

Lake Eau Claire Association P.O. Box 229 Augusta, WI 54722-0229

www.lakeeauclaire.org

May 2010, Issue 52



Mark your calendars for June 12, 2010!!

Walk, paddle, bike, or just relax your way to supporting Lake Eau Claire this summer. On Saturday June 12, 2010 the Lake Eau Claire Association will hold the Clear Water Fundraiser and Mini Triathlon at C & G's Hide Away Bar and Pavilion just outside of Augusta.

The Triathlon highlights the picturesque beauty of the lake and surrounding areas. This family fun event follows the shores of the lake and is a non timed event. It is designed for participation of all ability levels. The Course includes a 2.5 mile walk/run, a 1 mile paddle around the islands and an 8 mile bike ride. Team up with someone or take the course on your own.

If your idea of a triathlon doesn't involve physical exercise, no problem, just join us at the Hide Away for food, entertainment and prizes. Once again this year, we'll have beverages, a grilled chicken dinner and entertainment by two local bands "Bona Fide" from 3-7 pm and "Second Wind from 8-12 pm. If you are new residents on the lake this is a great event to meet your new neighbors.

A Silent auction will held during the day featuring donated theme baskets.

Your participation supports efforts by the Lake Association to improve Lake Eau Claire water quality and fisheries. Our association relies on major events such as this to raise not only funds but also awareness of protecting our precious natural resources.

Start Location & Times

C & G Hide Away Bar E19986 Cty. RD. ND Augusta, WI 54722 (Hwy 27 north out of Augusta, WI, right on County Road ND)

Race time: 2:30

Registration forms can be found on the new website: www.lakeeauclaire.org Mini Triathlon Registration Information Saturday, June 12, 2010

Hide Away Bar Pavilion, County Rd. ND Augusta WI

Event Day Registration: 1:00 pm to 2:15 pm, At the Hide Away Bar.

Triathlon: Starts at 2:30 pm (Beginning and Ending at the Hide Away Bar) Fees: \$30.00 adults and \$20.00 for children 12 & under- fee includes food, beverages, music and triathlon t-shirt (size not guaranteed) Picnic only fee: \$15.00

Schedule of events:

- 2:00 pm Beverages and Snacks
- 2:30 Triathlon
- 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm Live Band "Bona Fide"
- 4- 6 pm Chicken Dinner
- 8-12 pm Live Band "Second Wind"
- Silent Auction: will be on display and may be bid on throughout the event. A large variety of items will be raffled throughout the day.
- Registration forms can be found online at: www.lakeeauclaire.org

County Park Daily permits will need to be purchased by individuals parking at the Eau Claire County Beach staging area. Equipment will not be provided. Participants may paddle cances or kayaks, life jackets are required. The course will be marked and patrolled and rules of the road are to be followed while biking and walking



Nature Notes By Mike Harden The Bobcat

The bobcat, Lynx rufus, is the most common wild cat in Wisconsin. Recent reports of sightings near the North side of Lake Eau Claire prompted the writing of this article. Originally found throughout the state of Wisconsin, bobcats are now mostly confined to the region north of hwy. 29. The DNR estimates there are about 2500 to 3000 or so in the state. Hunting and trapping are on a permit basis only, and is restricted to the area north of hwy. 64. In the early days, they were considered as undesirable, and there was even a bounty on them. They received protected status in 1970, and have been managed ever since. Also known as wildcat, or bay lynx, bobcats are sometimes confused with their slightly larger cousin; the Canada lynx (Lynx canadensis). Lynx are far less common, are lighter in color, have much bigger feet and longer ear tufts, and lack the conspicuous black spot at the top of the tip of their tail that is found on the bobcat. Male bobcats average about 24 lbs. or so, and the females average about 16 lbs. The sexes look alike, and have a coat color ranging from grayish to reddish brown with black spots. They molt once a year, in early summer. They appear to be about twice the size of a house cat. and have a bob-tail about one-fourth their body length, hence the name. Bobcats are crepuscular, meaning they are most active at dawn and dusk, although they may hunt late into the night. They catch prey by stalking and pouncing, or sometimes lying in ambush, and leaping on their prev. They are able to pounce a distance of about 10 feet. Bobcats' favorite food is rabbit. In areas where they eat almost exclusively rabbits, their populations may be very cyclic, at intervals averaging about 10 years or so from peak to peak. They may also eat birds, squirrels, fish, mice, livestock (sheep), and occasionally deer, mostly wounded or sick ones. Their main enemy, as is the case with all other wildlife species, is man. Wolves and cougars will also kill them, and the horned owl has reportedly killed kits on occasion. Unlike wolves, bobcats are solitary hunters. They have a home range of about 1-2 square miles. Mating occurs in February or March, and the young (usually about 2) are born after 60-70 days of gestation. The kits stay with their mother until fall or so, when they take up a more or less solitary existence. Bobcats live an average of 6-8 years or so in the wild. The oldest recorded was aged to be 25 years old (in captivity.) I have yet to see my first bobcat in the wild. My son was fortunate to see one from his deer stand. I have seen their tracks, and I heard what might have been the scream of a bobcat near my cabin at Minong. I am not sure, as the barred owl can make a screaming sound that many mistake for a cat. They make a variety of growls, snarls, hisses and purrs like the other members of the cat family, but with a pitch appropriate to their size. They are an interesting but very uncommon part of Wisconsin's fauna.

LAKE EAU CLAIRE AREA FOUNDATION UPDATE

The Lake Eau Claire Area Foundation is a 501(c) 3 organization, which means your contributions are tax deductible.

Our goal/mission is to build the Principle to a level to use the interest as a money stream to support projects foor the preservation and enhancement of Lake Eau Claire.

At this time we have no formal capital campaign planned to build up this reserve. Our request for a plaque to be installed in the Lake Eau Claire clubhouse, recognizing Lake Eau Claire area foundation philanthropic Donors has been approved.

We appreciate any donations we receive, of any amount, whether its in honor of a special event or person. Your contributions are the legacy to the lake.

Kathi Michelson-Chairman



THE BADGER CRAFTSMAN

HOME REMODELING ADDITIONS & REPAIRS DECKS AND PROJECTS

> Doug Jacobs (715) 286-2156



President's Message

The ice went out early and it has been a very nice spring. I hope everyone is ready for a busy and fun summer on the lake. Please get involved and help with some part of this year's activities.

- We will soon be helping at the boat landings informing boaters about the dangers of transporting invasive species from lake to lake. If you would able to help with this, please let me or Herb Comstock know ASAP.
- Our annual fund raiser is June 12th this year, please plan to attend or help with this successful event. See details in this newsletter.
- 3) 4th of July Boat Parade & Fireworks.
- 4) Annual meeting/picnic is the 3rd Saturday in August, the **21st**; the last newsletter had the wrong date. Please try to attend this business and social event that we elect officers, discuss business, and have a great meal.
- 5) Everyone should have received raffle tickets with the last mailing. I hope these are selling as this is a major part of our fund raiser each year. We have great prizes donated again and if you need more tickets, let me know, we have plenty to sell.

See you on the water!! John Selz Lake EC Association President

Riverside Junction

TP 715-456-2434

Highway 27 at the Eau Claire River Bridge North of Augusta, WI RiversideJunction.com Riverside@Bluebuzz.net Open - 9 AM-5 PM, evenings by arrangement

Renting: Canoes—Kayaks Wine and Cheese Shop

A BEAUTIFUL DAY, NOTHING TO DO? CANOE-CANOE -CANOE!

Fundraiser Donations & Help Are Needed

Donations and help are welcome and needed to make the Triathlon fundraiser a great success again this year. Please contact one of the following people to find out how you can help.

- Donate a Theme Basket: Ginger Wilkinson (715) 286-2474 or Katie Selz (715) 286-2848
- Help with the Triathlon: Vicki Funne Reed 832-7399 or e-mail at reedvf@uwec.edu. or Kristin Charlton (715) 286-5166
- Help with Kids Games, Raffle Drawing Donations, John Selz (715) 286-2848

Beautiful Day, Nothing to Do? Canoe-Canoe Canoe

Another spring, beautiful days, already warming the lakes and rivers, leading us back to the water. At Riverside Junction, we are busy preparing for a new season. It looks like an early opening for us, April, if we're lucky.

The Wine Shop will be the first. We will be re-stocking the racks and shelves with a large variety of wines. We hope to double our selection over last season. This should bring us to 20 to 30 selections, whites, reds and blends, usually in the \$10-\$20 range, but also some under \$10. We are weak on port, dessert wine, and specialty wines, and will work on strengthening these areas. We will also expand our beer selection and introduce some liquor. Our focus is on Lake People. Your entertainment and relaxation requirements are of interest to us so let us know how we can help you.

The Pantry: We will be carrying a large variety of cheeses, to which we will add other specialty foods, meats and light dining and entertainment items. Crescent Meats, LaGrander and Carr Valley Cheeses are now in stock. We hope to carry a variety of trout products from "Eat My Fish" as soon as we can complete arrangements. Again, your suggestions are welcome.

We are licensed for both on and off sale of beverages. So why not stop by for a beer, a glass of wine, and some conversation. We'd be glad to show you around. Bring your friends and enjoy one of our outdoor tables overlooking the river and the woods. Check into our Canoe packages and plan an outing on the Eau Claire. Two packages that may be of interest to Lake People:

"An Evening on the Eau Claire": 5:30PM arrive at Riverside Junction- 6:00PM Leave RJ in our vehicles-6:30PM Put in at Troubled Waters - 7:45PM Arrive Skid Row Landing - 8:00PM - Then join us around the campfire for some wine and cheese. Cost \$30/canoe (2 people). Tuesdays/Thursdays. <u>Reservations required!</u> Call for more information.

"Summer Kayak Rental": If you live own a place on Lake Eau Claire we will rent you a new kayak for \$25/month for the season (May I-Oct. 31.) Does not include a paddle or life jacket. We have paddles for sale for \$25. Call us if you are interested. This is a new program.

We are expanding our hours of operation. We know that our sporadic hours have been a source of frustration for many of you. Our hours this year are Wed. through Sunday, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. Closed Mon. & Tues., except for Tues. "Evening on the Eau Claire."

We know you're probably busy getting ready for this summer's activities. If there is any way we can help make your summer more enjoyable please let us know. We'll see you on the lake. Dave Steele and the rest of the Riverside Junction gang.

Riverside Junction, E20355 County Road NO, Augusta, WI 54722 TP/Fax 715-286-2676 <u>Riverside@Bluebuzz.Net</u> www.RiversideJunction.Com







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