



photo by Tom Moser

### Annual Gathering

Pictures tell the story of the July 26, 2008 annual meeting

Jacque and Scott Byrd arrived at the Heinerscheid home in time to hear Fur bearing animal expert, John Olsen, illustrate his lecture with actual animal pelts.



Nancy Rabe examines the density of the beaver pelt.

As the pelts were circulated through the audience, Pam Jacobel shared the red fox with Bob.



Despite impressive animal pelts to pet, Aoife's eyes demanded a rest. Aoife is Nancy and Tim Tully's granddaughter who had spent all morning in the lake.

Bobcats are rare, but do exist here in northern Wisconsin





Christine Heinerscheid directed Diamond Lakers to appetizers prepared by the Brick House.



## History Corner

The following letter is from the Sasman files, provided by sisters Marge Erickson and Edith Hammersley. The property being discussed in this December 12, 1938 letter is located on the present Canterbury Trail. Henry Nelson wrote the letter on letterhead from the Ondaosagon Union Free High School of which he was the principal..

Friends Fay-Sasman-Bensend-Locke-Seifert-Christensen:

Well, the Diamond Lake deal is on. I made a trip to Art Goff's place yesterday in a driving snow storm and Art and I went to the lake, looked over the road, corner stakes, and discussed the division of the frontage not already included in lots spoken for.

The lake, shore line, and trees were more beautiful than ever under a blanket of fresh pure white snow. Fresh deer tracks, made by three or four deer, were seen in the fresh snow not more than ten rods from the shore line and on our property. The balsam, spruce, pine, and that little lake were wonderful. Am surely in love with the place and only hope that all of us may some day in the near future be prosperous enough to have a little cottage and enjoy the beauty and grandeur for a long time. After getting back to Goff's you can

imagine what I did to Mrs. Goff's splendid chicken dinner. She enjoyed watching it disappear as much as we enjoyed making it do so.

Now for the business end of the trip. The survey showed one or two disappointing things but it also showed some things to our advantage. First: After looking over the entire situation, I believe I can definitely say that there will never be more building sites than those we have chosen; i.e. Sasman's high point; Seifert's and Ivan's bay; Christensen's point; Bensend's long point; and Locke's lower land at the extreme north. Therefore it is out of the question in my opinion at least to try to interest anyone else in frontage unless you wish to crowd another cottage on one of the sites already selected. Next: We have considerably more frontage, in feet, that I expected (approximately 1630 feet) Art and I discussed the division of this extra frontage. We tried to dispose of it so that each would get a fair share and still have it go with the property in accordance with the natural lay of the land. We have 9 lots--this means that each of us will have approximately 59 percent or more property that we actually purchased on the 100 ft. per lot basis. Next: The roadway has been cut through but will not be graded and completed until next spring. I don't question Art's ability and I am positive that he will build a good road. The long narrow strip between Bensend's and my property is virtually

used up for the road. It will be a beautiful drive when completed.

Now: The disappointing part--the survey showed our South-East corner stake to be right at the very peak of Sasman's knoll and comes just about where Mr. Sasman would like to build his cottage. I asked Art if he thought he could buy approximately 30 or 40 ft. to the south of the corner stake placing Sasman's South East corner down in that natural draw. Art is writing today and feel that he can do so. My suggestion is that we include the cost of this small strip together with the survey costs, etc; and each pay our share. I don't believe any of us should object to this as each of us is getting 50% or more property than we would have secured on the 100 foot lot basis.

Art expects to be in Milwaukee during Christmas vacation and will have a detailed diagram of the frontage and division of the frontage as we discussed it. He will write Fay-Sasman-Locke-Bensend, and if you fellows can arrange to meet him in Milwaukee you can go over the entire descriptions with him. The other fellows can be notified too, but I thought distance would prevent your going.

Next: I paid Mr. Goff \$1000.00 the balance to be paid later. I have a receipt giving the descriptions of land purchased,. When we definitely decide as to purchase of small strip to adjoin Sasman's to the South and the exact division of the property, Art will make out another deed and mail it to me. I shall then record it and make out and mail to each of you a deed, to your individual property. Art will do our surveying and furnish me with the descriptions of each of our lots.

We will have the following joint expenses before the individual deeds will be completed, recorded and mailed to you:

Balance on frontage	\$75.00	
Survey, deeds, etc		
Purchase of 30 to 40 feet		?
south of Sasman's Knoll		?

Don't expect your deeds too soon. We must decide on purchase of property south of Sasman's. Art must survey each lot after we decide how to divide extra frontage. Deed for entire property must be made over and recorded. Individual deeds must be made out.

Write me--let me know how you feel. It is hard to act for seven different individuals.

Sincerely,

Harry

## **.Diamond Lake Losses**

Very recently Diamond Lake lost two "founders". Lee Doonan died in Arizona on August 16 2008. Lee and Terry Doonan were the second generation to occupy the family cabin; Lee was responsible for arranging the preservation of the cottage. August 17, we lost Bob Byrd. Bob and Shirley Byrd operated Twin Pines Resort on the East side of Diamond Lake. Their son, Scott Byrd, has built several cabins on Diamond Lake and owns a Diamond Lake original cabin.

## **Grand View Town Board Meeting**

September 10, 2008 attended by Larry Sanderson

On October 3-5, a fishing tournament will be held on Lake Namakagon and 17 other area lakes. It is anticipated that over 400 fishermen will participate. Several of the lakes to be fished are known to have invasive plant species. Because of this, an officer of the Lake Namakagon Homeowners Association attended the Grand View board meeting held 9/10 requesting a town ordinance that would limit fishing tournaments to using one or two landings on Lake Namakagon. This would allow the landings to be monitored and boats/trailers to be inspected for invasive plants.

The officers and/or the tournament organization pay for the monitors to be stationed at the nine landings on Lake Namakagon. The request was denied. The officer stated that the DNR employee who made the denial is a "drinking buddy" of the tournament organizer.

Grand View board members requested more information so that they could make an informed decision on the proposed ordinance will be made at a special meeting to be held on 9/16 at 7pm. The Town of Namakagon is expected to approve the same ordinance at their regular meeting on 9/16.

## **Current Attractions**

### *Paradise Lost? Climate Change in the North Woods - Traveling Art Exhibit Opening*

Celebrate the opening of an innovative environmental art exhibit with the Cable Natural History Museum. *Paradise Lost? Climate Change in the North Woods* is a new

traveling art and science exhibit focusing on climate change in the Lake Superior region. The effect of climate change is visible in ecosystems worldwide. In our northwoods temperate forest there are some specific challenges. In 2006, twenty artists, seven scientists, and six educators met to learn about climate change in order to use art in increasing public awareness of science through an exhibit. *Paradise Lost?* includes paintings, drawings,



quilting, sculptures, weaving, batik, mixed media, poetry, essays, and music. Scientific information is intermingled, creating a stimulating, thought-provoking exhibit that blends art and science, and encourages everyone to take action to help minimize global warming. The exhibit will reflect the artists' perceptions on the science of climate change and the impacts that climate change has on northern ecosystems. *Paradise Lost* explores the roots of

climate change with a global view and regional perspective, the distinct beauty of our northern climates, and actions that can be taken to decrease our global footprint. As visitors view the exhibit, they are invited to calculate their carbon footprint, take a close look at living bog plants, write a poem, or build a sculpture of ideas on how to slow climate change.

(The New Cable Natural History Museum .is pictured.)

## Climate Change and Lakes

The following article was originally published in the Wisconsin Association of Lakes quarterly publication, *The Lake Connection*. The author, Dr. John Magnuson, was the driving force behind the current Cable Natural History Museum exhibit described above.

# Why should we care about climate change? A watery view

by John Magnuson, Professor Emeritus of Zoology & Limnology, Center for Limnology, UW-Madison  
*We are pleased to present the final part of our guest column by Dr. Magnuson, world-renowned lake scientist and an expert on global climate change and its relationship to our lakes.*

We are fortunate in Wisconsin that, so far, we have not been plagued by continuous, severe drought. Many

parts of the country and world are beleaguered by such drought. But for Wisconsin, annual precipitation (rain plus snow) has increased over the last 60 years with a step change in about 1970 from a median of 30 inches per year to 33 inches per year. Considerable year-to-year variation is observed among years and among areas of the state. In the long-term scenarios, total annual precipitation will stay about the same or even increase somewhat for our area.

Across the Great Lakes Region, we have experienced a greater proportion of precipitation falling in extreme events over the last 100 years. That trend is expected to continue based on climate model scenarios. This is a rather robust outlook from many models and regions. Climate warming accelerates the water cycle with more evaporation, more rain or snow bearing clouds, and more extreme rain and snow events. This is expected to result in more runoff, and increases in stream flow and erosion. We also expect more frequent drought with perhaps dryer summers and wetter winters in the Great Lakes Region.

When we look at Wisconsin watersheds that do not experience large extractions of groundwater for human use, the base flow of streams (low flows sustained from groundwater) has increased and

groundwater levels in wells have increased. Levels and flows, like the changes in precipitation during the last 30 years, have been greater than during the previous 30 years. Similar increases in base flow of streams have occurred broadly across the Midwest and Great Lakes Region. Total flow of rivers such as the Mississippi and the Yahara in Madison have also increased.

A message coming from water levels and flows is: we should expect surprises. Large differences are apparent among regions of the world and even around the state. This reminds me of the genuine injustice that exists as the climate changes. Frequently, the countries that produce the largest quantity of greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels (like the U.S.) are less affected and more able to adapt than are countries in the dry tropics that are closer to the edge of survival, but produce few greenhouse gases.

Inland water fishes are known by any fish guru or fisher to be in three thermal guilds, referred to as coldwater fishes such as trout and salmon, coolwater fishes such as walleye and yellow perch, and warmwater fishes such as largemouth bass and bluegill. All of the fish species that live in Wisconsin fall into one of these thermal groupings or guilds. One should not be surprised that these

broad groups of fishes have adaptations to live within the thermal limits that their name implies. In mild temperate zones like Wisconsin, all three groups must overwinter at cold temperatures, but in summer the coldwater fishes are restricted to cold waters, the coolwater fishes to cool waters, and the warmwater ones to warm waters. Their physiology works best at those temperatures for reproduction, body growth, escape from predators, and gathering food.

Unlike the lake ice and the weather data, long-term records about fishes extending back for a century or more are rare. Where they do exist, such as from the commercial catch records of the Great Lakes, any impact from climatic change is masked by changes resulting from fishery exploitation and the invasion of exotic animals such as the sea lamprey, rainbow smelt, and alewife. Thus, most of our ideas about fishes and climate change are based on the scenarios of future changes. These can be translated into water temperature and fish success scenarios given what we know about fish physiology. We expect that fishes will be influenced by the changes in temperature that are occurring, and that this will intensify. Fishes in streams, ponds, and shallower lakes would be affected more than those

in headwaters of spring-fed streams, deeper inland lakes, and the deep and cold Great Lakes.

But again there is more to the impacts on fishes than warming. Fishes also will be influenced by the northward migration and increased success of warmer water species, both those exotic to the region and those already present. Fishes will be influenced by changes in precipitation, flooding, droughts, and increased runoff and erosion.

So human-caused climate change is more than warming alone. Changes in lake ice cover serve as a miner's canary that is visible locally and reminds us of changes occurring around the globe. The expected changes in precipitation differ greatly around the world. For Wisconsin, scenarios suggest more intense precipitation, more runoff and erosion, and increased frequency of flooding and periodic drought. Fishes are sensitive to changes in temperature, and warmwater fishes will flourish in more waters while coldwater and coolwater fishes will be more negatively influenced and constrained to fewer waters of Wisconsin.

Responding to climate change includes adapting to changes that already have occurred and will continue over the next decade and century. A challenge worth facing is

to develop ways to manage the changes in Wisconsin's water related treasures and resources.

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The following article was originally published in the Wisconsin Association of Lakes quarterly publication, The Lake Connection. How would Diamond Lake owner perceptions compare?

## **Survey examines property owners' perceptions**

### ***finds lack of awareness about p-free lawn fertilizer and benefits of buffers***

In early 2007, the University of Wisconsin Extension, the Winnebago Lakes Council, and the Butte des Morts Conservation Club conducted a survey of lakeshore residents around Lake Butte des Morts.

Approximately 70% of the 609 distributed surveys were completed and returned. Survey sponsors were interested in the perceptions of lake residents regarding lake related conservation practices and in particular how residents viewed low or no phosphorus fertilizer and shoreline buffers

### **Survey Findings**

A typical Lake Butte des Morts property has less than 100 feet of frontage, a low bank, and rock rip rap. The property has been owned for an average of 19 years and is the primary residence of its owner. Most owners purchased the property for the beauty of the location or because it was on the water. Pleasure boating, fishing, bird watching and swimming are the most

popular activities.

Property owners definitely showed an affinity for lawns. Over 90% of respondents value how their lawn looks. The perception of neighbors is also important. Most owners (76%) care what their neighbors think of their lawn and believe their neighbors value a well maintained lawn (89%). Respondents also believe that a well maintained lawn to the shoreline creates an eye-appealing property (82%) and increases property value (88%).

Most property owners mow their own lawns (83%), apply fertilizer (68%), and do weed control applications (66%). Between 10 and 15% of owners always use professional lawn care services for those activities.

Many property owners are unfamiliar with no and low-phosphorus fertilizer. More than half don't know whether it is less effective than fertilizer with phosphorus (56%), readily available (66%), or too expensive (52%). While the attributes of no and low-phosphorus fertilizer are mostly unknown to property owners, 14% report already using it and 52% would consider switching to it.

Just over a third of property owners indicate that they have a shoreline buffer (36%). Of those, 69% report that the buffer covers "all" or "most" of their waterfront length. The average buffer width is less than 15 feet for a majority of residents (72%). Many of those with buffers cite impact on water quality (61%), improved fish or

wildlife habitat (56%), and improved property appearance (50%) as reasons for installation.

Full report online at  
<http://www.winnebagolakes.org>  
<http://basineducation.uwex.edu/foxwolf>

Perceptions about buffers are mixed. About 36% strongly agreed that buffers protect water quality. Other statements having at least half of respondents marking either strong agreement or somewhat agreement include: buffers may reduce property value (52%), buffers are messy and look unkempt (56%), buffers make lake access difficult (62%), and buffers obstruct lake views (65%). In contrast, a majority of respondents disagreed with these statements: I know where to go for technical assistance (54%), installing a buffer is too expensive (53%), and maintaining a buffer is too expensive (62%)

### Interesting News

The most interesting part of each newsletter is the "Introduction" section where we meet new members of the Diamond Lake family. Please let us know about your family, new resident or established resident.

Choose to introduce your family by name and age, careers, volunteer activities, reasons you chose Diamond Lake, activities you enjoy when at the Lake, favorite spots in the area, favorite restaurants.....we'd love to know you better. If you'd like to read previous biographies, contact Audrey to view previous issues. Send info to [asanders@cheqnet.net](mailto:asanders@cheqnet.net).

When given a list of potential pollution sources and asked to indicate the level that each contributes to Lake Butte des Morts, agricultural fertilizers and pesticides (56%) and manure from farm animals (51%) were ranked as the highest contributors. Those perceived to be low pollution sources include pet waste, disposal of used motor oil and antifreeze, grass clippings and leaves, and improper disposal of household hazardous waste.

Survey respondents were asked to comment on changes to some indicators of water quality—including the amount of algae, water clarity, amount of aquatic plants, and quality of fishing—in Lake Butte des Morts. Results indicate a lack of consensus on how these indicators are changing.