

# Windigo Lake Area Newsletter – Fall 2013

(For property owners and friends of Windigo Lake, Lake 27, and Hub Lake)

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*Windigo, an Island Lake with Natural Shoreline*

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## **Desk of the President**

*Colleen Graham*

Summer is over and fall is in full-swing. It looks like the docks & piers are ashore, boats are in storage, and the loons (and people?) have left Windigo for warmer climes. Change is coming . . . and that is the theme of this note.

A number of long-time Windigo residents have left the lake in the past six months. While that is the natural cycle of life, it's still sad to see our friends go. Many of those folks volunteered their time on behalf of the lake association over the years and we thank them for their service.

Based on past discussions with property owners, I know many of you are passionate about protecting the lake, too. Why not channel your passion into service on the board? At least two members of the WLPOA board, including myself, will be cycling off when our terms end in August. The current board worked well together and has been very productive, but it's time to get some new blood involved to keep the organization dynamic and relevant. The hope is for board members to move up through the different positions so there is some continuity from year to year; however, I'd rather not characterize this as a lifetime commitment and scare off any potential candidates.

Feel free to check out the job descriptions on <http://www.windigolake.org> (Under "About...") or direct questions to any board member. It isn't necessary to live on Windigo full-time since most communication is done via email and meetings are scheduled at the convenience of the board. The time commitment is minimal but the job is important. See the AIS Update in this newsletter for more on why our lake association is so critical. If we don't hear from you, you'll be hearing from us.

Regards,  
Colleen, December 2013



## **Join us for the Spring Dinner: New Venue, New Weekend, Saturday April 26th**

*Barb Pjevach*



Thanks for those who joined us at our Annual Picnic and Business Meeting on Saturday August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thanks as always to Sandy Bender and Donna Roeker and their support teams with planning and running these important social gatherings where we can connect casually with our neighbors.

We hope that many of you join us for our Spring Dinner. We are planning to change our venue and timing this year to the last weekend in April and holding it at a restaurant. We hope that more of our property owners and friends will join us for a casual fun social gathering to connect with your fellow Windigo, Hub and Lake 27 friends. We will be sending out an invitation with more

details about the evening, but please hold the date of Saturday, April 26, 2014 and please join us!

## **Nominations for WLPOA positions are OPEN! Please consider joining us**

*Barb Pjevach*

As many of you know, every year we solicit nominations for Board positions from our members and then vote on these nominations at the Annual Meeting in August. Please consider throwing in your name or asking us any questions you may have if you are potentially willing to help out on the Board or a committee. If each of us helps out, then we can rotate positions and make it enjoyable and not too much work for any of us. We only hold 2 or 3 Board meetings per year and handle the minimal WLPOA work via email. If you are interested in serving or have questions, please contact any WLPOA Board member. Our contact information is at the end of this newsletter. Also, we have added a listing of the Board positions and the responsibilities for each on our website. Check out the page at: [www.windigolake.org/about-windigo-lake/wlpoa-volunteer-and-board-opportunities/](http://www.windigolake.org/about-windigo-lake/wlpoa-volunteer-and-board-opportunities/)

## **Progress on Aquatic Plant Management Plan**

*Colleen Graham*

Eurasian Water Milfoil, a type of AIS, was discovered on Lost Land Lake and the Tiger Cat Flowage this summer during a visual survey. The lake associations were able to quickly organize teams to map the location, hand pull the plants, and communicate with property owners about avoiding the location. Luckily, it was a small patch but they will be closely watching those areas in the spring for signs of new growth.

Eurasian Water Milfoil was also discovered on Lake Hayward this summer but the patch was too large to hand pull and required chemical treatment. Although rapid response grants are available from the DNR for lakes to quickly deal with AIS, there was no qualified lake association in place to sponsor the grant. The property owners worked with the County Invasives Coordinator to form an association so they could then apply for the grant. Lake Hayward also has Curly Leaf Pondweed and Chinese Mystery Snails, two other invasives.



These two scenarios help to illustrate the importance of having an active and involved lake association. In the first instance, the existing association could quickly and effectively communicate with property owners, deal with the issue, and plan for future action. In the second instance, there wasn't even an entity in existence to communicate with property owners, much less take action. Please consider volunteering for a WLPOA board position or participating in the Lake Environment & Safety Committee. The future of Windigo depends on it!

## Aquatic Plant Management Plan Implementation Update:

- The DNR has given final approval to the WLPOA Aquatic Plant Management Plan. The plan was also reviewed by Sawyer County, the Town of Bass Lake, and the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission. You can link to the plan on [www.windigolake.org](http://www.windigolake.org). The plan is substantially the same as when it was posted for review last summer. The AIS Control Grant used to fund creation of this plan is in the process of being closed out.
- A Clean Boats, Clean Waters grant has been secured for 2014. Funds from the grant will be used to hire one or more monitors to work at the Windigo boat landing next year.
- Another visual survey of aquatic plants will be done early next summer to be sure Windigo is AIS-free. The survey will be done by a plant biologist, but if anyone is interested in either observing the process or donating their pontoon boat for a few hours for the survey, let me know.
- Shoreline monitoring by property owners commences after ice-out and will continue through August. Your in-kind labor is reimbursed by the DNR, we will be reminding you to keep a record of your time and report your hours.
- Information will be provided to property owners regarding preservation of the native plant community. The information will be available through [www.windigolake.org](http://www.windigolake.org), through the newsletter, at the spring dinner, and summer picnic.



## **Treasurer's Report**

*Gary Hartmann*

There are a few changes to the numbers published in the Summer Newsletter:

- We have received \$2,090 in dues from 77 members and 13 "Friends of Windigo" subscriptions.
- Donations to the Invasive Species Fund totaled \$673 and donations to the Fish Crib Fund totaled \$125.
- Twenty-nine tickets at \$15 each were sold to the Spring Dinner for a total of \$435. Meal expenses, the speaker's honorarium, and the hall rental were \$379 resulting in a profit of \$56.
- Donations to the "Boat Landing Monitor" fund totaled \$185 and this was matched by an anonymous member.

As presented at the August 3<sup>rd</sup> Business Meeting, WLPOA's annual operating budget is about \$1,600. This covers our membership mailings, printing and mailing Newsletters, signs for our boat landing, maintenance of "no wake" buoys, our liability insurance, and memberships in the Wisconsin Association of Lakes and the Sawyer County Lakes Forum.

### DNR Grants

Our grants are 75% funded by the Wisconsin DNR with a 25% match provided by WLPOA. Our match can be satisfied with cash or by supplying "in-kind" donations (volunteer labor or boat use).

- Close-out of 2012-13 Grant -- we spent \$6,117 this year (\$ 867 on monitoring of the boat landing and \$5,250 to complete an Aquatic Plant Management Plan). The DNR has approved our full reimbursement since we met our volunteer labor match. Thanks to everyone who reported their hours! The DNR check is expected by

the end of November which will bring this account balance to zero.

- New Grant for 2013-14 – we have received an advance of \$750 from the DNR. (As announced in Colleen’s AIS Update article, a Clean Boats, Clean Waters grant has been awarded for 2014).

As of mid-November 2013, WLPOA has the following account balances:

<b>Account Balance</b>	<b>Amount</b>
General Fund (Checking)	\$3,955
Dedicated Fish Crib Reserve (Savings Acct)	\$542
Dedicated Invasive Species Reserve (Savings Acct)	\$6,304
DNR Grant 2012-13 *	(\$6,117)
DNR Grant 2013-14	\$750
Total on deposit	\$5,434

\* Deficit currently covered with a loan from Invasive Species Account

## **Membership Report**

*Gary Hartmann*

To date we have received renewals from 77 members and 13 people are signed up to receive our Newsletter as “Friends of Windigo”. These numbers are very similar to past years. Your financial support as well as your volunteer time is critical to our mission of protecting our lakes. “Thank you” to everyone who supports our lake association.



WLPOA serves property owners on Windigo Lake, Hub Lake, and Lake 27 by promoting communication and cooperation among lakeshore owners and working with the DNR and local government to maintain the quality of our environment. We are a nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization so your membership donation is tax-deductible as provided by law.

Membership renewal letters for next year will be sent out in February 2014.

## **Website and Communications Reminders**

*Barb Pjevach*

As a reminder, please check out [www.windigolake.org](http://www.windigolake.org) periodically for updates. We have our old newsletters on the site as well as instructions, pictures and information about looking for invasive species, fish surveys, and other topics about our lakes area.

If you want to keep in touch, we would appreciate emails from as many lake owners as possible so if you have not already given us your email please consider supplying it, even if you also want a paper newsletter in March and November.

**Subscribe to Blog via Email**  
 Enter your email address to subscribe to the WindigoLake.com posts and news and receive notifications of new posts by email.

In addition, you can subscribe to any new posts that we make to our website...which we do about 6 times a year. On our home page, just scroll down and you will see the area to subscribe on the right hand side of the web page.



## **Does anyone want trees dropped for fish habitat?**

*Dan Pjevach*



We have found from the DNR that instead of putting together and dropping fish cribs, which can get expensive, the best habitat for developing fish is the availability of Course Woody Debris (CWD) in the lake. This debris allows natural protection for the smaller fish. One of the easiest ways to develop this habitat is for property owners (including the State on the islands) to drop trees into the water. The DNR will allow property owners to drop a tree along every 50 feet of shoreline. The Fish and Wildlife Committee is evaluating the development of this type of habitat. If anyone has trees that they would like dropped in this manner, please email us at [info@windigolake.org](mailto:info@windigolake.org) and one of our Board or Committee members will respond and include you in our planning. If the plan is viable, the Committee will work with the DNR to obtain the necessary permits. Since the DNR would handle the cutting of trees on State owned land, we hope to work with them on the cutting of any trees on private property. We will keep you updated on this.

## **Passings**

Several long-time Windigo residents and lovers of our lake passed away in recent months. We keep them and their families in our thoughts and prayers:

### **Bob Harrsch 1921-2013**

Robert C. Harrsch, age 92, of Hayward, formerly of Skokie, IL, died Monday, July 22, 2013 at his home on Windigo Lake.

Bob was born February 8, 1921 in Chicago, the son of Robert E Harrsch and Margaret Skov Henning. He grew up in Chicago and graduated from Lane Tech High School. After high school he enlisted in the army where he attained the rank of First Sergeant with the 463rd AAA AW BN, 79th Infantry. His unit landed on Utah Beach. Their march through Europe included the Battle of the Bulge and the liberation of a concentration camp near Rheims France. After the war he attended Worsham School of Mortuary Science. He was a Funeral Director for Wm. H. Scott Funeral Homes for over 40 years. On September 1, 1947 he married Carol A. Johnson in Spirit. They lived in Glenview and Skokie, IL for many years, and then retired to the Hayward area in 1984. Bob was very active within his community and the United Methodist Church. He was past president of the Wilmette Rotary Club and a founding member of the Spirit American Legion Post 452.

He is survived by his children Maryalice McHugh of Hayward, Anne Marie (Michael) Fries of Grayslake, IL, Robert A. (Kimberly) Harrsch of Green Bay; sister LaVerne Jaskiw of Hayward; his grandchildren Sarah (Scott) Futa of Castle Rock, CO, Erik (Sarah) Fries of Fox Lake, IL, Emilie (Thomas) Henning of Milwaukee, WI, Justin Harrsch and Kathryn Harrsch of Green Bay; great grandchildren Brennen and Ryne Futa and Garrett and Gavin Fries; and many nephews and nieces. He is preceded in death by his wife of 56 years Carol A. Harrsch.

### **Char Schwenker 1935-2013**

Charlotte Jacqueline (Cline) Schwenker RN, age 77, of Hayward WI, passed away Wed July 24, 2013 at Hayward Area Memorial Hospital after a 5 yr battle with breast & bone cancer. She was born on October 12, 1935 in Burlington, IA, daughter of the late Carl and Emma (Eschman) Cline. In 1956 Charlotte earned her RN degree and later became Wound Care Certified [WCC]. She was a dedicated nurse for 57 years. She is survived by her devoted husband of 55 years Theodore; her four children Timothy (Emily) Schwenker, W. Lakeland, MN; Sally Schwenker, Gila Bend, AZ; Jane (Timothy) Eilts, Cottage Grove, MN; Molly (Matthew) Krueger, Green Bay, WI; her four grandchildren Brittany, Danielle, Caleb and Brandon.



### **Ed Kleinhammer 1919-2013**

From the Chicago Tribune 12/2/2013

Edward Kleinhammer was a world-renowned bass trombone player with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra who was equally at home in the North Woods, where he liked to fish, canoe, camp and tramp about with his dog.

Mr. Kleinhammer, 94, died Saturday as he napped in his favorite chair in his log cabin home in Hayward, Wis.

“He was the stone on which modern bass trombone players are now standing,” said John Drew, president of the International Trombone Festival.

“He was the bass trombone player in the world’s most famous brass section,” said Jay Friedman, the CSO’s principal trombonist. “They put the CSO on the map, and everyone wanted to sound like him and them.”

Mr. Kleinhammer was born in Chicago, the son of a banker. At 10, he began studying the violin. In junior high, he received lessons from CSO trombonist David Anderson, said Douglas Yeo, a former bass trombone player with the Boston Symphony and a professor at Arizona State University.

He didn’t go on to college after attending Harrison Technical High School, Yeo said. But his sound was so pure, he served in the CSO for a near-unprecedented tenure under seven conductors.

Edward is survived by his son, Jeffrey (Patricia) Kleinhammer; grandson, Brian; granddaughter, Sheri (Paul) Kreher; great-grandchildren, Matthew and Abigail Kreher; brothers, Robert (Barbara) and Richard (Sara Jane) Kleinhammer; sister-in-law, Bernice Kleinhammer and brother-in-law, S. Carl Peterson; many nieces and nephews. Ed was a stand-out Football Athlete, Webster Class of 1938, U.S. Army Air Corps. WW II Veteran, Bausch & Lomb Retiree, Member of the International Order of Odd Fellows, Teoronto Lodge and Past Chief of the Laurelton Volunteer Fire Dept.

Here is the link to the article in the Chicago Tribune, which includes a video of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra with a solo by Ed.

<http://www.suntimes.com/news/obituaries/24131619-418/edward-kleinhammer-world-renowned-cso-bass-trombonist-dies-at-94.html>

**Windigo Lake Property Owners Association**

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