

The Chain Letter

of the



Dedicated to the care and preservation of our lakes, for the enjoyment and safety of all

November 2014

Volume 17, Issue 3

WCOLA – OFFICERS

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Susan Lick (Communications)

Roger Linder (Historical)

Mark Zimmerman (Environmental)

Doug Griffin (Government Liason)

Sherry Miner/Roger Linder (Social)

John Zimmerman Jr. (Business)

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Updates, if any, noted in **Red** – update your address books!

Visit our web site www.wcola.org
Add your items to it by sending to Mark Miner,
mminer@minergroup.com

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The season is winding down, boats are mostly out, docks as well. It is a beautiful week with sun and terrific fall weather as I write this but we all know what is just around the corner. This year was a milestone year for our organization in many ways. We have decided as members to revamp how WCOLA organizes and runs itself. Net - moving from poorly attended summer Saturday meetings - to a more fun oriented neighborhood social event or two. We have described this several times in 2013/14 meetings. This winter or next spring you will see a formal proposal that if you are a member - you will be asked to vote your approval or disapproval so that we can move forward in the new format for the 2015 season. Later - revised bylaws will be presented for your approval as well. You should expect to see are half a dozen smaller events through the year (winter and summer solstice celebrations, programs as we have done in the past featuring guest speakers on topics relevant to our lake association members, roadside cleanups, boat flotilla around the 4th to watch fireworks that residents set off around the lake, snowmobiling and snowshoeing events, aquatic invasive landing inspections and more). In addition there will be a couple of large social events where we kickoff the season outlining our plans and then later a second event where we hold a brief annual meeting for the election of officers and any other formal business that takes full membership approval and then relax and have our family oriented picnic. Our mission doesn't change at all - still focused on preserving the waters on which we live or visit - but the focus will be different and perhaps allow us to attract more of the residents to join in with us to have fun while keeping an eye on things important to preserving Bluewater, Wabana, Little Trout and Trout Lakes.

I hope you all enjoy your winter and I look forward to seeing you next spring. That is, unless

you show up earlier at one of the smaller WCOLA winter events.

Sincerely, John W. Zimmerman Jr.,
President–Wabana Chain of Lakes Association

P.S. - There are several things that are important actions included in this newsletter issue. Please consider:

- Read the Connect Itasca flyer** - and if you live in an area that is not connected to the internet except via phone or satellite, please go online and take the survey. We may well get some help from the county in getting the cable infrastructure closer to our homes and cabins if there is enough interest.
- Read the membership section** - looking for your name and **if you are not a paid up member - please do so.** We do not exclude non-members from most of our events - but the modest fee helps support our lake protection activities such as water testing, loon counts, invasives training, and landing inspections. It also defrays some of the expenses of our social events so we can get to know each other a bit better.
- Please make sure that we have your correct email address.** We only send out info via the post office a couple of times a year - most of our communications goes via email and if we do not have your correct address - you will miss out.

WABANA CHAIN OF LAKES TREASURER'S REPORT

October 23, 2014

Balance – June 20, 2014 \$14,676.20

Receipts:

Dues	1,370.00
Contributions	75.00

Lake Maps @ \$25.00 set of 3	650.00
Laminated set of maps	33.50
Postage to mail set of maps	5.00
Extra bratwurst from picnic	22.00
Total Receipts	\$2,155.50

Disbursements:

ICOLA	39.50
John Zimmerman	17.00
Laminate display maps	
John Zimmerman	1,290.00
Payment to Jack Velzen for maps	
Picnic Supplies	476.97
Kathy Griffin –	366.52
Jim Olijnek -	43.77
Roger Linder -	66.68
Ice Cream Social – Sally Wilbur	31.91
Half paid by Wabana Community Fund	
Total Disbursements	\$1,855.38

Checkbook Balance- October 23, 2014 \$14,976.32

Total Paid Households – 100

Designated Funds:

2014 Water Testing	\$3,697.00*
*Water Testing Fee Paid 10/31/2014	
Historical Committee	48.56
Membership Committee	50.42

2014 WCOLA Financial Audit October 28, 2014

Roger Linder and Jim Olijnek conducted the 2014 audit of WCOLA financial records on October 27, 2014 with the aid of Jean Koewler. No issues were uncovered and it is believed the financial records represent a true and accurate account of the financial position of the WCOLA organization.

WCOLA Paid Members

Jill M. Acheson	2014
Pat & Paula Adams	2014
Duane & Anne E. Benson	2014
Elizabeth Bunge Birch	2014
Joan Birkemeyer	2014
Peter Birkey	2014
Terry R. & Lynn M. Boblit	2014
Mary Frances & Bill Bottoms, Jr.	2014

Dan & Jeanne Burke	2014	Mark & Kathy McCullough	2014
Gary & Carol Burkholder	2014	Steve & Jean Melin	2014
Dwayne & Gayle Carlson	2014	John & Carolyn Merkel	2014
Raymond & Mary Carlson	2014	Margaret Z. Morris & Arthur L. Merrill	2014
Robert D. Chalgren, Sr.	2016	Matthew & Loree Miltich	2014
Richard & Patricia Chambers	2014	Jon & Pamela Miner	2014
John F., Dennis, Kathi & Meg Chernivko	2014	Mark Miner (WEBSITE)	2014
Daryl & Michelle Clough	2014	Sherry Miner	2014
Mark & Ellen Conover	2014	Lynn & Tim Moratzka	2014
Clinton & Stacey Deans	2014	Dorothy Myrick	2014
Ted Ellsworth	2015	Dr. Richard & Kathleen Nelson	2014
Eric & Jan Fredbeck	2014	Lafe M. Ness, Jr.	2014
Dr. Peter & Chris Friedlieb	2014	David & Judy Nybakken	2014
Gordon & Lynette Fuller	2014	Gary & Kim Oja	2014
Martha Ann Gettinger	2014	Jim & Gail Olijnek	2014
Rev. George & Lou Ellen Gilbertson	2014	Kevin Preiss & Marvin Oman	2014
Don & Michele Greiner	2015	Marvin & Mary Ott	2014
Doug & Kathy Griffin	2014	Catherine Owen	2014
Louis & Janeen Gueltzow	2014	Paul & Toni Palecek	2014
Rick Hadley & Betsy Fischer	2014	Chad Persons	2014
Jack & Donna Hartung	2014	Deb & Jeff Powers	2014
Richard & Rosalie Hesse	2014	Mark & Renae Rasmusson	2014
Louis Ireton	2014	Catherine Rudolph	2014
Tim & Susan Jarvis	2014	Bill & Diane Rutherford	2014
Dave Johnson	2014	L.W. "Bud" and Mary Lou Sage	2014
Rex & Melanie Kastner	2014	Stuart W. & Tanya Sage	2014
Erik & Andrew Kaukis	2014	Rich Brasch & Carol Schmidt	2014
Don & Fay Klande	2014	Dara Wolf & Doug Skelton	2014
Tom & Valerie Klatt	2014	Wayne & Carol Speedling	2014
Dennis & Jean Koewler	2014	Joe & Martha Stevens	2014
Danielle Larsen	2014	Dave & Barbara Stuart, M.D.	2014
Bruce & Bonnie Larson	2014	Kurt & Lavonne Thompson	2015
Jerald E. & Emma J. Larson	2014	Matthew & Nicole Stecklein Till, Greg & Mary	2014
Juan & Christina Lazo	2014	Sylvia Troumbly	2014
Dave & Sue Lick	2014	Jack & Sally Velzen	2014
Michael & Annette Linder	2014	Eduardo & Kelly Vigil	2014
Roger & Nancy Linder	2014	Ted & Swanny Voneida	2014
Patrick B. & Jackie C. Loney	2014	Pamela Wassberg Whittenbury	2014
Loney Family	2014	Amy Luke & Jeff Wick	2014
John & Karen Lukens	2014	Merrill Widmark	2014
Evelyn Maddaus	2014	Sally & George Wilbur	2014
Mayen's Northvue Resort	2014	Michael & Barbara Wilkus	2014
		Gig & Kristen Willson	2014

William J. & Donna M. Wolf, Jr.	2014
Mary Ziegler	2014
Ken & Barbara Zimmer	2014
Mark W. & Alexandra Zimmerman	2014
Paul & Debbie Zimmerman	2014
John & Alida Zimmerman, Jr.	2014

Trailer Decal Requirement in 2015

The main way that AIS moves from one lake to the next is by hitching a ride on a boat, trailer or other water related equipment. As part of a good education and outreach program, in 2012 the legislature passed a law requiring watercraft trailers to have a decal showing that the owner has taken an AIS training course.

If you trailer a boat or water-related equipment like docks and lifts in Minnesota, you must take AIS training and get a trailer decal.

*Online training will be available online at DNR website beginning January 1, 2015.

*Paper home-study training packets will also be available.

*Trailer decals are required on trailers starting July 1, 2015.

The new law requires anyone who transports watercraft or water-related equipment like docks and lifts with a trailer in Minnesota to complete an aquatic invasive species training course. After completing the course, you will receive a decal that must be displayed on your trailer. The training and decal are required by law July 1, 2015 and the online training course will be available beginning January 1, 2015 to give people time to take the course before open water.

Once an owner takes the training they can receive multiple stickers for each trailer that they own. Online training will cost \$5.00. A paper home-study course will cost \$11.00. Both rates include mailing the trailer decal to the owner. Additional decals for other trailers cost \$2.00 each. Once you take the training you will receive a certificate that you can use until your decal arrives in the mail. The decal must be adhered to the side of the trailer frame tongue near the hitch in a manner that is readily visible and does not interfere with the display of any other trailer registration requirements. All of the training fees go directly to the

company that is developing and supporting the course in order to cover the cost of running the course. No funds come to the DNR through this program.

You can trailer watercraft or water-related equipment as soon as you finish training. You'll get a temporary completion certificate at the end of the training that you keep with you until your decal arrives in the mail.

This new trailer decal requirement applies to all trailered watercraft and water related equipment, including non-residents.

Minnesota law states that anyone transporting watercraft or water-related equipment in Minnesota needs to complete training and display the decal on their trailer. You can register for the class and get a temporary pass that gives you 7 days to complete the training.

Revised Activities Calendar

December 2014

Winter Solstice Bonfire Gathering at Zimmerman's
(See last page)

May 2015

3rd Wednesday – Roadside cleanup

June 6, 2015

Social Gathering at Wa-Ga-Tha-Ka for all WCOLA residents. Event will be BYOB plus an appetizer to share. Membership drive!

July 18, 2015

Annual Picnic for all WCOLA resident families.
Annual meeting held prior to picnic to elect officers.

August 2015

3rd Saturday – Ice Cream Social

September 2015

3rd Wednesday – Roadside cleanup

November 2015

2nd Saturday – Hunter's Supper sponsored by Wabana Community Fund (Scholarship fundraiser)

December 2015

Winter Solstice Bonfire Gathering at Zimmerman's

Connect Itasca Mission:

To provide broadband access to all Itasca County residents and businesses at speeds meeting or exceeding Minnesota's state broadband goals of 10-20 Mbps download and 5-10 Mbps.

"We are hungry for broadband in Itasca County," said Itasca County Administrator Trish Klein. "Everywhere I go, I hear stories from people whose lives are being impacted by poor broadband."

In Balsam Township, Aaron and Christina Brown use the internet to make a living. Christina runs a nationally-recognized frugal-living website from their home, and Aaron teaches online college courses and runs his own website. They pay \$130 a month for the best available satellite service, which is severely limited and doesn't allow for real-time video conferencing or online media production.

WHAT IS CONNECT ITASCA?

Connect Itasca is an initiative, facilitated by Itasca County, including a growing list of sponsor organizations like the Itasca Economic Development Corporation, Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, Blandin Foundation and others, to gather quality information and facilitate partnerships to stimulate investment in broadband networks that reach throughout Itasca County.



What is Connect Itasca Doing?

The first step in this process is the implementation of a county-wide **broadband survey**, which is a survey tool that links directly into a Geographic Information System so that we will be able to identify very specific areas where people lack the broadband services they desire. By illuminating these market opportunities where clusters of rural residents have strong desire for broadband, we hope to attract private sector partners to invest in these areas.

Why NOW?

Both the state and federal governments have upcoming funding opportunities that make gathering this type of data especially timely. This survey tool will give Itasca County a unique advantage in the targeting of unserved and underserved areas.

Want broadband? Want better Broadband?

Take the survey! Encourage others to take the survey! The more that we can document the demand for broadband, the sooner the entire county will have it!

<https://connectitascans.servicezones.net>

*The Chain Letter of the Wabana
Chain of Lakes Association*

November 2014

***December 21, 2014 (1pm until the
wood is gone)***

*Winter Solstice Bonfire Gathering at
Zimmerman's (32807 County Road 326
- North End of Trout Lake) Bring your
own drinks, lawn furniture to sit on and a
dish to share. You can snow shoe, or
cross country ski to the Joyce Estate if
you'd like, assuming it will be groomed
this year and there is snow. Dress
warmly - this is an outdoor event.*

THE CHAIN LETTER OF THE
WABANA CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION
Jean Koewler, Treasurer
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