

Ten Mile Lake Association

Newsletter

Summer, 2012

Dedicated to the Preservation and Improvement of Ten Mile Lake and its Environment

ANNUAL MEETING

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 2011

Coffee and Social Time: 9:30 a.m.

Meeting: 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

At the Union Congregational Church, Hackensack

DISCUSSION: WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

THE SUBJECT WILL BE US AT THE TEN MILE LAKE ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL MEETING

BECAUSE THERE IS SO MUCH GOING ON at the lake this summer, the Board of Directors has decided that instead of an outside speaker, we will hear presentations and have discussion about some of the issues that committees are working on. These discussions will certainly include a report from **Bob Iversen**, Chair of the Committee on Aquatic Invasive Species. This Committee has been very active throughout the winter and spring, and most of you will have become acquainted with some of its activities. We will also want to hear from the Committee on Ecology and Environment. All of these committees are working on issues that affect you as a property owner of Ten Mile Lake shore land and as someone who enjoys the lake and wants to preserve it.

IF YOU HAVE NEIGHBORS who are not members of the Ten Mile Lake Association,

please invite them to come with you to the annual meeting. They need to know about the issues we will be discussing.

AT THE MEETING HALL, members will find displays with handouts and information presented by several of the Association's committees, including Fisheries, Environment and Ecology, History, Lake Safety, and Conservation. Before the close of the meeting, the nominating committee will present a slate of officers and directors to be voted on for the coming year.

PLAN TO ARRIVE AT THE MEETING BY 9:30 so you will have time to get some coffee, visit with fellow members, and view the exhibits prepared by the various committees. The meeting will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. and end by 11:30 a.m.

Ten Mile Lake Association Officers

Jay Cline, President.....675-5880
 Lee Sand, Vice President.....675-5582
 Ken Regner, Treasurer.....675-5464
 Ann Owen, Secretary Pro Tem.....675-5095

Resident Directors

Tom Cox.....675-6844
 Teri Gapinsky.....675-5352
 Al Griggs.....675-6312
 Don Hoppe.....675-6265
 Ivar Sigveland..... Cell: 218-675 6282
 Sarah Swanstrom.....675-6226

Summer Resident Directors

Karin Arsan.....675-6247
 Bill Brandt.....675-6107
 Bob Iversen.....547-1876
 Marty McCleery.....675-6908
 Bob Moe.....675-3975
 One TBD

Membership Coordinator

Phoebe Alden.....547-3114

Newsletter Editor

Sarah Cox.....675-6844

Web Master

Geoff Cox.....geoff@geoff-cox.com

Committees

Adopt-A-Highway – Ivar Sigveland, Denny & Paula Abbott, Mary Ackerman & Jim Reents, Phoebe Alden, Karin Arsan, Jim & Susan Brandt, Larry Clemens, John Coughlin, Elaine Crabb, Cary & Janet George, John & Lolly Hallberg, Bob & Nancy Horn, Mike and Sandy Kennedy, Paul & Carolyn Krech, Emily Minor, Kay White, Bob & Carol Williams.

Advisory – Al Griggs, Jack Adams, Tom Cox, Bob Crom, Al Hoover, Jim Miller, Stan Skaug, Don Willis

AIS – Bob Iversen, Bruce Carlson, Jean Carlson, Jay Cline, Warren Gerber, Pat Golden, Marty McCleery, Bob Rydell, Ivar Sigveland, Dick Staunton

Conservation – Jim Miller, Gary Anderson, Andy Biebl, Bruce Carlson, Mimi Garbisch Carlson, Tom Cox, Al Griggs, Shelly Knuths, Jim McGill, Tom Moore, Diane Westmore

Directory – Phoebe Alden

Environment & Ecology – Bruce Carlson, Gail Becher, Al Griggs, John Hallberg, Don Hoppe, Bob Iversen, Marty McCleery, Tom Moore, Ray Raetz, Bob Rydell, Dick Sampel, Otto Schneider, Judy Seward, Muriel Towler, Forrest Watson, Dick Zejdlik

Fisheries – Bob Horn, Pat Carey, Bruce Carlson, Teri Gapinski, Warren Gerber, Al Griggs, Rod Owre

Healthy Lakes – Marty McCleery, Tom Cox, Bob Horn, Tom Moore, Bob Rydell, Andy Seward, Sarah Swanstrom, Randy Vosbeck

History – Sue Eikenberry, Karin Arsan, Tom Cox, Alden Gjevre, Deb Hamilton, Cathy Iversen, Tom Meyers, Kim Moe, Sue Seyala, Murry Towler, Larry Urbanski, Mary Ann Varela

Lake Safety – Don Harris, Lynn Abraham, Bill Brandt, John McManus, Bob Moe, Dorothy Owre

Loons – Kim Moe, Dave Byers, Bob Crom, Bob Horn, Lynn Martin, Bob Moe, Murry Towler

Nominating – Don Hoppe, Bob Moe, Sarah Swanstrom

Treasurer's – Ken Regner, Jim Hickman, Ivar Sigveland, Sarah Swanstrom

Water Level – Tom Cox, Jay Cline, Dan Eikenberry, Marty McCleery, Ray Raetz,

Zoning – now handled by the Conservation Committee

DO YOU REMEMBER. . . ?

by Sue Seyala

A MEMORY

from Stan Benbrook

ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS of all the years spent on Ten Mile occurred back in 1948, when my Mom & Dad's cabin was built. As most of the old timers know **Al Woock** was a great builder of cabins in the old style. Cabin construction was not limited to building with wood, but included the splitting of rocks for construction of the fireplace.

AL WOULD HOLD THOSE big rocks in his lap and split them with a short broad chisel and a heavy short handled mall. I could never figure out how he could find the cleavage planes to break those big rocks in just the right place. But in the end they were all split just the way he wanted them, and they all fit together perfectly.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK . . .

By Jay Cline, President, TMLA

Wow!

It seems like summer is here and moving fast! There sure appears to be a lot of activity on our waters, which is always fun to see. After all, Ten Mile is for all of us to protect, appreciate and enjoy.

I am also the official "lake level water meter reader." It will probably not surprise you to know that our lake has suddenly risen with all of the June rains. Between June 16 and June 20 the lake came up almost 6 inches and it is up over 8 inches since May 1st. (See below for **Tom Cox's** chart of water levels since 2010.)

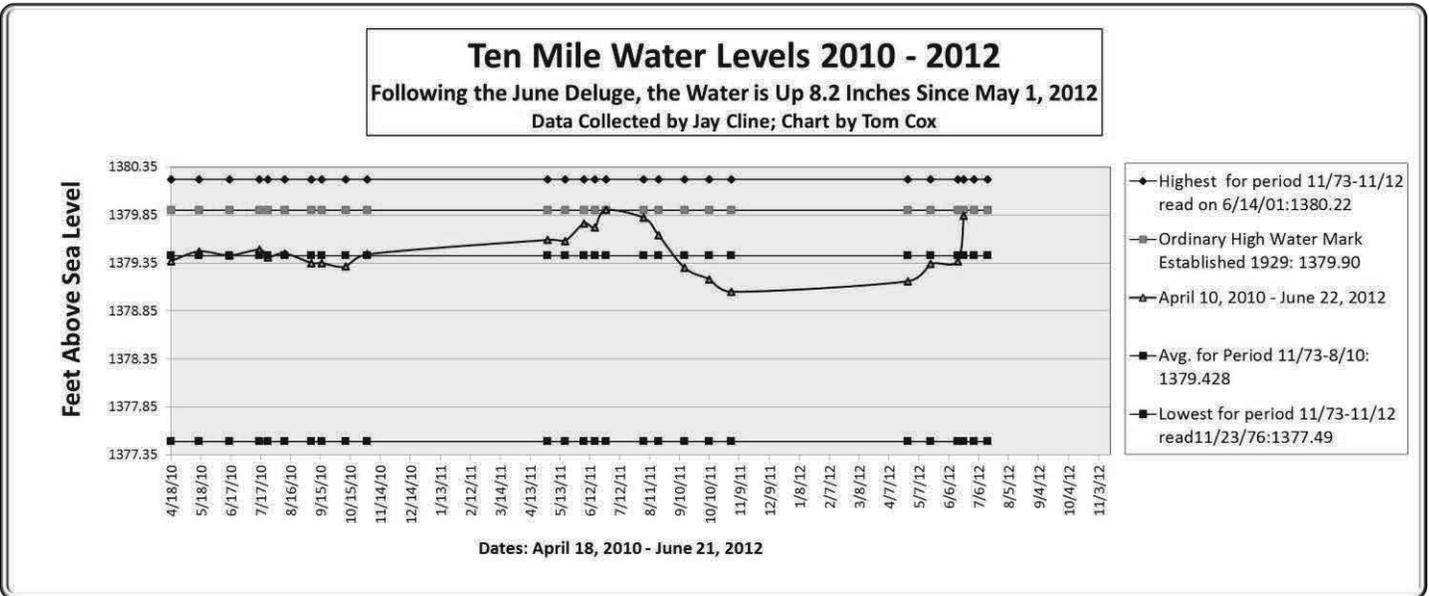
It sounds like the fishing report is fair to good (even though the spring crappie bite was a little spotty); our water quality is still good; and the new I-LIDS unit at the access continues to monitor the number of boat launchings on our lake.

In our Ten Mile Lake Association I could write an article just thanking people for all they do and the committees that they participate in for the

good of our lake, and I am sure I would still miss people! I would like to do a special **THANK YOU to Bob Iversen** and to all of the AIS team for their efforts in installing the I-LIDS system, getting grants and putting together a group of volunteer lake ambassadors at the public access. They have been doing their best to protect our waters from the threat of AIS.

Please make sure to take every opportunity to educate your friends and visitors about the different threats to our lake. Right now it appears that education and prevention are our best hope of keeping the zebra mussels, milfoil and other critters away. If you would like to volunteer to work a shift at the access or be a member of the AIS team, please contact **Ivar Sigveland** or any one of us on the AIS team.

Enjoy the rest of your summer, watch over our lake, be safe and most of all – have fun! I hope to see each of you at our Annual Meeting Saturday August 4th at the UCC Church in Hackensack



WHAT IF? – AIS WERE INTRODUCED INTO TEN MILE LAKE?

By Bruce Carlson, Chair, E & E Committee

BY NOW, ALL TEN MILE RESIDENTS have been exposed to information about AIS (aquatic invasive species) through the talk at last year's annual TMLA meeting, through a letter to all Ten Mile residents, and from articles in the Newsletter. One thing that hasn't been aired is what could happen to Ten Mile if some of the more common AIS were actually introduced into the lake. This article will outline my best guess as to the biological effects of these AIS on Ten Mile.

EACH LAKE IS DIFFERENT, and each lake is likely to react differently to the presence of a given invader. In this article, I'm going to concentrate on three invasive species – Eurasian milfoil, zebra mussels and spiny water fleas.

A. EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL

ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN ON LAKES in and around the Twin Cities in recent years has had first-hand experience with Eurasian milfoil. Some of those local lakes have become choked to the point where boating and swimming in major parts of the lakes is impossible.

If Some Strands of Milfoil were deposited into Ten Mile near the public landing, they would have a hard time taking root, because of the physical characteristics of the lake bottom in that area, but other parts of the lake would provide wonderful conditions for its growth and spread. Probably the most severely affected part of the lake would be Lundstrom's Bay, which in all likelihood would be completely choked with milfoil to the point where boating and traditional fishing would be impossible. The same thing could happen to Flowerpot Bay, but not all of its bottom is as suitable for milfoil growth. In Kenfield Bay and Long's Bay, the shallow mini-bays are also suitable candidates for being weed-choked. In the main lake, there would likely be areas of dense stands of milfoil, but most of the lake would remain open.

THE PRESENCE OF EURASIAN MILFOIL would change the nature of the fish populations in the lake. Probably most noticeable would be a significant increase in the numbers of largemouth

bass, which love dense stands of aquatic vegetation. Panfish also find milfoil to be a good protective habitat.

ON THE NEGATIVE SIDE, early walleye fishing in Lundstrom's Bay would likely cease, both because of difficulty of access and because walleye may avoid dense stands of vegetation. My guess is that large pike would continue to spawn in the bay unless the vegetation got too dense. The same would apply to other shallow bays where pike now spawn. Crappie fishing would most likely be affected because of lack of accessibility. On the main lake, largemouth bass and possibly panfish fishing would likely improve around areas where milfoil is present. Because Ten Mile is so deep, the main basin would likely be less affected than many other local lakes.

B. ZEBRA MUSSELS



ZEBRA MUSSELS COULD HAVE a devastating effect on the overall ecology of Ten Mile, depending upon how extensively they would be able to establish themselves. Fortunately, they like hard bottoms and rock more than sand or silt, and in most lakes they don't live in water much more than 40 feet deep. (On the other hand, quagga mussels, which are less of an immediate threat, can happily live in water much deeper than that.) Zebra mussels are filter feeders, and their main food is phytoplankton, the microscopic green plants that form the base of the food chain in a lake. They are such effective filter feeders that a single zebra mussel can filter up to a quart of water per day.

FOR TEN MILE, THE SIXTY-FOUR DOLLAR QUESTION is whether sufficient numbers of zebra mussels could become established to filter out most of the phytoplankton in the lake. If that happened, the numbers of zooplankton (already low in Ten Mile) would crash. Because of the reduction in plankton, the water clarity would also become much greater. The most noticeable downhill effect of this would be a disastrous decline in the numbers of dwarf ciscoes, which determine the character of most of our game fish populations.

WITHOUT CISCOES, THE WALLEYES would lack the main food that makes them so fat in Ten Mile, and they would have to rely more on perch for food. However, very young perch also eat zooplankton, so their population would also decline precipitously. If this happened, walleye fishing would paradoxically likely improve for a couple of years, because they would be hungry due to the lack of prey fish. After that point, walleye fishing success would probably fall off a cliff. In addition, because of the increased water clarity, it would be extremely difficult to catch walleyes during the day.

WHEN I LIVED IN MICHIGAN, there were lots of reports of charter boat captains who, before zebra mussels, could take clients out on Lake Erie at noon and get limits of walleyes. After the introduction of zebra mussels, daytime fishing success plummeted. Because of their sharp shells, anglers, especially jig fishermen, are more likely to have their lines cut when the lines contact the mussel shells. In some lakes, smallmouth bass fishing has improved after the introduction of zebra mussels.

IN ADDITION TO THEIR EFFECT on fish populations, zebra mussels have an even more devastating effect on some of the more unseen critters that live on the bottom of a lake. Fresh-water mussels (clams) become covered with dozens of zebra mussels, to the point where they can no longer effectively filter-feed themselves, so many or most of them would likely die. Crayfish would also find themselves loaded down with zebra mussels taking root on their hard shells. I don't know what would happen to the large numbers of mayfly, caddis fly and midge larvae that populate the soft bottoms in Ten Mile.

IN SOME LAKES, the numbers of aquatic insects have increased because their larvae feed on the excretions of the zebra mussels. Overall, Ten Mile would likely become a completely different lake if zebra mussels were to take hold here.

C. SPINY WATER FLEA

THESE LITTLE CRITTERS are well established in Lake Superior and in some remarkably isolated lakes along the North Shore, as well as some large lakes, such as Mille Lacs. Because of their spines, spiny water fleas aren't as attractive food for small fish that normally feed upon larger zooplankton. If introduced into a lake, they feed on zooplankton and take over a part of the water normally occupied by zooplankton.

IF THERE WERE A LOT of spiny water fleas, they could affect our dwarf cisco population, not only because of a lack of zooplankton, but because the ciscoes might not be able to eat the spiny water fleas. This could reduce the cisco population, with the same effects on fishing as that described above for zebra mussels. Anglers find them a mess, because they glom onto fishing lines and form gelatinous masses that can foul up reels or clog up the guides on the rod.

THEREFORE . . .

. . . THE BOTTOM LINE is that we can't predict exactly what would happen to Ten Mile Lake if one of these invaders entered and became established, but from what we know of other lakes, it is not likely to be good. If the efforts of our AIS Committee are successful, we may never have to find out.

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION – AN UPDATE

by Bob Iversen, Chair, AIS Prevention Committee

BY NOW, YOU'RE PROBABLY TIRED of reading about aquatic invasive species (AIS) – you received the special AIS letter in the spring, read the article in the spring TMLA newsletter, and now here we are again! But we're doing this because **IT'S THAT IMPORTANT**. Also in this newsletter is **Bruce Carlson's** article (pages 4-5) postulating what could happen to Ten Mile Lake if some of the major types of AIS were introduced – and it's not a pretty story. The good news is that TMLA's efforts to prevent AIS introduction are making real progress.

A MAJOR COMPONENT of the TML AIS prevention plan (available on the TMLA website at <http://www.tenmilelake.org/committees/ais.htm>) is boat inspection. Since the spring newsletter, good progress on AIS inspection has been made through two approaches: volunteer "inspection educators" at the main (DNR) lake access on the weekends, and a motion-activated video camera at the same access which provides additional incentive for boaters to do a thorough AIS inspection of their boat and trailer before launching.

THE DNR'S SLOGAN for AIS prevention is "Clean, Drain, and Dry", and volunteer "inspection educators" are key to the program's success. (They're technically not "inspectors" since they're not employed by the DNR, but they help educate boaters about the threat of AIS and how they can thoroughly inspect their watercraft to ensure they are AIS-free [Clean].) At the time of writing this article (early June), there are about thirty Ten Milers who have signed up to volunteer. The volunteers work four hour shifts on the weekends and major holidays, so you may have encountered them if you've used the DNR boat access. In addition to educating boaters about how to inspect for AIS, the volunteers also inform them about the new Minnesota state laws that require all bilge and live well drain plugs to be removed any time the watercraft is being transported [Drain]. As of July 1, the fine for having not removed the drain plugs is \$100 (and boaters report that people are being stopped). AIS are also prevented by having the watercraft out of the water for an extended period [Dry]. For boats and trailers, being dry and out of the water for five days should kill any AIS (the law is 21 days for

docks, boatlifts, etc.). Another new law concerns the transportation of live bait. The water in bait buckets cannot be transported from one lake to another. If you want to keep your bait alive, you must empty your bait container as you leave the lake and refill it from a safe (tap) water source you've brought from home and left in your car.

THE VOLUNTEER "INSPECTION EDUCATORS" are off to a great start, but we need your help. Specifically, we need more volunteers. Our goal is to have enough volunteers so that no one has to work more than one 4 hour shift per month. The "work" is easy, and the boaters are uniformly interested in keeping AIS out of Ten Mile. Boaters have been very complimentary of the volunteer effort. Is it worth the time and effort? Based on my very unscientific observations from my volunteer shifts, there are about 5 to 10 percent of the boaters who do not understand their responsibilities for AIS prevention. It only takes one boat to introduce AIS into our lake with potentially devastating results. If you're willing to help, please contact **Ivar Sigveland**, the AIS volunteer coordinator, at (218) 341-3970 or pegandivar@hotmail.com.

THE SECOND PART of the TML inspection program is the use of a motion-activated video camera at the DNR access to record boats entering and leaving Ten Mile. The video device (dubbed I-LIDS), was installed on May 18, and has been gathering data since then. The video clips are uploaded to a secure web server, where they are reviewed by the I-LIDS manufacturer (Environmental Sentry Protection) and by AIS committee members. The videos have enough resolution to see the boat's registration number and to record the presence of any weeds on the boat or trailer (and the occasional curious person who peeks in the I-LIDS lens). The main purpose of I-LIDS is to encourage boaters to carefully inspect their watercraft and to remove any aquatic plants, animals or mud (that can carry AIS), but any videos showing an AIS infraction will be sent to the DNR for enforcement action. When the motion sensor is activated, an audio message requests that boaters inspect and remove any AIS.



Volunteers Kurt Owen and Forrest Watson at the public access with I-LIDS in the background

AS YOU MIGHT IMAGINE, all of this (I-LIDS, equipment and supplies for the volunteers) doesn't come for free. We've been fortunate to secure grants from the Initiative Foundation and an independent foundation, but you can help, too. The TMLA board has authorized the establishment of a TML AIS Prevention Fund. Your contribution would be greatly appreciated. Please send your contribution, designated for the AIS Fund, to:

Ten Mile Lake Association
 PO Box 412
 Hackensack, MN 56452

And remember, we REALLY need volunteers! So sign up to be an inspector-educator TODAY and join our team to help keep Ten Mile pure and pristine for our children and grandchildren.



I-LIDS frame at Ten Mile Lake Access

Membership Report

Ten Mile Lake Association 2011 Year End and 2012 Budget

Ken Regner-Treasurer

5/29/2012

For Fiscal Year May 1, 2011 - April 30, 2012

	2011 Budget	2011 Actual	2012 Approved
INCOME			
DUES (630 budget 615 paid)	\$ 22,050	\$ 21,525	\$ 21,525
JWSEPF CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,010	\$ 2,000
MEMORIALS	\$ 7,000	\$ 5,588	\$ 5,000
GRANTS	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000
HACK'SK RESCUE	\$ 300	\$ 125	\$ 300
OTHER	\$ 500	\$ 3,530	\$ 1,000
BOOK SALES	\$ 300	\$ 520	\$ -
NET INTEREST	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,886	\$ 3,400
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 41,150	\$ 42,184	\$ 43,225

	FUND BALANCES	
	2010	2011
General	\$ 53,564	\$ 50,150
Schwartz	\$ 172,352	\$ 183,020
Garbisch	\$ 103,737	\$ 104,941
Total	\$ 329,653	\$ 338,471

LAND		
	2010	2011
Donated	\$ 182,300	\$ 182,300
Purchased	\$ 171,730	\$ 171,730
Total	\$ 354,030	\$ 354,030

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 683,683 \$ 692,501

EXPENSES

COMMITTEES

ADOPT A H'WY	\$ 150		\$ 300
AIS		\$ 6,629	\$ 14,000
CONSERVATION	\$ 2,000	\$ 16	\$ 500
E & E	\$ 9,950	\$ 6,371	\$ 8,332
FISHERIES			\$ -
HISTORY	\$ 150		\$ 100
LOON		\$ 67	\$ 100
SAFETY	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,628	\$ 3,500
WATER LEVEL	\$ 50		\$ -
SUB TOTAL	\$ 15,800	\$ 15,711	\$ 26,832

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	\$ 692,501
LIABILITIES	\$ -
EQUITY	\$ 692,501

Comments

Dues contributions cover about 2/3 of expenditures. We are dependent on gifts and other income to cover the additional costs we incur.

In 2012 we have budgeted \$10,000 in Grants.

We own and pay taxes on 7 parcels of lake property.

By policy we invest your money very conservatively and own no stocks, equity funds or bond funds.

If you want any specific information call or email me or any of the committee chairs who are listed in your membership directory, News Letter and on the TMLA website.

In 2011 we received \$700 in matching funds from companies whose employees or retirees made contributions to our Association. Check to see if your employer or former employer has a policy of matching gifts that you make to our Association.

ADMINISTRATION	\$ 270	\$ 169	\$ 200
ANNUAL MEETING	\$ 500	\$ 135	\$ 150
DIRECTORY	\$ 4,200	\$ 3,988	\$ -
DONATIONS	\$ 400		\$ 200
HACK'SK RESCUE	\$ 600	250	\$ 600
INSURANCE	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,749	\$ 2,000
MEMBERSHIP SEC'Y	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,855	\$ 3,000
MEMBERSHIPS	\$ 600	\$ 450	\$ 600
NEWSLETTER	\$ 4,500	\$ 3,987	\$ 4,500
SEPTIC EVALUATIONS	\$ -		\$ -
REAL ESTATE TAXES	\$ 2,998	\$ 2,998	\$ 3,378
OTHER	\$ 500	\$ 1,063	\$ 500
SUB TOTAL	\$ 19,568	\$ 17,644	\$ 15,128
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 35,368	\$ 33,355	\$ 41,960
TOTAL (Income - Expense)	\$ 5,782	\$ 8,829	\$ 1,265

THE HISTORY PAGE

OUR TEN MILE LAKE NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE

By Clark Pasley, History Committee

Have you ever wondered whether Indians lived on Ten Mile Lake centuries ago, perhaps even near your home?

About 100 feet behind our cabin on Ten Mile's south shore, the land surface rises sharply 8-10 feet to an ancient shore line and then levels off. 15 years or so ago, I dug up an Indian pottery shard while planting a pine tree on this ridge.

Archaeology is a hobby of mine, and I knew from the markings on the shard that it was roughly 2000 years old. The markings, called cording, are diagnostic of an Indian culture known as "middle woodland". The woodland periods are thought to represent a transition from hunter/gatherers to peoples living in more permanent settlements. These Indians made pottery, built mounds, and developed the bow and arrow.

While perhaps not as exciting a find as an arrowhead, pottery shards are often preferred by archaeologists, in part because they usually indicate the location of a village. So, finding that shard near our cabin was a thrill for me.

Since that time, my family and I have happily spent hours prospecting for Indian artifacts around our cabin. We have even dug pits and sifted the soil through a screen. *[Yes, the neighbors think us strange.]* To date, we have found a total of 11 pieces of pottery, a grooved maul, a [possible] chopper/scrapper, and an adz.

I would gladly share our findings with those interested and be very happy to learn what artifacts or evidence of Native Americans others have found around our beautiful lake.

A REMINDER —

HAVE YOU FOUND INDIAN ARTIFACTS ON YOUR PROPERTY?

The History Committee will present a display of artifacts found on Ten Mile Lake Properties at the Annual Meeting. If you have such artifacts, please bring them to the attention of the History Committee. (All artifacts will be returned to their owners.)

Please call Kim Moe (547-3975) or Clark Pasley (675-6428) to let them know you have artifacts.

FISHING CHATTER

by Bob Horn, Chair, Fisheries Committee

AS OF THE MIDDLE OF JUNE the fishing report is somewhat a mixed bag. The typical spring shifting of temperatures, wind and precipitation has again raised confusion among our game fish below the surface of Ten Mile Lake. Dave Ferris of Happiness Resort in Long's Bay reported that the Walleye opener was very good with catches of all sizes. Fishermen there caught one 29" Walleye, and some in the 20-26" range were caught and released. They also had many catches of 16"-18". He was also happy to see some 6"- 8" Walleyes boated. This is a good indication that our stocking program on Ten Mile is working and it must continue if we are going to have good fishing in the future.

THOSE OF YOU THAT PREFER to search for Bass may also be happy to hear that many sizes and varieties of Bass have been boated this spring. Smallies continue to show increases in numbers and size. Even I was excited to bring in a 3-pound Smallmouth Bass caught off my dock. Of course you can almost always catch a Rock Bass anyplace you throw out a worm or leech. Maybe we should all keep the Rock Bass we catch to deplete the high numbers of this fish — word has it that they are very good eating.

WHAT ABOUT THE CRAPPIE? So far this year the Crappie bite has been fair at best. The early spawn in the bays was weak and maybe the early ice-out was the cause. Whatever the reason not many Crappies have been boated. I would suggest finding weed beds in the 15 to 25 depths to net this fish in the summer.

LUNDSTROM BAY HAS ALWAYS been a very popular fishing hole in the spring of the year. This year the boat count was over 25 on the Walleye opener. The catch rate this year was not very good, but improved steadily as the water temperature increased.

ONE OF THE FUN PROJECTS of the Spring season is putting out the floating loon platforms on both sides of the road to Angel Island. The first nest platform was set on the lake using waders on Easter weekend with the help of my grandson and daughter. We were not able to set the second nest platform because we needed a boat. It wasn't until the opening weekend of fishing that a boat became available to put the second platform out. A pontoon was used and the platform had to be towed from the north end of the small bay to the south end. As the platform was being towed two curious loons showed up and followed to within 20 feet of the boat to where the floating platform was anchored. It was almost as if they were saying, "Where have you been — we've been waiting for you." As the pontoon slowly drifted away the two loons were already circling the platform. Two days later my wife and I motored to the small bay to put some nesting grass on the platform. Well, guess what was on the platform? No, not an Eagle- but one perfectly laid loon egg! I'm sure this future loon mother was happy to have relieved herself of the overdue egg. At the time of this writing both Loon platforms have been occupied, and we hope the babies are safely swimming around in the pristine waters of Ten Mile Lake.

CORRECTION — DATE CHANGE FOR the FALL FETE

Contrary to the information that was printed in the Spring Newsletter, the Fall Fete will be held on Saturday, September 22, 2012 rather than the Friday date shown before. Please mark your calendars with the new date, and join us in September to catch up with all your TMLA friends before we all scatter for the winter. The Fall Fete will be at the Tianna Clubhouse, starting at 5:00 p.m.

THE LOON JOURNAL

By Kim Moe, Chair, Loon Committee

THE LOON'S SUMMER ADVENTURE

Once again, "our loons" — somehow, located and flew to Ten Mile for another summer with all of us! Ten Mile Lake possesses an excellent **habitat** for loons:

- Clear water (for ease of sighting and catching food)
- Good food supply (fish, minnows, leeches, dragonflies, and crayfish)
- Suitable areas for island nesting sites, and platforms provided
- Enough individual areas for loons to establish territories away from other loon pairs
- A large enough body of water for loons to land and take off
- Minimal disruptive water activities by humans (we have people who respect loons, no large wakes from boats, lead-free sinkers, not entering loon nesting areas)

There are many adult loons on our lake. They are often heard **communicating** to each other with: the wail-hoot-tremolo or yodel.

Nesting pairs often lay 2 eggs which need 28 days to incubate and hatch. Both male and female loons "share" sitting on the eggs and parenting for their chicks all summer long. This is a full time job with feeding and protecting the chicks.

Loon eggs and chicks have many **predators** — their #1 natural enemy being the relentless bald-eagle!! Other natural enemies are: fox, raccoons, skunks, crows, herons, beavers, muskrats, large fish, snapping turtles and rogue loons.

Understanding the needs of loons and the harsh facts of nature and survival will help us all enjoy and appreciate this splendid bird!

NESTING INFORMATION AS OF 6-14-12

The Boy River Area has 1 pair on a natural nest.

North of the causeway by the island has 1 pair on a platform nest.

The platform south of the causeway by the island has produced 1 chick and 1 egg left.

**This Newsletter is a Publication
Of the
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Hackensack, MN 56452**

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To subscribe to this Newsletter, or to enquire about membership in the Ten Mile Lake Association, please contact the Membership Secretary. Membership dues are \$35.00 per year.

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