

Indian Lake Community Newsletter

FALL

2017

COMING ATTRACTIONS

SUGAR CAMP YARD WASTE DISPOSAL (Oct 7 and Oct 14: 8 am—Noon)

Sugar Camp yard waste disposal (free) is scheduled for Saturday, October 7th at the Lily Bass Lake Dump and Saturday, October 14th at the Evergreen Drive Dump. The hours are 8:00 am – 12:00 noon ONLY. Yard waste only – no brush over a 6" diameter. The Indian Lake Association website has directions to both dump sites. The Town of Sugar Camp website also has information you may find useful.

EAGLE RIVER CRANBERRY FEST (Oct 7 and Oct 8)

POLISH SQUARE FUN RUN/WALK (Oct 21: 10 am)

The Polish Square Fun Run/Walk raises money for the Sugar Camp elementary school. It is a 6.9 mile long event. It starts and ends at the Moondance Bar and Grill on Highway 17 in Sugar Camp.

Registration the day of the event is from 9 to 9:45. There is a \$20 entry fee.

For more information, call Gloria Hanson at 715-272-2001.



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Indian Lake Association

The purpose of *Indian Lake Association, Inc.* (chartered in 2005) is to preserve and protect Indian Lake and its surroundings and to enhance the water quality, fishery, boating safety, and aesthetic values of Indian Lake as a public recreational facility for today and for future generations.

www.IndianLakeAssociation.com



A Message from Indian Lake Association President Joe Smogor

Another summer on the lake is almost in the books. I find it amazing how fast the days go by during the summer season. Aside from the daily routine tasks of life, a lakefront property owner needs to take time for fishing, swimming, kayaking, cocktail cruises, and just getting out and enjoying time on the water. I believe since we live on the lake, we should get out and use it as much as possible. The more time we spend on the water, the better we can observe the subtle changes from year to year.

Have you noticed with the higher water this summer that the water appears to be cloudier or more turbid? Some areas of the lake seem to have more plants growing than in previous years. With the increase in rainfall there has been an increase of sediments and nutrients flowing into the lake, and these nutrients have the potential to “fertilize” the lake plants. When I collected the water chemistry samples, I assumed that the phosphorus levels would be higher and the secchi disk reading (water clarity) would be lower. But when I looked back at secchi disk readings over the last 3 years, the summer “average” for clarity was between 9 and 10 feet, and my readings so far this summer are running about the same. When I compare the TSI (Trophic State Index - a measure of lake enrichment including phosphorus and chlorophyll levels) to previous years, it is also running about the same. The TSI for Indian Lake has consistently been around the mid 40s. The bottom line is that looks can be misleading, and the general chemistry of the lake has not changed significantly. Indian Lake remains a mesotrophic lake characterized by moderately clear water and nutrient levels. Currently, the lake is still stratified, with the warmer oxygen rich surface water layered over the colder oxygen poor water from about 18 feet to the bottom.

As lakefront property owners we all share the responsibility to be good stewards of the lake. We should all be taking actions to prevent additional sediments and nutrients from entering the lake. Here are some of the best practices of lakefront property owners: (1) minimize shoreline erosion by maintaining a buffer zone of vegetation, (2) inspect and maintain your septic system regularly, (3) avoid fertilizers and lawn chemicals that can runoff into the lake, and (4) direct your downspouts away from hard surfaces onto lawns or gardens that can absorb the water. These simple steps can preserve and protect the waters of Indian Lake. We can't control the amount of precipitation, but we can limit the runoff that enters the lake. I hope you enjoy what is left of the summer, and I will see you out on the lake.



Update on Possible Zoning Changes

By Roger Ziff

As mentioned in the Spring issue, since 1987, the properties around Indian Lake have been zoned “D-2”, which means “Single Family Residential.” This zoning status protects our lake by prohibiting most business establishments and multi-resident dwellings from locating on Indian Lake.

However, due to recent law changes at the State level, Indian Lake zoning may change.

The question of whether Indian Lake zoning will have to change or not was submitted to the State Attorney General’s office and we are waiting for a response.

This is a significant issue that could eventually impact our enjoyment of Indian Lake and our property values.

For the latest information on this issue, please monitor emails from the Indian Lake Association and check the Indian Lake Association website.

Update...High Speed Internet Service for Sugar Camp

By Roger Ziff

In the last few issues we have had articles about a new wireless service that was being developed by *Northwoods Connect* for the Indian Lake area.

This summer, several homes on the lake were connected to this faster internet service, but other homes were out of range or were blocked from receiving a signal by ridges or trees.

I talked with the owner of the firm in mid-September and he said they expected to have enhancement to their system within a few weeks that would enable some homes that previously could not receive the signal to now be able to.

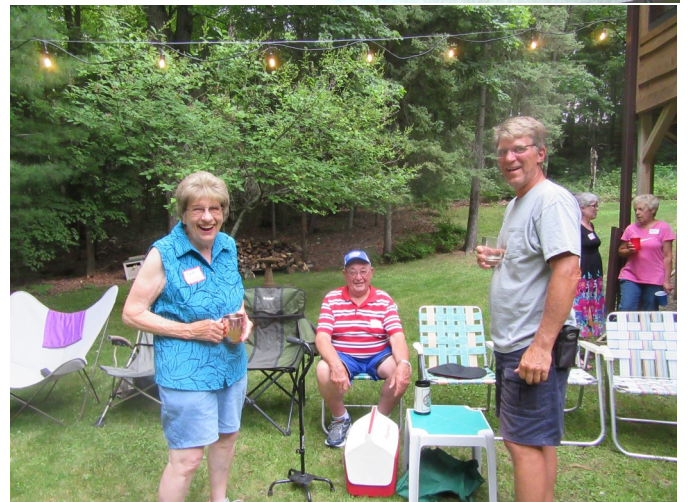
(Please note I have no business affiliation with *Northwoods Connect*.)



2017 Pontoon Party and Picnic

By Joy Smogor

The weather on July 22 was perfect for the annual pontoon tie-up. Nine pontoons, a kayak, and a paddle boat joined together for an afternoon of fun on the water. A few sprinkles fell on the picnic later in the day, but not enough to spoil the good eating and fun. Mike and Lisa McCarthy hosted the picnic as it returned to "Ric's Place." This annual event is a wonderful opportunity to meet new and old neighbors and celebrate the privilege of sharing the water of Indian lake.



Clean Boats, Clean Waters 2017 Summary

By Joe Smogor

The Clean Boats, Clean Waters boat inspection program was again present at the boat landing this summer. Volunteers from the Indian Lake Association checked approximately 40 boats entering and leaving during the 2017 boating season. The volunteers logged nearly 50 hours of time in an effort to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

Thanks to all of the following people who have helped with this important program: Joe Bartholomew, Phyllis Day, Paula and Gary Edwards, Bob Erickson, Dennis and Jan Gill, Jim Hoover, George George, Suzanne Millies, Arlene Loehrke, Dave Noel, Shirley and Mike Noonan, Joy and Joe Smogor, John and Judi Urban, and Cliff Woller.



Dianne VanLaningham and her daughter Erin were kayaking on July 24 and captured this photo of 8 loons having their own pontoon party on the lake.



Indian Lake Recipes

Judi Urban made the cake below for the Pontoon Party cook out and several people asked for the recipe.

Death By Chocolate Poke Cake

by Jamie @ Love Bakes Good Cakes

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 33 minutes + cooling

Yield: 18-24 servings

Ingredients

- 1 pkg. (15.25 oz.) dark chocolate cake mix
- Ingredients listed on box to make cake
- 1 box (3.56 oz.) instant Hershey's Special Dark Chocolate Pudding mix
- 4 cups milk, divided
- 1 jar (12.8 oz.) Hershey's Special Dark Chocolate topping
- 1 box (3.56 oz.) instant Hershey's Special Dark Chocolate Pudding mix
- 1 container (8 oz.) Cool Whip, thawed
- 1 Giant (6.8 oz.) Hershey Dark Chocolate candy bar, chopped

Instructions

1. Bake the cake according to package directions using a 9x13-in. baking pan. Mix one of the pudding mixes with the 2 cups of milk in a medium bowl. Poke holes in the hot cake with the round end of a wooden spoon and slowly pour this mixture over the cake, trying to fill the holes. Microwave the chocolate topping (with the lid off) for about 45 seconds or until it pours easily. Pour evenly over the top of the cake. Let cake cool completely.

2. In a medium bowl, combine the second pudding mix with the additional 2 cups of milk. Carefully fold in the Cool Whip. Spread the mixture evenly over the top of the cake. Sprinkle the chopped candy bar over the top.

3. Refrigerate for at least 4 hours. Store the cake (covered) in the refrigerator.

*****Quick note - If you cannot find the Hershey's Special Dark Chocolate Pudding at your local store - you may substitute any instant chocolate pudding in its place. Also, I found the topping near the ice cream toppings at my local store.**



Lakes 101: Flooding and Recreational Safety

(The article below was in the Summer/Fall 2017 issue of Lake Tides, which is produced by UWSP.)

During and after heavy rains and flooding, beaches and other recreational waters may contain sewage, animal wastes, petroleum products, chemicals, hazardous materials and debris (such as tree limbs and sharp objects like broken glass or nails). Follow these steps to stay safe:

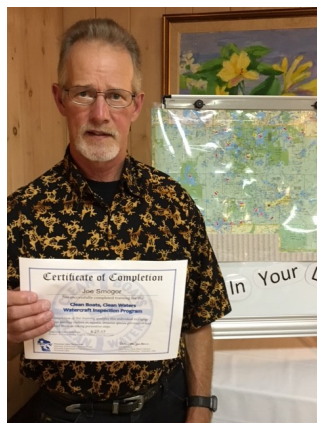
- Do not walk through moving water. Six inches of moving water can make you fall. If you do have to walk through water, walk where the water is not moving and use a stick or pole to check the firmness of the ground in front of you. Get to high ground.
- If power lines are down in the area, do not step into water.
- Do not swim or bathe in lakes, rivers, creeks or streams in flooded areas.
- Wash up thoroughly with soap and clean water after contact with floodwater or debris. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services offers a Flood Toolkit guide (<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p0/p00631.pdf>).
- Check with local authorities on water quality conditions. To get updates on the water quality of beaches along the Great Lakes (and some inland public beaches), check out the Wisconsin Beach Health website at <https://www.wibeaches.us>.
- Use the USGS Water Watch web page (<https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/>) for flood watch conditions.
- Contact the local municipality where you want to boat, fish or swim, or check their website to see if they have declared emergency slow no wake speed limits to protect shorelines from damage, and boaters from running into floating debris.
- Do not rely 100 percent on navigational buoys as high water and debris may have moved some markers.
- Be cautious when using private wells. Even without obvious flooding, a well may become contaminated. Sampling the well and testing may be necessary; more information is available on Wisconsin's Public, Environmental and Occupational Health Laboratory website at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/>. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources offers guidance if you are unsure of the safety of your private well (search "Flooded Private Wells" at <http://dnr.wi.gov>).



Joe Smogor Honored for Work on Indian Lake

On August 17, 2017 the 9th Annual Oneida County Awards Ceremony was held at Holiday Acres. The Annual Awards Ceremony is a way to celebrate and honor lake groups, Clean Boats Clean Waters volunteers, Citizen Lake Monitoring Network, and Invasive Species Superstars, for their extraordinary efforts to protect Oneida County lands and waterbodies.

This year, Indian Lake Association President, Joe Smogor, was honored for completing CBCW training, and for ten years of participation as a Citizen Lake Monitor. Here are photos of Joe accepting his awards at the event.



Congratulations and thank you, Joe!

Indian Lake Association Financial Audit

A lake resident, who was formerly a CPA, audited the financial records of the Indian Lake Association for the year ended June 30, 2017, including the receipts and disbursements for the year and the ending cash balance.

In his opinion, the year end statement of the Indian Lake Association correctly reflected the receipts, disbursements and ending cash balance of the organization for the year ended June 30, 2017.



Cranes

By Roger Ziff

A couple of years ago, while driving up to Indian Lake from our home in La Crosse, Carol and I saw a whooping crane in a field along the side of the road near Tomah. We had never seen one in the wild before and it was a strikingly beautiful bird. It was bigger than the tan sandhill cranes standing near it, and it was almost pure white. It was one of only a few hundred whooping cranes that currently exist in the world.

Therefore, when we were invited down to meet some friends at the Wisconsin Dells in late August, we suggested we visit the International Crane Foundation, which is located about 5-10 minutes south of the Dells.

We had never been there and did not know what to expect. I looked on the internet and saw they had three tours per day in the summer, so we timed our visit to arrive just before the start of one of the tours.

The tour began with a video in a small theater in their main building. We learned about the history of the Foundation and that it is the only place in the world that has all 15 species of cranes living on site - only two of which are native to North America (the whoopers and the sand hills). We also learned about their efforts to preserve cranes in other countries, some of which long revered the beautiful birds.

We then went on a guided hike around their grounds, and saw all 15 varieties of cranes in person. The cranes are either in large caged areas or have their wings clipped, but they were often only a few feet away from us. In general, they are big, beautiful birds.

If you are ever in the Dells area, you might want to take a couple of hours and visit the Foundation. The admission fee was in the \$8-10 range per person.

Here are a couple of pictures one of my friends took.



Odds and Ends

Interested in Indian Lake Spirit-ware?

Best Embroideries in downtown Rhinelander is now offering clothing with the Indian Lake Association logo. For more information, go to the home page of the Indian Lake Association website (www.IndianLakeAssociation.com)

Photos

Do you have any good Indian Lake photos (or story ideas) you would be willing to contribute to the newsletter? If so, please email them to Roger Ziff at cziff@charter.net.

And a special thank you to Marty Haavisto for some of the great photos in this issue.

Indian Lake Association Membership Form

Membership Year: June 1 to May 31

Annual Dues: \$20

Please make your check payable to Indian Lake Association and mail it along with this form to :

ILA Treasurer, P.O. Box 1801, Eagle River, WI 54521

Name: _____

Lake Address: _____ Lake Phone: _____

Other Address: _____

Other Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Do you receive mail at your lake address? Yes ____ No ____

Would you like to be included in the Indian Lake directory? Yes ____ No ____

Are you interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities with the association? Yes ____ No ____

Comments or suggestions: _____
