

Greater Whitewater Lake Property Owners Association 2017 Newsletter, Membership Form



Issue 2, 2017, Lillian Roy

March 2017

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Dates for your calendar
Lion's Club Fish -A-Ree results
Ice Out
History
Membership Information and application
DNR Hunter Safety Field Day
Boating Safety Course
GWLPOA Board



We are celebrating the **90th Anniversary** of our Lakes (1927-2017) with a wonderful schedule of events for 2017. Put these dates on your calendar and plan to join us!



May 20 - Casino night and dinner. Professional dealers and casino tables will be on-hand for an evening of gambling fun. Trade in your winnings for a chance to win prizes at the **Monte Carlo Room in Elkhorn** – watch for the reservation form!

June 24: Lake-wide Hot Dog Picnic Lunch-Camp Joy with an open house of their grounds.
July 15: Whitewater-Rice Lakes & Parkside Marina Fireworks
Aug. 19: Annual Golf Outing at Whitewater Country Club
Aug. 26: Annual Meeting in conjunction with the Lake Management Annual Meeting
Sept. 16: Watson's Wild West Dinner and entertainment, Elkhorn
Pontoon Parties (3rd Thursday of each month May-Sept. at 6:00 pm except for Sept. at 5:00 pm): **May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, and September 21**
Whitewater-Rice Lakes Mgt. Dist.- Monthly meeting, 2nd Thursday each month
Watch the Web site for updates: www.whitewaterlake.org

2017 Whitewater Lions Club Fish-A-Ree February 12, 2017

Specie: # caught	largest: weight/length
Blue Gill - 16	6.38 oz / 7.75 in.
Perch - 7	9.85 oz. / 8.75 in.
Crappie - 18	1.0 lb / 12.5 in.
Walleye - 7	3.4 lb / 20.25 in
Bass - 17	5.6 lb / 21.25 in
Northern - 21	8.2 lb / 31 in
Total caught = 86 and it was a sell-out pancake breakfast.	

Ice is out as of Wednesday Feb. 23, 2017

Veda Fearn (Chapel Dr.) has been keeping records since 1986 and this is the earliest date she has recorded (1998-2/25, 1999-2/28, 2000-2/29.) With the cold weather this weekend – we did see a new ice skim down by Bird Island. Ice Out always makes us think about boating. Please review the lake boating ordinances with your boat drivers and have a safe time on the lake. There is also an ordinance for putting your boat in the water – links for both of these ordinances are:
<http://townofwhitewater.org/ordinances-resolutions/>

In our archives – I found this two page chronicle of the lake history from 1836-1946. I thought you might find this interesting. It was written by Mrs. Kathleen Lundin. I could not find a copy of the period from 1946 forward and do not know if she ever wrote it. If anyone of you do have the continuation – please share a copy with me and I will add it to our next newsletter. Thanks

2017 Membership

Find attached the annual application for membership in your lake association. Membership is from January to December. We encourage you to consider joining or renewing the lake membership – it is an excellent way for you to keep up with activities on the lake. If you haven't signed up - It is not too late!

DNR Hunter Safety Field Day on April 15th 8:45 AM - 3:00 PM

Registration will be from 8:45am to 9:15am. Please bring your certificate of completion from your internet course, a pencil, and a sack lunch. The class will complete around 3 pm. \$10.00

Contact: The can ether go to the DNR Website <https://gowild.wi.gov/customers/safetiedclass> or email Jonathan Rose jonathan.rose@campjoy.org

The Lake Management Board will again offer a **Boater's Safety Class at the Whitewater Town Hall on May 20th thru 21th**. The hours of the class instruction are 8 AM thru 12 Noon. In order to register for the course, please go on line to dnr.wi.gov. You will need a DNR number (unless you have one from a previous course or license). You may register for the course there or you can call 888-936-7463. **If you were born after January 1, 1989, you must have a boater's safety certificate to operate a power boat or PWC regardless if you are a Wisconsin resident or not.** fee is \$10 + free water & cookies

Your Officers and Board:

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608.883.6634

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Lynn Carter, Board, lynnjarcarter@gmail.com
Contact us anytime with a question, idea, interest in joining.

WHITEWATER LAKE HISTORY

PRE-1836.....

Algonquins named the lake Wau-be-gan-naw-po-cat...equivalent to whitish or muddy water. Ex-Governor Doty gives Waubish Nepayuaw as the Menomonee name, meaning White Water.

1831-32.....

Blackhawk slept here during his war to regain lands promised in the treaty of 1804. He lost, but the paths and clearings remained from Milwaukee to Galena.

1837.....

Benoni Finch and his party followed this 15" path and arrived in April from Milwaukee. The first road was known for years as Finch's Track. The early settlers avoided the rough lands and wet marshes around the lakes. Earliest settlers on lake were entered in 1843. Sections 34 to 36 and 24 to 25 were entered as late, in some parts, as 1855. The English bought the best property and the Norwegians settled around the lake, which must have resembled their native land. The original size of the lakes was estimated to be 50 acres for Whitewater Lake and 80 or more acres for Bass Lake. In between, the areas were occasionally marshy and were cut by a dividing ridge. The area was formed by leisurely moving glaciers and the height at the lake is 795'-lower than the highest level in the city, which is 885'. The soil is glacial drift.

1840.....

Nearly every family in Whitewater received a copy of the Milwaukee Sentinel. Still no settlers on lake, however. Township detached from Elkhorn and named for lake. The land area was determined at 20,302 a.

1846.....

Malaria and fever. 21 Norwegian settlers die between September and December according to Little Brick Church records.

1850-55.....

First census of town and village: 1,229; 1860, 915; 1870, 1,006; 1880, 902; 1890, 849; 1900, 806. Buyers at the

1850-55 continued.....

land office were; Hans Arvedson, Sec. 34, Hiram Gregg, Sec 34, Ole Hanson, Sec. 34, Andrew and Gardner Johnson, Sec 35 & 36, Christian Mason, Sec 35, and Levi Hale Nelson, Sec. 30.

1857.....

Little Brick Church built by Norwegian settlers.

1912.....

The land of the township is valued at \$1,239,500 - average value being \$61.02.

1926.....

September 23...Railway Commission gives o.k. to Morgan & Reddy of Whitewater Lake Realty Co. to construct dam.

1927.....

July 28....BIRTH OF THE LAKE. City's businesses close doors at 3: to have a picnic celebrating the closing of the dam. Dignitaries came from Milwaukee, Janesville and Madison and proclaimed that "the desirable shoreline would be taken up quickly." The band played, the wheel was turned and congratulations were heaped on Art Morgan and George Reddy. It was estimated that it would take 13 months to reach the proposed 12' at the dam. It came to within 2' of the top of the spillway.

October 20...South end lake road (Townline Rd to Chapel Drive) disputed between Whitewater and Richmond. To bridge or not to bridge, depends on the level the lake reaches.

November 10...level of Lake Lorraine rises 20" in spite of dry summer and fall. There's no proof, but it was decided to be a consequence of the damming of Whitewater Lake.

1929.....

Petition circulated to close lake road at south end.

1929 continued.....

June 13...Judge Smalley hears case of Albert Hanson vs. Whitewater Lake Realty Co., requesting lake be restored to level before building of the dam. Easton Johnson represented Realty Co. They failed to pay \$15,000 option price for 20 acres of flooded land.

July 18...Judge Smalley orders lake to be drained. The dam, which cost several thousand dollars, was to be destroyed. The decision was a complete surprise. Hanson was also awarded \$975 in damages. Hanson's surveyor tells of 18 acres being under water before dam was closed.

September 5...Very interesting letter from A. Hanson. He states he had never been contacted by the realtors and no money had changed hands. He had asked for \$2,200 damages and received \$975 for losses on cottage rentals \$500...beach, boat and bath houses, \$150...concrete steps and platform, \$100...trees, \$200... and duck yard, \$25. There wasn't more than \$100 in the Realty Co. treasury and they owed two bills adding up to \$13,600. Also, Oscar Krahn's hay land was covered with water and so was A. J. Hanson's.

September 19...Answer to the above from Geo. Reddy. The land prices are mentioned ...Oscar Krahn asked \$45,000, Andrew Hanson asked \$8,000 for 30 acres of flooded pasture.

September 26...Andrew J. Hanson letter asking \$8,000 for 40 acres which will be 2/3 under water with lake filled. States Realty Co. can't pay.

1930.....

April 10...Rumor that Geo. Reddy opened the dam.

April 17...Reddy opens the dam. Faces contempt of court charges. Pro-lake faction meet at Gutzmer's farm. News article wonders who has final say so on any lake...R. R. Comm, state or courts?

April 24...State officials view lake and act as "friend of court". Farmer testifies he put up a guage and the lake rose

1930 continued.....

an inch in a week after the dam was opened. Dam closed again because Cold Spring farmers were flooded. Judge Smalley decides again.

May 22...Judge Smalley decides to close dam again. Farmers along lake shore see their acreage being devalued to original levels instead of in front foots

May 29...About 1,600 cars and 6,000 people turned out to see the lake turned back to a marsh. There is still hope of a settlement. There was a suggestion to build a dam across the narrow channel on Bass Lake. They figured \$500 would cover the labor.

(Ed. note: News dropped off here, but lake was emptied and I went forward to the next big development with a promise to go back and check the in-between years soon.)

1945.....

April 26...Ken Hackett gave the County 10 a. of land for park sites inc. the present dam site.

December 11...Public Service Commission held a hearing to operate the dam again.

1946.....

January 31...Another hearing, stating the present depth of the lake is 22" and poor pasture with much of it wet and marshy. The flooding plan stated that the dam would rise 1' above the lake's surface. There were many objectors and Hawthorn Melody Farms felt their water supply would be cut drastically. In fact, the decision includes a provision that the dam be opened slightly if the Farms suffered a lack of water. All of the flowage rights were settled.

Summer...People became concerned about zoning and the clearing of the land of trees. The lake was zoned residential and classified as an ideal recreational center. Lake is readied to be reborn.

These facts were all derived from newspapers, books and pamphlets printed during that time. There will be more.

Mrs. Kathleen Lundin

2017 Greater Whitewater Lake Property Owners' Association Membership Form
Please Print

Name(s):

Last, First, Spouse

Permanent Mailing Address:

Street

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone: _____

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Area code

Please include your-mail address: _____

Can we publish your e-mail address in our directory? (y/n) ____

Lake Address:

Street Address,	City	zip
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Lake Phone: : _____

() #

Area code

Please send this form and check in the amount of twenty-five (\$25.00 per household) to:

GWLPOA
P.O. Box 438
Whitewater, WI 53190

Note: Membership is from January 1 to December 31, 2017
Members receive all event notices and discount on event attendance

ATTENTION:

- 1. Circle address** where you wish to receive newsletter mailings.
- 2. Circle phone number** to be used if you wish to receive emergency calls if some neighbor notices an issue with your house.