



November, 2017

Lake Eau Claire Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 229
Augusta, WI 54722
www.lakeeauclaire.org
LakeECAssociation@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

By Lori Bechtel

Fall is in the air! How quickly we went from warm summer days and evenings to chilly fall weather. Cabins are getting closed for the season and things around Lake Eau Claire are quieting down. I must say that the LECA had a really good year with some very successful fundraisers and membership numbers are up! This is just fantastic!

There has been a lot happening since our last newsletter in August. We held our annual Lake Association meeting and picnic and had a nice turnout. At the annual meeting, two new board members were elected and the board elected officers for the next 12 months. We distributed a survey to find out what projects are most important to all of you. We've completed four successful gun raffle fundraisers in cooperation with The Woodland. We've continued working hard on coordinating sand trap cleanout this fall and in the spring. We've assembled a committee to research and investigate creating larger and more effective traps on Hay and Muskrat Creeks. We just recently completed a successful "white elephant" sale with all proceeds going to the fireworks fund for the 2018 fireworks show. All of these things we've been working on are all for the good of Lake Eau Claire.

I'm so thankful to all of the volunteers and donors that donated time and money to the Lake Eau Claire Association in 2017 and want to personally thank all of them! None of this is possible without you!

As we move into winter and holiday season, I'd like to wish you all very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I hope to see you all soon at an upcoming event!



Save the Date!

Holiday Party – Saturday, January 13, 2018
Ice Fisheree – Saturday, February 3, 2018
Clearwater Triathlon & Picnic – Saturday, June 9, 2018
Golf Outing – Saturday, July 28, 2018



Lake Eau Claire Association Officers & Board Members 2017/2018

Thank you to the below board members & officers for agreeing to serve on the Lake Eau Claire Association board

Lori Bechtel – President
Duane Ives – Vice President
Dean Boehne – Treasurer
Pam Hanson – Secretary
Fred Poss
Dale Zank

Al Hendricks
Phil Kalscheur
Dan Marcheske
Marc Christopher
Cathy Lea
Amy Quella

The Woodland
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Good Reminders



- **Remember to take it slow on our lake roads. There are many twists and turns and people out walking. Please take it slow!**



- **If you see suspicious activity at a home on Lake Eau Claire, report it. Unfortunately there have been some recent break-ins so please keep an eye out!**
-

Lake District News *by Marlo Orth*

Eau Claire County applied for and was granted removal of 36 acres of land from Managed Forest Land by DNR and on November 1, 2017, Kathryn Schauf, County Administrator, and I signed an addendum giving us permission to use this 36 acres as a deposit site. As a Lake Association we signed the first agreement with the county in 2003 for ten years. This was renewed in 2013 for another ten years and after formation of the Lake District, the agreement was transferred to the Lake District. We currently have five separate deposit sites that we may use for spoils.

We are allowed to sell or give away any of the deposited spoils, however, if we sell, 50% of any revenue goes back to the county. Several people, myself included, have attempted to find a market for this sand, including county board members and county officials. Thus far we have only found people/firms that wanted a few truck loads. If anyone has an idea on how to get rid of this sand, please pursue your idea. Each deposit site will only hold so much and we need to get rid of sand. At this time, my opinion is that we should just give it away. I also think that someday there will be a market for our sand, but until then, we need storage capacity. Anyone is free to take sand, however we are required to notify Josh Pedersen, Eau Claire County Parks & Forest Director, 715-839-4787 (his direct phone number) as this is on county land and we have to get their permission. If you prefer, call me, 715-828-3052 and I will do it for you.

Both Troubled Waters Trap (TWT) and Gravel Pit Trap (GPT) are full and need to be cleaned. Our plan is to clean both traps after the first of the year. We do this in the winter for several reasons:

1. We do this in winter because it is a down time for contractors, thus we get a lower price.
2. The roads are frozen, thus less road repair costs.
3. Whenever you work in the water, a silt fence is required to prevent sediment from contaminating the waterway. It is very difficult to maintain a functioning silt fence with moving water. We have been granted permission by the DNR to construct a turbidity curtain of frozen ice chunks, another cost saving move.

Your Lake District, Lake Association, and many volunteers are working diligently to clean out sediment traps, prepare deposit sites, get engineering paper work and permits in order so we may do these tasks this winter. No one person could do all this. We have many people who donate their time and expertise to do all that we can to save and improve Lake Eau Claire. In addition we have built strong working relationships with both Eau Claire County and the DNR as we do these projects. Please remember to thank these volunteers and officials.

Marlo Orth, Chairman
Lake Eau Claire Protection & Rehabilitation District

Renew, Recruit...Join Today!



Membership for the Lake Eau Claire Association is only \$25 per year. As you can imagine, the Lake Association has many expenses during the year. Your membership fee helps pay for things like equipment repairs, website hosting and maintenance, postage and other mailing expenses, newsletter printing, and a host of other things. The dues received are put to good use and spent very wisely. In addition to all that the Lake Association provides today, Lake Association members will now have the opportunity to be enrolled in a texting service that we can utilize during emergency situations. Given the flooding that occurred in September

2016, we believe we need multiple options for notifying people of emergency situations and important announcements. This service will **ONLY** be available to members who are up-to-date on their membership dues. You can renew your membership or join today by going to the following link, <https://www.memberplanet.com/lakeeauclaireassociation>, click the “Join our group” button and fill out the form to “Create an account”. You can also join by mailing your payment to: Lake Eau Claire Association, PO Box 229, Augusta, WI 54722.

Thanks You Sponsors!!



As you browse through our newsletter, you will see logos for various businesses included in the news portion of our newsletter; those are businesses who sponsored at the Muskie level. At the end of our newsletter, you’ll find a listing of all our Northern, Walleye, and Pan fish sponsors. When you get the chance, please take a minute to thank our sponsors for their support or support them by patronizing their business! If you are interested in being a 2018 Lake Eau Claire Association sponsor and would like to pay the fee online, go to <https://www.memberplanet.com/s/lakeeauclaireassociation/sponsorship>.

To make a payment by check, please complete the attached sponsorship form, include your check and mail to:

Lake Eau Claire Association
Attn: Sponsorship Committee

Lake Eau Claire Association Annual Fireworks

The Lake Eau Claire Association held a sale at Judy's 360 in Augusta on Saturday, Oct. 14th with all proceeds going to fund the Fourth of July fireworks display over Lake Eau Claire. Over the past few years, the donations for the fireworks have decreased. Chris Fellers, a lake home owner and volunteer for the event, organized the event in conjunction with other volunteers and Judy Peterson, owner of Judy's 360 on Highway 27. Judy offered to hold the event at her location and organize the many donations of sale items. Thank you to everyone that donated the truck loads of furniture, hunting gear, lawn furniture, picnic items and many more. Thank you to all the volunteers and to Judy for all of her hard work!



Chris Fellers reported that the event ended up drawing more than 200 people and raised over \$800! The Lake Association started an online fundraiser site so that people could continue donating funds to support the fireworks display in 2018.

Donate Today ([click here!](#))



MAKE RESERVATIONS TO THE 2018 HOLIDAY PARTY!

WHAT: Lake Eau Claire Association Annual Holiday Party

WHERE: Lion's Hall, Main St., Augusta

WHEN: Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 5 PM Social, 6:30 PM Dinner

COST: \$20 Per Person

RSVP: Due by January 7th to LakeECAssociation@gmail.com or to Duane Ives at 608.444.0380 or Cathy Lea at 715.579.1145

MENU: TBD (Drinks available for purchase)

DRINKS: Available for purchase

CHARITY: New this year, please bring a non-perishable food item or a monetary donation that can be donated to the Augusta Food Pantry! Your name will be entered into a raffle drawing if you donate.

Reminder, you do not need to be a member to attend and join the fun! Invite a guest(s) and encourage them to join the Lake Eau Claire Association! You can become a member at the party.



UP A CREEK

- What are the issues and ideas for the creeks on the north side of the lake? - by Fred Poss

As Marlo Orth has often said: "All of the fixes for the sediment coming into Lake Eau Claire begin with having enough money." And, as we all know, the idea of raising the Lake District tax levy or taking out a loan at this time is a non-starter. So given the need to deal with the increasing sand loads coming in due to repeated record floods, what other approaches can offer some hope?

Actually, I think the answers have been right in front of us. While it is easy enough to say "make someone else pay," identifying who exactly is that other party and working with them to develop a partnership requires plenty of hard work. Fortunately, your association has been diligently working on this since the Lake District was formed several years ago.

A committee of Dale Zank, Marc Christopher, Dean Boehne, and me, along with Rod Zika, Marlo Orth, and Robin Walsh as advisors, is making real progress by developing even deeper relationships with the Eau Claire County Board and county staff leaders like Greg Leonard of the Land Conservation Office and Josh Pedersen of the Parks and Forests Office. Furthermore, Rod, Marlo, Dean, and I have worked diligently for the past two years to build connections to the Eau Claire River Watershed Coalition and the opportunities it can provide for state and federal grants.

So where do things stand right now? I think there is reason for some optimism and hope. Since the Lake District cannot spend money that is not in its approved budget for this year, but the creek traps in Hay Creek, Bedpost Creek, and Beach Creek are full, I am pleased to say our cooperation-building with the county should help us with plans in early winter to clean out the traps in Bedpost and Beach Creeks providing the weather permits. Later in early spring, we plan to clean out the Hay Creek trap--unless weather forces us to wait until early summer after the no-dredging period imposed by the DNR. The Association board has voted to fund these cleanouts with assistance from the county, **thus avoiding an increased tax burden to lake residents**. And we continue to investigate creating larger and more effective traps on Hay and Muskrat Creeks with the financial support and equipment assistance of Eau Claire County.

So what can you, our lake residents and members, do to help? First and foremost, please join our Lake Eau Claire Association (LECA) or renew your membership...and not only read our newsletter but share its information with others. Second, always complete the Eau Claire County Survey offered online each summer and mark "lake protection and improvement" with the highest ratings. Third, take the time to contact county board members like Gary Gibson and share your concerns for our lake. Fourth, along with demanding improvement, make sure you actually **give serious time to volunteering in Association events**. LECA raises private money with our June Clearwater Triathlon, our July Golf Tournament in Osseo, our participation in the Ice Fishing Contest on our lake, and in gun raffles available at The Woodland. Come! Participate! Have some fun and help us raise the funds privately that can offset the costs of getting at more of the sand! In all of this, please remember the old adage about how easy it is to curse the darkness...or choose to light a candle. What are you doing to protect and improve our lake?





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Lake Eau Claire Association Gun Raffles currently in progress

Only 100 tickets will be sold for each raffle at \$10 each (all previous raffles have sold out quickly!)

Ticket ONLY available at The Woodland

Drawing Saturday, December 16th

- Ruger Model SP101 hand gun – 357 magnum
- Taurus Model M44 hand gun – 44 magnum

Drawing Monday, January 1, 2018

- Browning Model AB3 – 30-06 caliber – Synthetic stock w/scope

We are happy to announce the winners of the last 2 gun raffles!

October 21st - Browning Model AB3 - 7mm caliber Synthetic stock with scope – **Amanda Knuth**

November 4th - Remington Model 783 - 270 caliber Wood stock with scope – **Don Russell**

DONATIONS

Did you know...

Donations to the Lake Eau Claire Association are Tax Deductible!!

Consider making a donation today! 100% of all donations go directly to the improvements of the lake.

www.memberplanet.com/s/lakeeauclaireasotsociation/donations



One Year Anniversary Celebration!!

On Saturday, October 7, the LakeHouse Grill & Pub hosted their first annual anniversary party. As part of their celebration, they donated a portion of their proceeds back to the lake association for our lake rehab efforts. The LakeHouse would like to **Thank** everyone for their ongoing support and look forward to many more anniversary celebrations!

Save the date!

The Lake Eau Claire Ice Fisheree is a family fun event where entrants participate in a 3 hour catch and release fishing tournament. Fish registration will be among game fish (must be legal length) and panfish, both based on length.

Our 4th annual Lake Eau Claire Ice Fisheree will be held February 3rd, 2018 at the North boat ramp on County Road ND Circle.

Only 500 lines will be sold! Pre-registration will begin December 2nd exclusively at The Woodland! Register early, as we expect to sell out!

Each year the Ice Fisheree has made donations to the Lake Eau Claire Association to help support, protect, and improve the water quality and fishery on the lake. This benefits all that that enjoy the recreational use of Lake Eau Claire!

Lake Eau Claire Ice Fisheree



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Survey Says...

Over the past few months, members had the opportunity to complete a survey conducted by the board of directors. The survey, offered both at the annual meeting and online, was designed to allow our members an opportunity to provide input into how the lake association spends the funds we generate. As part of the survey, we asked members to rank a number of initiatives in order of importance.



The **top 4** initiatives, which scored nearly identical scores, include:

- Contribute funds to create a sand trap on Muskrat Creek
- Contribute funds to create a larger sand trap on Hay Creek
- Increase association's contributions towards sand removal in north side creeks
- Contribute towards sand removal in the river traps (currently paid for by the lake district)

The **next 4** initiatives include (in order by priority):

- Fish stocking
- Fish Cribs
- Increase fireworks budget
- Handicap accessible fishing pier at north side boat landing

The board of directors reviewed the survey results at their October meeting and are currently evaluating a number of options to address the initiatives. Thanks to everyone who completed the survey, your input is extremely important as we prioritize how our funds are distributed.

#GIVINGTUESDAY

#GivingTuesday (<https://www.givingtuesday.org/>) is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. Celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving and the widely recognized shopping events like Black Friday and Cyber Monday, #GivingTuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday giving and end-of-year giving. This year, the Lake Eau Claire Association is joining the movement and we hope you will be a part of it.

Here's how you can get involved:

- Please visit our Lake Eau Claire Association website (<http://lakeeauclaire.org/lec-association/donate-now>) to watch an amazing video that showcases the area we all love. The video, taken from a drone, gives an unbelievable perspective of our lake and river. After watching the video, please consider making an end-of-year tax deductible donation and joining the association.
- Please share Facebook post on GivingTuesday
- Please invite to friends and family who are passionate about Lake Eau Claire to 'Like' our Facebook page and join the movement.
- For those active on Twitter, here is a sample tweet that can be used to promote today's event (Be part of a global movement, Consider making a donation to the Lake Eau Claire Association today, #GivingTuesday <http://lakeeauclaire.org/lec-association/donate-now>).

Collectively, let's leverage the power of social media and collaboration to make an impact. With your help and continued support, Lake Eau Claire and the Eau Claire River will be protected and preserved for future generations.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and participation!

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Lake Eau Claire Association Officers

President - Lori Bechtel, E19885 County Road ND, Augusta, WI 54722 612.991.8331 lbechtel@comcast.net

Vice-President - Duane Ives, 1505 Centennial Pkwy, Waunakee 53597 608.444.0380 dives@amfam.com

Treasurer - Dean Boehne, 512 5th Ave. N., Strum 54770 715.695.3131 dcbost@trivest.net

Secretary – Pam Hanson, 704.905.8705 pam.hanson@e5solutions.com

Lake District Officers

Chairperson- Marlo Orth, 712 E Grant Ave., Eau Claire WI 715-832-6961 c:715-828-3052
marloorth@aol.com

Secretary- Mike Lea, E21680 Cty Rd SD, Augusta, WI 54722 715-286-5423 c715-225-8768
armlea@centuurytel.net

Treasurer - Dean Boehne, 512 5th Ave. N., Strum, WI 54770 715-695-3131 dcbost@tcc.coop

Vice Chair & Commissioner - Gary Gibson E16934 Scenic Dr., Fall Creek, WI 54742
715-877-2730 c:715-210-0401 gary.gibson@co.eau-claire.wi.us

Commissioner – Patrick Bethke, E19535 Faske Rd, Augusta, WI 54722 715-579-1208





Want to renew your membership early? It is only costs \$25 per year to be a Lake Eau Claire Association Member!

Lake Eau Claire Membership Dues Renewal/Application

Name:			
Street Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Email:			
Phone:			
Annual Membership Dues:			
One Year	\$ 25.00	Three Years	\$ 75.00
Two Years	\$ 50.00	Four Years	\$100.00
			Membership Amount: \$.00
Additional Donation:			
Fireworks	\$		
Lake Rehab	\$		
Other	\$		
			Donation Amount: \$.00
Total			\$.00

Are you interested in volunteering?

Fundraising _____ Grant Applications _____ Annual Picnic _____ Triathlon _____
 Other _____

Note: Donations to the LECA are tax deductible.

Payment options:

Member Planet Online Payment Options:
 Memberships: www.memberplanet.com/s/lakeeauclairesotsociation/memberships
 Donations: <https://www.memberplanet.com/campaign/lakeeauclaireassociation/donations>

Mail completed form with check made out to Lake Eau Claire Association to the following address:

Lake Eau Claire Association
 Attn: Dean Boehne
 PO Box 229
 Augusta, Wisconsin 54722 – 0229

Northern Level Sponsors



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Michael D. Lea

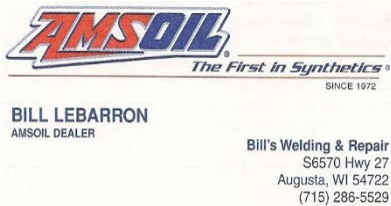
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