

SHORE LINES

Cisco Chain
of Lakes

Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association "Promoting Safe Fun on Clean Lakes"
www.ciscochainroa.com email: ccroa49969@gmail.com

Summertime... Fish Were JUMPIN' And So Was The Annual CCROA Picnic 2015!!!!

By Helen Hayhurst

THANK YOU TO SO MANY PEOPLE THAT MADE THE ANNUAL PICNIC A GREAT SUCCESS. About 190 people enjoyed a beautiful summer afternoon filled with laughter, fun & exciting raffles and good food including delicious homemade sweet treats.

A big round of thanks to Craig & Lisa Hesse for providing the perfect venue for the annual picnic and to Greg Rogers of Rogers Bar and for the use and set up of a tent and all the tables and chairs. Your help and generosity is greatly appreciated and is a key element of a successful CCROA Annual Picnic.

Thanks to all the volunteers that organized raffles, food, tickets, beverages, kids' games, and setup and cleanup. To all that volunteered their time during the picnic to help sell or collect tickets, husk corn, cook, serve, and bake the yummy cookies and bars, THANK YOU.

2015 PICNIC RAFFLE PRIZE DONORS & WINNERS! (We apologize for any misspellings, it was a bit hectic)

1. "Special Prize" iPad Mini -Greg Wenzel
2. St. Croix Fishing Rod- Lionel Waisman - Donated by Darrell Simonides
3. Fishing Rod- Karen Johnson Donated by Jim & Martha Patton
4. Airhead inner tube- Martha Patton
5. 50-Round Sporting Clays- Linda Sauberlich donated by John Muir
6. 50-Round Sporting Clays - Don Hall donated by John Muir
7. Drone- Jack Daleiden
8. Wilderness Watch Pontoon Boat Tour- Helen Hayhurst Donated by Laurie Cooney
9. Ninja Blender- Ashley Scott
10. Day pack & Walking Sticks- Carl & Jane Knoll
11. Bird feeder- George Kuchta
12. Eagle Antlers- Bill McNicholas
13. Turquoise Necklace- Ann McMichum-Donated by Dick & Marilyn Barney
14. Table & 2 Chairs- Eugene Clark
15. Basket- Jimmy Warren Donated by Mary Jo Wenzel
16. Oil Painting- Joan Patton Donated by Diana Sparks
17. Dart Board- Debbie Brost Donated by Rose & Ron Backhaus
18. Filet Knife- Craig Hesse. Jr.
19. Weed Whacker- Jerry Aliff
20. Face cord of Wood- Judy Hillgard
21. Red Lantern- Audrey Tennant
22. Northwood Accessories - George Kuchta Donated by Curt & Barb Aarud
23. Quilted Wall Hanging- Bob Welter Donated by Sandy Hodgman

October, 2015

Volume Number 55 Issue 3



Joan Cavanaugh & Greg Wenzel announcing the 50/50 raffle winners

24. Soda Holder- Jeff Studlow
25. Wine Box- Cindy Welter Donated by Forest Lake Country Store
26. BBQ Tools- Karen Johnson
27. Grill- Mary Beth Carroll
28. 2 Scrapbooks- Ian Nagel Donated by Dean Viverito
29. Afghan- Linda Hammer Donated by Mary Congdon
30. Rustic Bench- Gina Santori
31. 1/2 Day Fishing Guide- Buddy Warren -Donated by Bruce Becker
32. 1/2 Day Fishing Guide Debbie Brost - Donated by Bruce Becker
33. Bike- Eugene Clark -Donated by Tom Wilson
34. Torch Lamp- Kathy Krautkramer
35. Carved Bear- Gina Santori -Donated by Chuck Horn

50/50 RAFFLE

\$180 each to Jack Erhart and Randy Posin

Lunch included hamburgers, brats and hot dogs along with baked beans, homemade coleslaw, grilled corn on the cob dipped in butter, pickles, fresh sliced onions and yummy homemade cookies for dessert.

Great looking CCROA apparel was set up and for sale at the picnic. There was also an Invasive Species kiosk set up. Christine Scott, from the Watersmeet Lake Guards (ISCCW), was present to answer Invasive Species questions.

The 2016 Annual CCROA Picnic is set for Sunday, July 17, 2016, at Vacationland Resort. The picnic begins with a social hour starting at 11:30 am. Lunch begins at 12:30 pm. The picnic is the perfect opportunity to catch up with friends and to meet new neighbors on the Cisco Chain of Lakes. Everyone is welcome at the picnic!

2015 picnic pictures are available on the CCROA website, <http://www.ciscochainroa.com/>. Click on "Latest News" and then 2015 Picnic Pictures.

What can I say about this past summer? I think WOW sums it up. What an amazing, beautiful & busy summer it has been on the Cisco Chain. June was a little chilly but July, August and September could not have been more beautiful. Lake Management (water quality/clarity and shoreline protection) and AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) have been our top efforts this year.

In validating the proverbial adage “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure” your Association has placed a great emphasis on education and prevention efforts regarding our fight to prevent the spread and further introduction of Aquatic Invasive Species. Education is a key component. Our efforts in this have been either wholly or partially funded by grant money. The many hours spent writing grant applications, have been crucial to our education/control efforts.

Earlier this summer, door hanger packets were assembled and distributed to every home and cottage on the Chain by your Lake Representatives. It afforded them a valuable opportunity to meet and talk with many neighbors on their respective lakes. In the event that property owners were not present, the door hangers were left to be discovered upon their return. I received very positive feedback from numerous people that were grateful to get the information and they were appreciative of the effort.

We did receive one response wondering why the Association was bothering property owners on the Chain when the information should be directed at people that come from elsewhere and launch their boat at one of the landings.

The simple answer is that we also place great emphasis on educating visitors recreating on the Cisco Chain. Two years ago, both as President of the CCROA and as a board member of Watersmeet Lake Guards (ISCCW), I spearheaded the development of a program to educate “lake hoppers” that visit the waters of Watersmeet and Land O’ Lakes. A placard was developed and distributed to all the area resorts and rental units to be prominently displayed in cabins and rental units that drew focus to our collective responsibility to heighten awareness of best practices in preventing the spread of AIS. Additionally, educational packets were assembled for distribution to the renters.

Boat landings on the Chain have been targeted as a high priority for educational and prevention efforts. Our partner Watersmeet Lake Guards (ISCCW), logs hundreds of hours every summer staffing boat landings on the Chain with educators and boat washers. In late June and early July, the CCROA participated in the State of Michigan Boat Landing Blitz and several board members staffed boat landings

during the busiest time of the summer to talk with folks launching boats about AIS prevention efforts.

Additionally we have developed and installed signs reminding people both entering and leaving the lakes at boat landings to help prevent the spread of aquatic invaders. (Signage pictures on page 3) Information boxes have been installed containing Cisco Chain maps with areas of Eurasian Water Milfoil marked as well as additional AIS information.

As Riparian Owners we not only have the duty to be good stewards of the lakes, we also have a tremendous opportunity to have a positive impact on the lakes. Who is more responsible for the stewardship of our waters, Riparian owners or visitors to the Chain? The answer is BOTH. We all have a tremendous responsibility to preserve natural resources. Please do not underestimate our individual and collective duty to preserve the Cisco Chain for future generations.

Greg Wenzel
President CCROA

With Great Appreciation - CCROA Collaboration

The CCROA would like to recognize and thank Denise Fauntleroy. Denise served as Membership Chair for many years.

A gift is given to individuals that have served on the Board; Denise has requested that in lieu of a gift, a donation to the Lake Management Fund (formerly Aquatic Invasive Species Fund) be made.

Thank you Denise!!

We would also like to Welcome David Neumann as Member-At-Large.

The Board currently has 3 Members-At-Large. They are valued advisors with varied expertise. David lives on Clearwater Lake.

It's the awesome volunteers that make the CCROA successful!!!

Mark Your Calendar

**July 14, 2016, CCROA Annual Business Meeting
9:00 am at the Cisco Lake Resort Pavilion**

**July 17, 2016 CCROA Annual Picnic
11:30 am at Vacationland Resort**

Aquatic Invasive Species Report Fall 2015

By Bob McGuffin

Your Association has had another busy year surveying and treating for Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). Below is a lake-by-lake breakdown on what we were able to accomplish:

Clearwater- This was the first year after our whole lake treatment in 2014. We are very happy to report that our biologists were unable to find any EWM that survived last year's treatment! This was the expected very good news we hoped to hear. Reports from the residents on Clearwater were equally positive. While expensive, this treatment was very effective. Next year, we will again survey this lake. If anything is found, it will either be hand-pulled or chemically treated in the unlikely event we find enough EWM that is a candidate for treatment.

Thousand Island- This year we continued the dual approach of chemically treating the larger area of EWM on the north end of the lake and hand pulling the more sparse plants on the east end. We feel that the chemical treatment was more effective this year than in years' past because prior to treatment, we collected EWM plants from the lake and sent them off to a lab to be subjected to various herbicides at different concentrations to find the most effective combination to treat our specific plants. Going forward, we expect to continue both chemical and manual means of eradication here.

Lindsley/Cisco/Thousand Island Channel- We found our first EWM plant in the connective channel right at the "T" intersection. Perhaps you saw our lone EWM marker buoy here. That plant was removed by hand pulling.

Morley- The area on the south end of Morley was treated this year. In addition, several new plants were detected on the north end of Morley.

Big Lake- We still have a problem on Big Lake with detecting the EWM early enough in the season to allow us to treat it. We have detected EWM in large concentrations on the south end with more scattered plants along the east and now west ends.

Big Lake (continued) In hopes for better detection, we are switching surveyors to our biologists that survey the Michigan lakes. This winter, we will meet with the Wisconsin DNR and our biologists to come up with a plan for 2016.

I want to personally thank everyone who contributed to our Invasive Species Fund this year. We could not accomplish any of the above without your support. I understand that the potential exists for 'donation fatigue' among our members given the recent dam fund raising and annual appeal we make to you for this cause. I want to assure our membership that what we are doing is very important to protect the Cisco Chain for your enjoyment and generations to come. Enjoy your winter and look for our update and letter in the spring.

Thanks!

Bob McGuffin

Vice President CCROA

Invasive Species Task Force Member



Donate the easy way to the various CCROA funds. Go online to www.ciscochainroa.com. Click on "Donations" in the bottom right corner of the home page. You are able to donate to these 4 different funds - Walleye Stocking, Lake Management, Dam Purchase or the General Fund. All donations are tax deductible.

All processing is secure through PayPal. You are not required to set up or use a PayPal account in order to donate. Donations can be made using any major credit card. You'll receive your tax receipt right away. Another "going green" step for the CCROA!

Fish Planting, 2015

By Phil Wolbrink

We are happy to report that once again the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has granted a permit to the CCROA that will allow the planting of **five thousand**, six to eight inch walleye fingerlings!

The walleye planting will be done at several spots on the Michigan side of the Chain (our permit is from the State of Michigan). Walleye planting is done when the water cools down. The warm September weather has kept water temperatures up but October has brought us some nice chilly weather, so we estimate that the planting will occur as usual in mid-October.

Our walleyes are delivered via a special truck from Walleye World in the Eastern Upper Peninsula. Walleye World is very professional and the fish arrive in excellent condition. Before the DNR issues a permit, the fish are tested and certified as disease free.

The fingerlings are gently dispensed into pails, then volunteers usher them quickly to the shoreline and carefully release them into the lake.

We have had inquiries from members about the possibility of musky planting in the Cisco Chain. This is an idea we have researched and are happy to announce that we were able to obtain a permit to plant 200 northern muskies this fall.

Funds for the musky planting were not taken out of the walleye fund. Separate donations that were designated "Musky Fund" were received.

The CCROA has a walleye fund and welcomes any and all donations to help fund future plantings in the Cisco Chain. There are two ways you can contribute.

1. You can now make donations on line with a credit card at www.ciscochainroa.com and Click on "Donations" in the bottom right corner of the home page. Choose Walleye Stocking. Processing is done through PayPal. You will receive your donation receipt immediately.
2. Mail your check to CCROA, PO Box 687, Watersmeet, MI 49969. Please indicate that is for the Walleye Fund.

If you have any questions about the CCROA walleye planting, you can contact Phil Wolbrink at 906-358-4734 or 715-367-9976



WATER QUALITY and SHORELINE EROSION

By CCROA Collaboration

Recently we have fielded concerns regarding water quality and shoreline erosion. A common sense mindset is a key component of responsible use of this natural resource. Many factors affect perceived water quality and clarity. Some of the primary concerns that have a negative impact on water quality are, failing septic systems, destruction of natural buffer zones along shore lines and use of fertilizers on lawns. All of these things have the potential to load the lakes with nutrients and sediment that directly decrease water quality, water clarity and create increased aquatic plant growth and algae blooms.

Shoreline erosion is another frequent concern brought to my attention. This is of special concern in connecting channels between lakes. However, all of our lakes are subject to erosion because of normal wave and wake action. Especially vulnerable are those shorelines that are devoid of woody vegetation both near shore and in the water. Problematic shorelines are very often created by property owners who "park out" their property by removing all underbrush and getting rid of those "ugly trees" that fall in the water.

By disregarding the no wake zones on the Chain, boaters and personal watercraft users generate destructive wakes that erode shorelines and sensitive aquatic habitat. One of my most frustrating moments this past summer was observing a fully loaded pontoon boat traveling at full speed through a no wake zone with a ten foot long clump of aquatic plants dragging from the power anchor on the rear of the boat being over taken by a jet ski. Need I say more?

Water quality of the lakes is a reflection of how we take care of our land. There are many simple and enhancing things that we can do. For instance, creating a natural shoreline (sometimes called a "buffer zone") from what had been lawn, can stabilize eroding soil, protect the lakes from polluting runoff and helps to support a healthy lake ecosystem. These pictures are a couple of examples of created natural shorelines



Photo: Mary A. Wilson



Photo: Bill Barczak

DAM REPORT FALL 2015

By Greg Wenzel

No news is good news? I am obliged and frustrated to once again report that no word has been received from the Federal Energy and Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding the purchase of the dam. It is our understanding, that FERC has several other very large energy regulations to review that supersede our Cisco Dam sale request. At this time, our only option is to patiently wait for a decision.

As soon as the Association receives any notification or decision, we will let the membership know immediately. Thank you all for your continued support and patience.



The Grill Masters!!!
Great Job!



Burgers, Brats, Hot Dogs
& Grilled Corn -Good Eats!



Homemade yummy desserts
Thank you to the bakers!!!

Note: Membership year starts January 1st and ends on December 31st

**Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association
Membership Application 2016**

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____ DONATION _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ e-mail Address _____

Lake Phone _____ Lake e-mail Address _____

Name of Lake _____ Lake Address _____

Dues are \$25.00 per year. Advance payments are welcomed. Just indicate how many years in advance you wish to pay

Number of years _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Lifetime Membership is only \$450.00. Amount Enclosed _____

Amount of Lake Management (formerly AIS) Donation: _____

Amount for Dam Purchase Donation: _____

Amount for Walleye Stocking Fund: _____ Total Amount Enclosed: _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CISCO CHAIN RIPARIAN OWNERS ASSN.

MAIL TO: CCROA P.O. BOX 687, WATERSMEET, MI 49969-0687

Be a Volunteer! Join Us and Make a Difference!!!

Officer or Lake Representative ___ Picnic Volunteer ___ (just 1/2 hour of your time)

Seasonal Committee ___ Educate at Boat Ramps _____

President:
Greg Wenzel
906-358-0242

Vice President:
Bob McGuffin
630-280-9542

Secretary:
Jessica Ryden
meleeandb@yahoo.com

Treasurer:
David Fauntleroy
906-358-0106

Membership:
Linda Hammer
906-358-0500

Parliamentarian:
Wes Kiley
715-547-3283

**Big Lake North &
Morley Lake:**
Tom Krautkramer
906-358-0469

Big Lake South:
Ann Rapp
715-5476073

Cisco Lake:
Jay Sweney
sweneycr@yahoo.com

Clearwater Lake:
Helen Hayhurst
906-358-4125

East Bay Lake:
Bob Warren
robertfwarren@me.com

Fish Hawk Lake:
Dean Challed
906-358-4260

Lindsley Lake:
Laurie Cooney
630-730-4067

Mamie Lake:
Open

Poor Lake:
Kully Rohlen
906-358-4460

1000 Island Lake N:
Dean Stanton
906-358-0214

1000 Island Lake S:
Joan Cavanaugh
angel5508@aol.com

West Bay Lake:
Tom Wilson
906-544-2680

Members-at-Large:
Jack Erhart
906-358-9969
Paul Lucas
906-358-4767
David Neumann
906-358-0159

Shore Lines Editor:
Linda Hammer
906-358-0500

Webmaster:
Gary Ebert
906-358-4046

Attention: Mamie Lake Members
The CCROA needs your help.
Please volunteer to be a Lake
Representative today!! Contact a
Board Member or email us at
ccroa49969@gmail.com

Visit the CCROA website for more news &
information - www.ciscochainroa.com

SNIPPETS

Electronic delivery (email) of *Shore Lines* has resulted in significant savings for the CCROA. Historically the printing and mailing of 2 newsletters a year cost about \$3,000. Presently we mail out approx. 45 hard copy newsletters which are printed "in-house" and mailed to members who do not have computer access. If we don't have your email address or you would like to add additional addresses, please email us ccroa49969@gmail.com

Bring a Bucket – Having a designated "weed" bucket for your boat is an effective way to help stop the spread of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) and other aquatic invasive species. Use it while you're out boating and/or fishing. Put weeds from lures, anchors, props or paddles in it while out on the lake and then dispose of the weeds on shore away from the shore. Please do not throw weeds back into the lake. EWM has the ability to regrow if thrown back into the lake even after 10 days on shore.

Check the CCROA website regularly at www.ciscochainroa.com. The website has a wealth of information available, including detailed reports on the dam, Invasive species and what is done and can be done, pictures, CCROA clothing and links to other information sites.

Below are links to the websites for Watersmeet Township & the Town of Land O'Lakes –

Watersmeet Township

www.watersmeet.us

Town of Land O'Lakes

www.http://townoflandolakes.com

Around Town Events

Watersmeet –

November 7th "Craft Faire" at Immaculate Conception Church from 9am to 3pm. Crafters, bake sale, luncheon, raffles, door prizes & gift wrapping.

Land O'Lakes

November 27th 11am-3pm Santa Comes to Town
November 28th 8am – 11am Breakfast with Santa
November 28th 9am-12pm Reindeer Rendezvous
November 28th 10am-3pm Christmas Craft Sale
(details available on the Chamber of Commerce website)

The Cisco Chain Riparian Owners' Association is a completely volunteer organization.

All volunteers are welcome. Help is always needed from the annual picnic to something as simple as helping to "stuff" envelopes.

A Mamie Lake volunteer is needed. Being a Lake Rep involves a few meetings a year & helping with the picnic (if possible). Contact a board member for Lake Rep information.

Email the CCROA at ccroa49969@gmail.com or contact your lake representative and find out where you can help.