



June, 2017

Lake Eau Claire Association

P.O. Box 229

Augusta, WI 54722

www.lakeeauclaire.org

LakeECAssociation@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Spring has finally sprung and for those of us that are here in Wisconsin all winter, spring is a welcomed event! As I sit on my patio and write this, I'm reminded of what beauty we have in Lake Eau Claire. Our lake is such a great resource and we are doing great things to preserve it. My goal over the coming months is that we all get involved to continue these efforts. There is so much to be done and by having more hands, the work doesn't seem quite as daunting. Thank to you all of you that work to keep Lake Eau Claire such a beautiful resource for us all to use.

Things that have happened since the last newsletter or are happening now:

- The small creeks are in process of being cleaned out
- The Association and the District are still working with the county and DNR to find a new spoil site for our dredging efforts.
- Aeration system was turned on and is fully functioning once again.
- New fundraising ideas are being considered along with where to invest the raised funds.
- Roadside lake cleanup is happening by volunteers.
- The Annual Clearwater Triathlon and Fundraiser planning is well underway.
- We've had a ton of rain and watched water levels rise and come back down hopefully for the last time this summer!



Triathlon/Fundraiser – Saturday, June 10, 2017

(See flyer below)

4th of July Fireworks – Sunday, July 2, 2017

Boat Parade – Sunday, July 2, 2017

LECA Board Meeting – Saturday, July 22, 2017

Golf Outing – Saturday, July 29, 2017

Annual Meeting & Picnic – Sat, August 19, 2017





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.

Do You Want a Fish Crib or Two? by Fred Poss



The Lake Eau Claire Association is again offering to install, without charge, one or two half-log fish cribs on your property lines. The cribs are made from a single oak half-log about 8 feet long supported by two attached concrete blocks with white pine boughs about 8 feet long secured to the holes in the concrete blocks. The last page of this newsletter is the Landowner Form which needs to be filled out and sent to Fred Poss. His contact information is 715.286.9413 or email at fredposs@gmail.com. Send the completed forms to him at: S 5270 SD Lane, 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 still interested in being a 2017 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
PO Box 229
Augusta, WI 54722

Fireworks Update!

Each year the Lake Association hosts a fireworks display over Lake Eau Claire, sometime around the 4th of July holiday. The cost of the fireworks show has always come from private donations. Unfortunately over the past few years, the donations towards this event have dwindled. Because the monies received has become less and less, the actual fireworks show has also decreased. There has also been much debate on whether hosting a fireworks display over Lake Eau Claire is good for our lake water. The Lake Association and Lake District have been working tirelessly over the past number of years to improve the water quality. By hosting a fireworks display, are we negating all the good that we are doing? This question is sure to spark a different opinion from every person we ask.



Because of these two issues, this year at the annual Lake Association meeting on August 19th at the Clubhouse, the question will be asked on whether to continue the fireworks show in 2018. The topic will be discussed and we will have a brief Q&A session. **After that, all Lake Association members present will be allowed to vote on whether to continue the fireworks.** If you are passionate about this topic, please plan to attend the annual event.



Wall of Wine and Wall of Beer

Coming to the Lake Eau Claire Clearwater Fundraiser

June 10, 2017



Donate a bottle of wine or a 6 pack of beer at the event and automatically be entered for a chance to win!

Additional tickets will be on sale at the event.

LECA FISH CRIB DATES AND THE NORTH CREEKS – by Fred Poss



Attention Volunteers!! We will need helpers for Fish Crib installations this summer. Two Saturdays are scheduled for building and installing the cribs at the North Boat Landing on Lake Eau Claire:

1. **Saturday, July 8, at 8:30 A.M.**
2. **Saturday, August 5, at 8:30 A.M.**

These dates are tentative only because the weather may disrupt our plans. Please contact Fred Poss to sign up as a volunteer. He can be reached at 715.286.9413 or by email at fredposs@gmail.com. Remember to bring work gloves, hammers, and life jackets if you plan to go out on one of the two pontoons. We have simplified this process, and we are able to finish up by lunch.

Notice: During the first week of June, our association aims to dredge the north creeks—Hay Creek, Bed Post Creek, and Beach Creek—if we are able to get the dredge and trucks into those sites.



June 10, 2017

Join us at beautiful Lake Eau Claire for this family fun event to raise money for water quality improvement! The triathlon follows the shores of Lake Eau Claire and is a non-timed event.

Location:

LakeHouse Grill & Bar
E19986 Cty Rd ND
Augusta, WI 54722

Event Times:

Registration/Package Pick up – 12:00p.m. – 1:15p.m.
Triathlon – 1:30p.m.
Beverages – 2:00p.m.
Music by Bonafide – 3:00p.m. – 7:00p.m.
Picnic Dinner – 4:00p.m. – 6:00p.m.
Raffles & Silent Auction – 2:00p.m. – 7:00p.m.
Team (2 people) - Complete the bike and run separately and canoe/kayak in tandem, or do the triathlon as a relay
NOTE: Children under 12 must be accompanied by an individual over 18 as a team member and both entrants must complete the run, paddle, and bike together

Picnic Only Pricing:

For individuals not participating in the triathlon, includes dinner and beverages

Adult - \$15
12 and under - \$10

Triathlon w/ Picnic Pricing:

Entry includes: Participation in event, T-Shirt (first 110 entries), beverages, and picnic dinner

Adult Entry –\$40
12 and under Entry – \$20

Registration:

Online – <https://endurancecui.active.com/event-reg/select-race?e=42012554>
Mail – Complete registration form with check (payable to Lake Eau Claire Association) and mail to:
Trisha Ives
1505 Centennial Pkwy
Waunakee, WI 53597

Triathlon Additional Information:

Equipment will not be provided. Participants may use canoes or kayaks. Life jackets and bike helmets are required. Canoes/kayaks will need to be dropped off by participants at Lake Eau Claire County Beach. County park permits will need to be purchased for individuals that park and leave vehicles at the beach. The course will be marked and rules of the road are to be followed while biking and running. There will not be any refunds.

Full day of fun
for the entire
family!

TRIATHLON:

2.5 MILE WALK/RUN

1 MILE PADDLE

8 MILE BIKE RIDE

PICNIC FOR ALL:

MUSIC BY BONAFIDE

PICNIC DINNER

BEVERAGES

RAFFLES

SILENT AUCTION

QUESTIONS?

Contact us at:

715-225-1226

LakeECAssociation@gmail.com

www.lakeeauclaire.org

Facebook: Lake Eau Claire
Association

Boat Parade Reminder!

Arrrrr! It'll be summer before you know it and it's time to start thinking about decorating those boats and pontoons for the 2017 boat parade. That's right mates, *Pirate Regatta XXIX* -- will be at 4 pm on the 2nd of July. All you Independence Day buccaneers can float the fresh water high seas of Lake Eau Claire, take in the awards ceremony and free libations and still make it to supper before the fireworks. The parade takes about an hour but don't go straight home. There's an awards ceremony on Pirates Island — did we mention there's free libations.

There are 2 divisions, Frigates — that's for you pontoon owners. And the Schooner division is for you boat people. Since 1988, we've suspended the entry fee and there's no reason to stop that now. First, 2nd and 3rd prizes are awarded in each division. First prize is always a handsome oak plaque that beautifully enhances the wall of any LEC house or cabin and gives the winners bragging rights for years to come. Second and third prizes get a combination of money and libations. In 1988, to promote Pirate lore, we actually awarded silver coins, but by popular demand we now award prizes in US currency. The Pirates issue a proclamation to all winners, celebrating their creativity and achievement.

Last year, we had 20 units in the parade: 17 pontoons and 3 boats, making it easier to win in that division. Still, we need more boats. The highest number of units (at least since 1988 — that's how long the Pirates have been leading the parade) was 36 units in 1990. The lowest was 15 in 2013. The weather is almost always nice -- there was only one year where we did the parade in a driving rain and that was in 2010 and that year we had 19 units. And that says a lot about the determination of Lake Eau Claire boat paraders. One year — 1997 — the event was cut short when a huge thunderstorm (some say it was a tornado) interrupted the event. We still had the award ceremony, just 2 hours late.

Get the jump on the parade and start planning your theme. There's always stiff competition, especially for Frigate captains and crew. We could always use a judge or 2. And arrrrg!, if you have questions, call , Commodore Chris Nelson 715.497.9939 or Admiral Mike O'Connor 715.577.2269.



HELP -- Boat Parade and Balloons!!

After the boat parade in 2016, we heard from a number of concerned citizens that a lot of litter and balloons were found on the islands, in the water, and at the beaches. **Please** consider using water guns instead of water balloons this year. If that doesn't work, please consider using biodegradable balloons which can be purchased on Amazon. **Also, if you see trash, please pick it up!** The more people we have taking care of our precious resources the better.

Coming Soon!



Monthly Lake Eau Claire Association Gun or Bow Raffle

Only 100 tickets will be sold on each raffle at \$10 each

Can buy the tickets only at The Woodland

1st Raffle - Mossberg Patriot .308 Winchester Bolt-Action Rifle with Scope

2nd Raffle - Browning AB3 Hunter .270 Winchester Bolt-action Rifle with Scope

3rd Raffle - Crossbow Wicked Ridge (made by Ten Point) Invader ACU 52 Self-Draw with Scope

Nature Notes

Bird Migration

By Mike Harden

I heard my first grosbeak singing yesterday. The orioles, brown thrashers, robins, and many of our other favorites have been back for some time already. I missed the tundra swan migration this spring, as I myself had migrated south for a time to avoid the chill of a Wisconsin March.

The great spectacle of bird migration has fascinated mankind for as long as we have been able to think and wonder. We are still seeking to understand it. Aristotle and other Greek philosopher-scientists explained the appearance and disappearance of birds each year by speculating that they went into hibernation for the cold months of the year. This belief persisted until about 1800 or so.

Observations by amateur and professional biologists since have greatly honed our understanding of the phenomenon of migration.

The word “migration” is derived from the Latin word “migrare” which means “to go from one place to another.” With over 10,000 species of birds in the world (914 in North America), the details of migration vary greatly from one species to another. Some birds migrate, some don’t. Some are diurnal (daytime) migrants, some are nocturnal. Some migrate thousands of miles, some for relatively short distances. Some, like the loon, which can cruise easily at 70 mph, are fast; some, like the woodcock (the slowest flying bird) only poke along at 5-10 mph.

The main reason for migration is often food supply. Insect and fruit eating birds might have a hard time making a living in a Wis. winter, so they head to more suitable climates. Some birds like the ruffed grouse, turkeys, owls, woodpeckers, etc, can make a living here, so they stay. We even have some birds who consider our winters rather attractive. The rough-legged hawk, normally residing in the northern reaches of Canada, finds the open country of central Wisconsin to be a desirable place to reside, even in our harshest winters. Others, too, such as the great gray and snowy owls often come down from the far north to find food here.

Migration can sometimes become an endurance feat of great proportion. The ruby-throated hummingbird (our only hummingbird species in Wis.) weighs only about 3-4 grams, and can fly about 25 mph. The tiny birds winter in Mexico or Central America, many of them flying 500 miles or more across the Gulf of Mexico nonstop to reach their winter grounds. The journey across may take 24 hours or more, a remarkable feat of endurance indeed. The next spring, they come back, reversing their route and appearing back here at your hummingbird feeder, sometime right about now (mid-May). Remarkable. My advice to you is this; pick a favorite bird species, research its migratory route, timing, etc. I am convinced it will enhance your understanding and appreciation of these fascinating creatures.

Good News...Bad News!

The good news is that the Lake Eau Association takes pride in keeping our lake and roads around Lake Eau Claire clean and beautiful!

The bad news is that some people are litter bugs! If you are headed out for a walk, take a garbage bag with you and please help us keep the lake roads clear of garbage!



Boating & Personal Watercraft Rules & Reminders

It is that time of year when we see a lot of violations occurring on the lake. The below is a reminder of some of the rules and regulations. Please make sure you not only know these, but anyone in your household that may be operating a boat or PWC.

Age and Operator Restrictions

A person born on or after Jan. 1, 1989, and at least 16 years old may operate a motorboat only if he or she has completed a boating safety course accepted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

A person who is at least 12 years old may operate a PWC only if he or she has completed a boating safety course accepted by Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Speed Restrictions

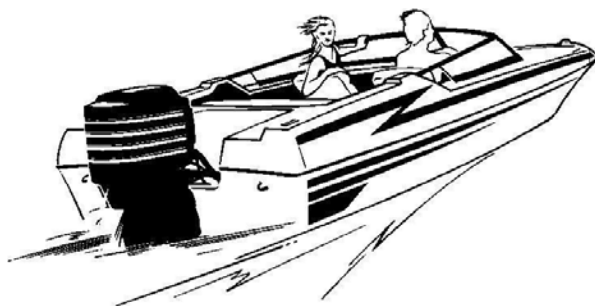
- It is unlawful to operate a motorboat at a speed that is greater than reasonable and prudent under the existing conditions. The speed shall be so controlled as to avoid colliding with any object, person or conveyance lawful in or on the water.
- It is unlawful to operate a motorboat within 100 feet of any dock, raft, pier, or buoyed restricted area on any lake at a speed in excess of "slow-no-wake".

Personal Watercraft (PWC) Law

1. No persons operate a PWC from sunset to sunrise.
2. All persons riding a PWC must wear a PFD of the proper size and type (type I, II, III, or V).
3. No one under 12 may operate a PWC. (Rental age limit is 16.)
4. Persons at least 12 but under 16 must be in possession of a valid boating safety student certificate (issued under s. 30.74(1)) to operate a PWC. (Parental supervision is not a substitute for a boating safety certificate as with other motorboats. PWC operators must have a certificate.)
5. It is illegal to operate a PWC facing backwards
6. There is no towing of persons engaged in water skiing, aquaplaning, or similar activities unless the PWC is designed to seat 3 people.

Most Common Boating Violations

1. Failure to provide proper number of personal flotation devices.
2. Operating boat without valid certificate of number,
3. Operating boat in prohibited area, in excess of speed limit on lakes 50 acres or less, or in excess of fixed limits.
4. Personal Watercraft violations.
5. Operating motorboat while under the influence of an intoxicant, or operating motorboat with BAC of 0.1% or greater.
6. Operating within 100 feet of dock, raft, pier, etc.
7. Operating boat at night without required lights.
8. Failure to display registration number or decal on boat.





Off the Pavement – by Dale Zank

As we get closer to summer more and more people are walking County Roads SD and ND (please be on the lookout when driving in these areas, especially on the curves).

Have you ever thought about stepping off the pavement and walking the many trails that we have in this area? We are fortunate to live in such a beautiful area that offers us forests, lakes, streams and rivers – all a very short distant away.

These are some of my favorite trails:

Black Bear Road: Turn in next to the Woodland and travel about a ½ mile to the end of the road. This is a longer trail that can be strenuous but offers a number of stops along the Eau Claire River.

Pinter Road: Located about a mile southwest of Trouble Waters Bridge. This is approximately a 1 ½ mile easy walk back to Pinter cabins. These cabins were built back in the fifties by Doctor Pinter for hunting. The county recently purchased the cabins and surrounding land. You can just hear the tales told around the fireplace when you get there.

Kelly Road/Big Marsh: This trail is awesome in the spring and fall during the bird migration. If you hit it right, late evening with the sun going down and flocks coming in, it can be a spectacular night. If you make the circle dike tour be sure and wear boots as it can get muddy. Year around the area is filled with wild life.

Back Water Trails: Located about a mile north of Trouble Waters Bridge. Numerous trails are located on both the east and west sides of Hwy G.

Hathaway Creek Trail: Follows above the creek Very pretty and easy trail.

Back Water Trail: Stay to the south and the trails take you to several overlooks of the back waters of the Eau Claire River. Can you find the trail to Lost Land Lake?

Sandy Hill: Drive in part way or take an extra long walk and you can reach the top of the sandy hill located on the east end of Lake Eau Claire.

Coon Fork ski trail below the dam: The first half-mile is one of the prettiest spots in northern Wisconsin! Take a minute and sit on the rocks overlooking Black Creek.

Be sure and take plenty of water and a compass might be helpful. I use Google maps on my iPhone but there are times when I don't have service. Don't be afraid to step off the pavement and explore!

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

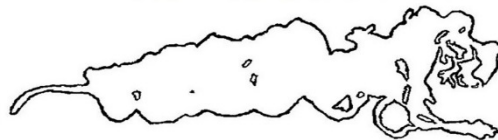


Lake Eau Claire window decals still available!

Window Decals are a simple and visible way to show your support for Lake Eau Claire. They look great on vehicles, boats or anywhere stickers can be applied! They are available for purchase at The Woodland for just \$5.



Lake Eau Claire Ice Fisheree



Lake Eau Claire Association Officers

President - Lori Bechtel, N8043 980th St., River Falls 54022 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@triwest.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 O'Connor, E19730 Cty. Rd. SD, Augusta, WI 54722
715-577-2269 occonnormho@gmail.com

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 - Lynn Norheim S8545 Cty Rd. AF, Augusta, WI 54722 715-533-0050



The Woodland

55340 State Highway 27
Augusta, WI 54722

P) 715.286.2112

www.woodlandwi.com
woodlandwi66@gmail.com

Convenience Store, Gas Station,
Campground and Motel

Groceries, Ice, Gas, Beer, Soda,
Liquor, Lodging, Camping,
Propane, Live Bait, Fishing Tackle,
WI DNR Licenses



Spring is here! Can't wait to enjoy camping, fishing, canoeing, kayaking on Lake Eau Claire? Make sure to renew your membership to continue to receive up-to-date information on lake activities!

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/lakeeauclaireasotsociation/memberships

Donations: www.memberplanet.com/s/lakeeauclaireasotsociation/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

Payments can be made either by check or electronically through Member Planet. To find out more information log onto www.lakeeauclaire.org

Thank You Sponsors! Northern Level Sponsors



Judy's 360
57275 Hwy 27 - Augusta, WI

(715) 286-2552

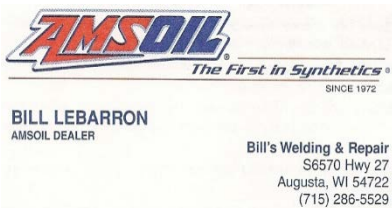


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Cell (715) 225-8768
Fax (715) 286-2531

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LAKE EAU CLAIRE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT

FISH HABITAT INSTALLATION APPROVAL FORM

The Lake Eau Claire Lake District government with the cooperative assistance of the Lake Eau Claire Association, Inc., a private organization offers you the opportunity to install legally permitted tree falls anchored to the shoreline or modified half-log fish structures out from your property but within the property lines. You are allowed to have one or two cribs.

Please indicate below if you want one crib or two, also indicate if you have trees you wish for us to come back later and cut down into the lake for a tree fall habitat. The half log structures are made by splitting a ten foot tree trunk in half, lengthwise. With the half log, we secure it to two concrete blocks, one at each end. We fill the concrete block holes with white pine boughs about 8 feet long and secure them. The half log structure is loaded onto a pontoon and we place these “cribs” at least 100 feet apart in about four feet of water, usually near the two ends of your property lines. **Please write exactly where you want the one or two cribs on this form if you have any preferences**_____.

The tree fall is simply taking a tree that is close to the shoreline which you want cut down and would choose to let us cut it so most of it falls into the lake. We do not sever the entire tree trunk because we use the uncut part to stabilize the tree from floating away. We also further secure the tree to the shoreline. Any riparian owner of lake property on our lake who is a part of the lake district can request both tree falls and one or two half log fish structures. These will be placed for you **free of charge**. However, we do need you to complete this form and submit it to the following address:

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

Your full name:_____

Your lake address:_____

Home phone:_____ **Cell phone:**_____

Do you want one or more tree falls? Circle YES or NO. If YES, how many?_____

Do you want one or two half-log fish structures (cribs)? If YES, how many?_____

Your Signature and Date:_____

LEC District or Association Authorized Signature and Date:_____.-

(Below here are GPS coordinates to be completed by Lake Management Project Officer)

1. Lat. _____ Long. _____ Approved: _____
2. Lat. _____ Long. _____ Approved: _____
3. Lat. _____ Long. _____ Approved: _____
4. Lat. _____ Long. _____ Approved: _____