of a Club 420 boat. There are also private lessons available for adults at \$40 per hour on an appointment basis. Contact Jeff Peltier at 218 532-3388.

**3 BRIDGE:** Anyone interested in playing sanctioned duplicate can head over to St. Luke's Parish at 1400 Corbett in DL. You need a partner and \$5 per person and you can play two times a week. 9:00 am every Tuesday and 1:00 pm every Thursday. Bridge starts May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**4 TALENT SHOW:** Got Talent?? For the past few years, The Cormorant Community Center has produced a "Hidden Talent Show" featuring acts from around the area. This year's show is at 7:30 pm on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Carolyn Nelson is looking for acts for this summer's extravaganza. Please call the community center at 218 532-7042.



## SHORELINE RESTORATION GRANT FUNDS AVAILABLE

If you're thinking about fixing up your shoreline, you may be eligible for some funds to help you.

The Pelican Group of Lakes Improvement District (PGOLID) was awarded a Shoreline Restoration Grant by the DNR this year and it has some money to distribute.

The purpose of the DNR Shoreline Habitat Program is to improve the quality of shoreline habitat, to expand the diversity and abundance of native aquatic and terrestrial plants, and to enhance and protect water quality in Minnesota's lakes and streams.

There is enough funding to cover the restoration of the shoreline of approximately three properties and a couple of workshops on shoreline restoration. The focus of these projects must be on reestablishing vegetation for fish and wildlife habitat and funds cannot be used for rock riprap stabilization or permanent wave breaks.

Grant participants must restore at least 75% of the frontage on their property, and can leave 25% free to access their dock. Also, the native plant buffer needs to extend at least 25 feet back from the shoreline.

The DNR will help with the planning, design and plants. The participant gets to decide what the final look is, as long as the guidelines are followed on how much area needs to be restored.

This grant will be distributed on a first-come first-served basis, and will be discussed at the Shoreline seminar June 5. For more details about the grant, please contact Moriya Rufer, 218-846-1465, [lakes.rmbel@eot.com](mailto:lakes.rmbel@eot.com) or visit: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/habitat/shoreland.html>



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*The Pelican Brief* is published during the summer months by a team of volunteer lake residents including Editor Claudia Danovic (*Liberty Beach*), Doris Clyne (*Broadwater Beach*) and Jeff Peltier (*Broadwater Beach*). If you have comments or would like to submit a story idea or photo, please contact the editor at danovic1@aol.com or call 218.532.7209.

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## SUMMER 2008 • Calendar of Events

May 30	5:00 pm	PLPOA board meeting (Fair Hills)
	6:30 pm	PLPOA member social
	7:30 pm	PLPOA spring meeting
May 31	8:00 am	PGOLID board meeting (Cormorant Hall)
May 31	9:00 am	Captains & Majors meeting (Fair Hills)
June 18		CLEAN-UP DAY (one day only)
June 21	8:00 am	PLPOA board meeting (Fair Hills)
June 28	8:00 am	PGOLID board meeting (Cormorant Hall)
June 28	10:30 am	Water Safety Class (Cormorant Hall)
June 30	9:00 am	PLSS Sailing Session 1 (peltier@plyc.info)
July 4	10:00 am	Boat Parade / Sailboat Race
July 4	dusk	Fireworks show
July 14	9:00 am	PLSS Sailing Session 2 (peltier@plyc.info)
July 26-27	--	PLYC Wallwork Regatta
Aug 2	8:00 am	PLPOA board meeting (Fair Hills)
	9:30 am	PLPOA member breakfast
	10:30 am	PLPOA annual meeting