

Diamond Lake Newsletter

Vol 18 Fall /Winter 2013



A single baby loon hatched June 28



Aaron caught a dandy bass



Skeeter, the Palmer's Brittany Spaniel, fishes from the dock



A great blue heron fishes from the shore



One of three cubs (triplets) that hung out at the Palmers



Diamond's Mighty Ducks (merganzers). Numbers were down this year due to a late snow storm



What are little boys made of?
Snips of ringneck snakes and
snails and puppy dog tails (with
respect to early 19th century
poet Robert Southey).



Actaea rubra's or red baneberry (also called chinaberry), and *Actaea pachypoda* or white baneberry are both a beautiful but poisonous herbaceous. The common name for white baneberry, "doll's eyes," belies both plants' toxic nature that, if ingested, the berries may affect the nervous system



John Haack, with UW Ext., in Spooner presented a program on amphibians during the 2013 annual meeting. Our area is host to 10 native frogs. The wood frog's call sounds somewhat like a quacking duck, different from the sweet "peepers." They prefer moist forests and large woods with fishless ponds created by snow melt and spring rains. They have the shortest breeding window of any Wisconsin frog, starting just after frost-out and lasting only about two weeks. Females usually cluster their egg masses together within a pond.



This buck is "in velvet." Deer need both protein and minerals to grow their antlers. A buck in velvet is sensitive and extremely protective of his antlers. Antlers are made of true bone that is fed by blood which is carried in the outer velvet covering. Velvet antlers are hot to the touch, with brushy hair and a waxy feeling coating. Antlers grow at an average of 1 to 2 inches per week during development. All antler growth is essentially completed in about 100 days.

*A thank you is extended to
Cary Palmer, Tim Tully, Holly Hart, Aaron
Crawford, Sue Weege and Ruth Lauritzen
for the photos in this newsletter.*

Applause, Applause Diamond Lake kids preform in "Fiddler"



Here are the Diamond Lake kids, taken after Sunday's performance. From left to right: Daniel Johnson (Fyedka) Aaron Umen (Rabbi) Val Hart (Nachum) Mira Lauritzen (Golde) Ezra Umen (Mendel) Katie Johnson (Yakov).



Mira Lauritzen, Ezra and Aaron Umen, grandkids of Ruth and Herb Lauritzen



Mom, Laura Johnson with Katy and Daniel

Actors filled three Diamond Lake homes for almost a month this summer. Six grandchildren lived with grandparents as they rehearsed for "Fiddler on the Roof", the 2013 production of the Chequamegon Children's Theatre (CCT). Scheduled rehearsals grew longer with each week; in the final week, one rehearsal lasted beyond 11 p.m.

Diamond Lake "Grands" came to participate from California, Minnesota, Missouri, and Florida, so Diamond Lake homes increased in size. In the Carlson household, the population topped 22. Sally Carlson noted that everyone helped with meals and "if you are lucky, you get your own clothes back from the laundry".

Grandparents have been observed taking the grands fishing, hunting for berries, and searching for all stages of Monarch growth. What remarkable stores of energy are visible in grands and grandparents. Ruth Lauritzen sums it up from the grandparent viewpoint. "Having full responsibility for 3 (now) teens, at the Lake is a jump back in time for us retirees. We become their parents but with more desserts.

"This is the 5th year that Mira(16) Ezra(14) and Aaron(13) have spent a month with us, mostly at Drummond High School rehearsing for the annual production of Chequamegon Children's Theater. Since all live far away, we love observing how bonded they are to each other. They love the freedom of the woods and lake (Mira is from LA), catching snakes and frogs (even now) and for Aaron, fishing, fishing fishing.

"There's lots of singing around the house as they learn all the music from the show and they have very willingly performed for any visiting guests.

"Shopping at Rondeaus is practically a daily event - these guys can EAT....I have no better audience for my blueberry pies.

Continued on next page

Surrogate parenting has a downside....controlling computer use can be a hassle, or monitoring the school work they are inevitably sent home with over the summer(didn't summer used to be all time off and play?)We love that they are here and tolerate us for a whole month!"

Carlsons add thanks to CCT directors for volunteering time and talent over 25 years to give children in our small community such a wonderful opportunity to do theatre on this level.

From the actors' views, the summer of rehearsals is only one phase of this month on the lake. Their comments describe the experience:

- The play is a great and unique experience...
- It's surprising how easy it is to bond with cast members...

- The case members are so welcoming....
- We look forward to returning to this small community...

• This year's role is different than in past performances; the role(s) have more substance.....

• The directors are very good at bringing out talent....

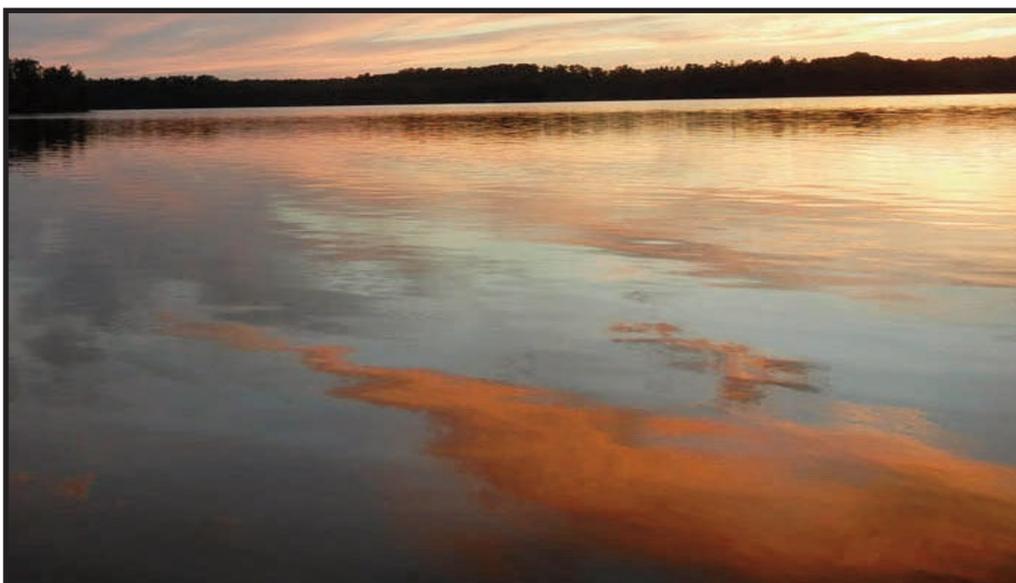
• Favorite plays in actor careers with CCT range from "Guys and Dolls" to :] beauty and the Beast...

• "Our" Diamond Lake cast members travel to Cable with their school books and substantive assignments. For instance, there were assignments in statistics, calculus, Spanish, Japanese, AP European History, physics and government (to name a few). Yet they found time to swim and fish. When asked how they learn lines, they cited reading lines with each other and singing all the time. Many still remember whole monologues.

Go to http://www.haywardwi.com/gallery/collection_95fc4c52-04ef-11e3-a97c-001a4bcf887a.html for additional pictures.



This is the entire cast of Fiddler on the Roof in practise.



*Day is done
on Diamond*

All was not quiet on Diamond



On May 2 a storm dropped a foot of snow on the Diamond Lake area. The storm killed many migrating warblers and other birds, including ducklings.



And then there was the storm of August 26. Considered a tornado, high winds toppled hundreds of very mature and lesser trees changing the shoreline of Diamond forever and damaging several homes. Residents were without power for 3-5 days. Some local areas were without power for a week plus.

Ice out was a very late May 15. The loons were ready and waiting. Prior to the lake opening up loons swam the north shoreline and were spotted on the south end the day the lake opened. They were very verbal when they returned to an ice filled lake but their language is not repeatable in this family publication.



Diamond Lakers, Inc. Annual Association Meeting July 21, 2013

The Annual Meeting of the Diamond Lakers Inc. was held at Kris and Ernie Brown's residence, on Saturday, July 20, 2013. Tim Tully, President, opened the meeting at 4:15p.m. Forty residents were present.

Minute Review The minutes of the July 21, 2012 annual meeting were reviewed as posted on the web site and there was a motion to approve. Motion approved.

Introduction of New Families on Diamond Lake There is one new family (John Miller) on Diamond Lake and those in attendance were introduced.

Treasurer Report Treasurer Larry Sanderson reported that there is a balance of \$3445.85 from which expenses for the social hour will be deducted.

Diamond Lakers Inc. Web Site The lake association web site continues to provide a communication vehicle for the Diamond Lake community. Webmaster Bob Jacobel reported that there are between 150-450 hits per month. Deeper analysis shows 8000 hits originated in the Ukraine last year.

Newsletter and Privacy Based on the magnitude of outside visits to our website, there will be an effort to limit identifying names and homesites in the Newsletter.

Fishing Report Jerry Robotka reported that there is a change in the walleye regulations. (limit= 3 over 15 inches) A slot limit requires that fish 20-28 inches cannot be kept.

Wildlife Update The loons have again succeeded in hatching one baby loon although there were 3 eggs in the nest. Tim and grandsons find salamanders, frogs, and snakes in heartening quantities and concluded that they are a good indicator of the health of this area. The carnivore population for Wisconsin is at an all time high. Deer population estimate is 1,900,000; black bears 55,000, wolves 1000, coyotes 55,000. Fisher population has declined for 4 years while bobcat

population has increased.

Nominations Committee Report Jerry Robotka presented the results from the Nominating Committee, and the following officers and board members were re-elected:

Nancy Rabe VicePresident
Larry Sanderson Treasurer
Ed Wallen Board Member
Bob Jacobel Board Member

Nominating Committee appointed: Jerry Robotka, chairman, Dianne Klump, Frosty Palmer, Bob Jacobel

**Annual Meeting
Saturday, July 19.
Sally and Jules Carlson
volunteered to serve as the meeting site.**

Respectfully Submitted, Audrey Sanderson substituting for Susan Trankel, Secretary



The nature of Diamond Lake



Yes, we have cranberries on the shoreline.



According the several lake residents, the eagles did not nest on Diamond this year.



This vixen had four kits to feed this summer.



It's said flying squirrels will chew one hole to get into your house and another to get out. But they are so cute.



Our neighbors to the south, the elk herd numbered 150 in 2012 with 23 newborns collared this spring.