

SHORE LINES

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



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Bob McGuffin

This has been a very busy summer for the CCROA. Simultaneously, we wrapped up one major project and started another. The wrapping up refers to our decision to not buy the Cisco dam while our new endeavor was the establishment of the Special Assessment District on the Michigan side of the Cisco Chain for our Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) abatement program.

We have discussed the decision to not purchase the dam at length in this venue, through emails, and letters to donors at length. At this point, all that needs to be said is that if you have donated to the dam fund and you have not received a letter from us concerning your donation, please contact us. We still have 13 donors for which we have no contact info. Likewise, if you have received our letter and have not acted on it, please do so. Any unclaimed funds, by law, cannot be used and will spend all eternity marooned in a savings account.

While the decision to not purchase the dam was big news, the establishment of the Special Assessment District in Michigan was even bigger and more important. We held our final public meeting on August 24 and, with no objections voiced, cleared the final hurdle in the process. We now, for the next 20 years, have a dependable and fair funding source for our AIS program. Just as important, we now have blanket approval from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to perform this important work. I cannot overstate my appreciation for the support we received this summer during this process.

The next step for us will be the establishment of a similar entity in Wisconsin. While we are still educating ourselves on this new process, I can say at this point that what we will be working towards in Wisconsin will be called a Lake District. Unlike the Special Assessment District in Michigan, which has a defined duration and scope (in our case 20 years and the control of aquatic weeds) a Wisconsin Lake District remains in effect unless rescinded and funds can be used for anything that benefits the lakes such as water quality testing or anything else we need. Over the



Autumn Splendor

next few months, we will be educating ourselves so that beginning next spring we can educate our Wisconsin members and neighbors about the process so that we may enjoy the same success in Wisconsin that we had in Michigan.

I think it is safe to say we have put a wrap on summer 2018. While plans are being formed for summer 2019, I am looking forward to winter! Winter is a beautiful time in the Northwoods and the snowmobiles aren't going to ride themselves!

If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments, please do not hesitate to contact a Board Member, Lake Representative or email the CCROA at ccroa49969@gmail.com. (See page 6 for contact information)

See you on the trails!

Bob McGuffin

President, CCROA

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

**Saturday, July 20, 2019, the CCROA Annual Meeting & Picnic
10:00 a.m. at the Cisco Lake Resort Pavilion**

The CCROA Annual meeting will be from 10 am to Noon at the Cisco Lake Resort Pavilion. Immediately following the meeting or Noon (whichever comes 1st) will be the Annual "Free For All" picnic for CCROA members and families. The meeting is the perfect opportunity to meet the CCROA board and lake representatives and hear firsthand about CCROA business and programs such as Lake Management and walleye stocking.

WALLEYE FISH STOCKING - 2018

By: CCROA Collaboration

October 11 and 12, 2018, were big days on the Cisco Chain of Lakes!!! Thanks to generous donations to the walleye stocking fund and Phil Wolbrink's outstanding management of the stocking program, **8,000 6 to 8 inch walleye fingerlings** were released at various locations on the Cisco Chain.

Fish stocking requires permits. It's not a given that we will be able to stock. There was a span of ten years that we were not able to obtain walleye planting permits.

Walleye World delivers the fingerlings in their special truck with aerated tanks to designated areas. Upon arrival they are quickly and carefully loaded into water filled buckets. It is up to the CCROA to immediately haul these buckets to the lake and gently release the fish.

This is all done once the water is cold and air temperatures are chilly, usually mid to late October using the utmost care and speed in order to insure that the new little residents of the Cisco Chain have the best chance for survival.

Hauling five gallon buckets filled with water and little fish is not a simple task...it's also really cold out. A big thank you to Rod and Ryan Brost, Dan Hance, Dave Lowery, Bob Welter and Mike Basedow for volunteering to help Phil Wolbrink with the 2018 walleye stocking!! There are additional walleye stocking pictures and a couple short videos on the CCROA website, www.ciscochainroa.com.

(Photos courtesy of Phil Wolbrink and Dan Hance)



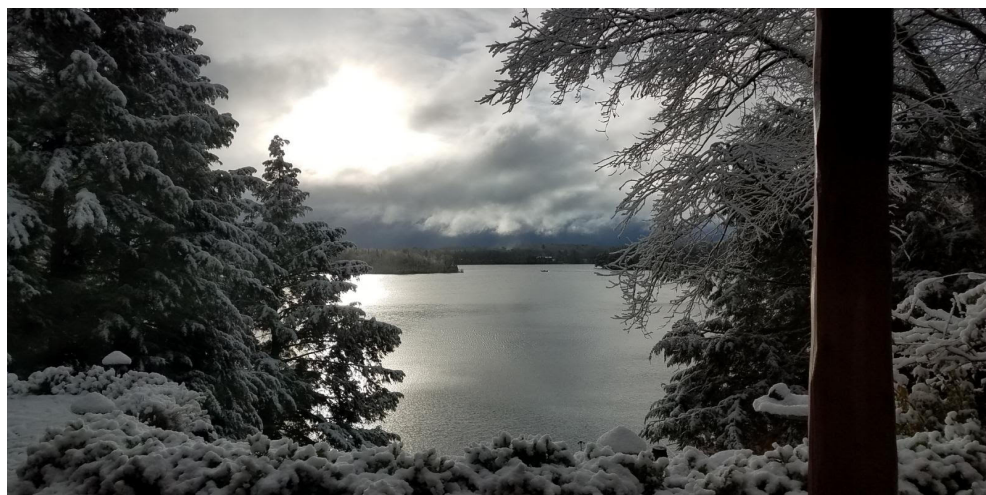
THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!!

Thank you to all the volunteers that make the CCROA successful and fun. Yes, hauling fish, secchi disk readings, picnic organizing, being a Board Member or Lake Rep, highway cleanup, the list goes on, are not only important ways to volunteer, but are also great fun and rewarding.

Special thanks to retiring Members-at-Large Jack Erhart and Paul Lucas. Paul has served as a Member-at-Large since 2014. Jack was a Lake Rep for many years before resigning and becoming a Member-at-Large. Jack worked on the Clearwater Lake EWM issue from the start and also served on the AIS Task Force. Thank you both!!

The CCROA needs and welcomes volunteers to help in many areas. Mamie Lake is without a Lake Representative. To all of you on Mamie Lake please consider filling that position. Thanks.

October, 2019, Snowfall, the promise of winter fun.



Thank you, Michelle Brantmeier for capturing such awesome Cisco Chain beauty.

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES UPDATE - FALL, 2018

By: Bob McGuffin

We have wrapped up our Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) work for 2018. Overall, we have made progress in mitigating Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM), our primary target AIS. We have also found EWM in new locations on the Cisco Chain which we expect and continue to expect.

Here is a breakdown of what we did in 2018:

- ✓ Treated just over 5 acres on Thousand Island Lake
- ✓ Treated just under ½ an acre at the south end of Morley lake
- ✓ Hand-pulled 56 plants on the south side of Thousand Island Lake
- ✓ Hand-pulled 196 plants in the Thousand/Cisco/Lindsley connective channels
- ✓ Hand-pulled 154 plants in West Bay Lake
- ✓ Hand-pulled 6 plants in Big Lake

While we do not have a bill yet for the hand-pulling or survey work used to locate EWM, the chemical treatments alone cost just under \$7,000.

Speaking of bills, we have (hopefully) wrapped up the billing for setting up the Special Assessment District on the Michigan side of the Chain. This one-time cost came to \$11,917. This included \$3,124 in legal fees, \$1,236 in mapping fees, \$3,028 in required newspaper ads for the two public meetings, and \$4,655 in printing, postage, and mailing costs for the public meetings. As you can see, in addition to being a lot of work, setting up this District was not inexpensive. The work and expense was the primary driver for setting up the District for such a long duration. Every time we need to renew the District, these costs must be borne by the District.

For 2019, we have set up the following budget:

- ✓ \$8,000 for point-intercept surveys for Clearwater, Indian and Poor lakes
- ✓ \$10,000 for Hand-pulling and Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting
- ✓ \$10,000 for chemical treatment
- ✓ \$18,000 for AIS surveys
- ✓ \$1,200 for permits.

These costs will be defrayed by various grants that we have.

For those on the Michigan side of the Chain, you should see your first \$100 assessment in your winter tax bill due February 14, 2019. Our Wisconsin land owners can look forward to upcoming information regarding the formation of a Lake District starting early in 2019.

PARTNERSHIPS ARE IMPORTANT

By: Eugene Clark

In August, the CCROA worked with Watersmeet Township to create a Special Assessment District (SAD) for all riparian owners zoned L1 & L2 on the Michigan side of the Cisco Chain. All such riparian owners will see a \$100 addition to your Winter Tax Bill. These funds are 100% earmarked for the monitoring and control of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), specifically Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM), on the Michigan side of the Cisco Chain. We are currently working with Vilas County and Land O' Lakes Township to create a similar vehicle for the Wisconsin riparian owners. The decision to form a SAD is driven by three concerns: 1) AIS has spread on the chain, now on 7 lakes, 2) the increasing administrative burden to get 100% sign off on any AIS abatement activities, and 3) solve the "free rider" issue. There are some 600 riparian owners on the Michigan side and some 200 on the Wisconsin side.

Many of you reading this are members of both the CCROA and the ISCCW (Invasive Species Control Coalition of Watersmeet, also known as Watersmeet Lakeguards). We strongly urge that you maintain your membership with the ISCCW and if you are not a member, become one. The ISCCW remains our valued partner in providing necessary boat inspection/washing duties and educational programs. Many of our joint activities are coordinated to bring the best value in our work. Their activities directly protect our Cisco Chain and also help in controlling EWM in neighboring lakes. Their boat inspection & washing activities in a given season touches 6,600 boaters in 3,200 boats (over 265 man-days). Fully a third of this is on the Cisco Chain.

The Special Assessment District revenue is restricted. It will cover aquatic invasive species (AIS) surveys, chemical treatment, divers, and diver assisted suction harvesting (DASH). It will also cover boat launch monitoring and educational materials such as the launch maps. It does not cover CCROA membership, water quality testing or secchi disk reading.

ISCCW is recognized as one of Michigan's leaders in this fight against AIS. It works diligently to monitor and control AIS in our lakes and streams in Watersmeet Township and Wisconsin border lakes. It leverages its activities through cooperative partnerships with the many stakeholders in the area. These include the Watersmeet Township Board, the Ottawa National Forest, the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, the Lac Vieux Desert Tribal Council, WePIC, the Iron/Baraga Conservation District, and the many lake associations (CCROA and others). It is a team effort! You will be receiving ISCCW's annual membership letter in mid-October. Please take this opportunity to maintain your membership, and if not a member, please consider becoming one! An ISCCW membership form is available online at www.ISCCW.org.

ONCE AGAIN “THE FREE FOR ALL” WAS FUN FOR ALL

By CCROA Collaboration

It was another beautiful summer day on the magical Cisco Chain!!! The annual CCROA business meeting concluded timely (even a little early) and the fun began. Lively conversations and laughter abounded. The picnic lunch was served at noon as planned with jumbo beef hotdogs, chips, assorted cheese trays and yummy veggie trays with dip. Raffle tickets for 50/50 and the carved bear were sold before and after the business meeting.

Thanks, Joan Cavanaugh, for once again being the 50/50 sales diva!!! Judy Hillgard Marth Patton and Sandy Hall were kept quite busy selling the carved bear raffle tickets, thank you so much! A shout-out to Helen Hayhurst for obtaining the coolest raffle prizes. big thanks to all who joined us for lunch and participated in the lively raffles.

Kathy Krautkramer, Big Lake North, was the 50/50 big winner of \$205.00. Omar Shabaz, 1000 Island South, was the lucky winner of the carved bear.

Annie Rapp and Greg Wenzel, along with their volunteers, organized and served the picnic lunch. The MaryJo’s (Korn & Wenzel) managed the beverages. Thank you everyone!!!

The 2019 CCROA Annual Meeting and Picnic are set for July 20, 2019!!!



More picnic pictures are posted on the CCROA Website www.ciscochainroa.com



Cold weather fishing can be very rewarding if you “dress for success”. That means dress warmly in layers to ward off the cold, bring extra gloves/mittens and hats just in case yours become wet. Always wear your PFD in the boat and make sure someone knows you have gone out.

Ice fishing presents its own challenges; don’t go out on the ice if it’s not safe...rule of thumb is if the ice is less than 2 inches thick, DON’T go out (per Wisconsin DNR). Avoid areas with currents or river channels, the Lindsley Channel is the perfect example; it might look frozen, but don’t be fooled. A shoreline can be sketchy if it has vegetation growing through the ice or there’re submerged logs or rocks that are poking out. Don’t forget to pack some food & perhaps a thermos of hot coffee/tea. Have fun out there, but also remember to be safe. (Photos courtesy of Eugene Clark & Tom Krautkramer)



WATERSMEET FREE "DUMP DAY"

By CCROA Collaboration

Note the Watersmeet Free "Dump Day" ends December 28, 2018. Watersmeet Township has offered a free 2018 "dump day". You choose your "dump day" when it works best for you! On the day you plan to take advantage of this, you must first go to the township office and pick up a voucher from the secretary. This voucher is a requirement in order to dispose of items either not normally allowed or requires additional fees. If you plan to dispose of items that you need help unloading, you must make prior arrangements with the township, allowing scheduling of help. Call the township office and advise them of the date and approximate time. You still must stop in the Township Office and obtain your voucher before arriving at the transfer station. This new method will hopefully cut down on wait time along with making it more convenient for everyone.

As in the past, there are some restrictions. You are allowed 7 tires and your "load" may consist of only one pickup box and a normal utility trailer. Nothing oversized.

WINTER FREE FISHING WEEKENDS

By CCROA Collaboration

Michigan has set February 16 and 17, 2019, as a Free Fishing Weekend. All fishing license fees will be waived for these two days. In addition, a Recreation Passport will not be required for entry into state parks and recreation areas during the free fishing weekend. Residents and out-of-state visitors may enjoy the weekend or free fishing. Please remember that all fishing regulations will still apply.

Wisconsin's winter Free Fishing Weekend is set for January 20 and 21, 2019. The fishing is free for Wisconsin residents and visitors on these days; no fishing license, salmon stamp or inland trout stamp is required. Spring trout ponds are not open. All other fishing rules apply.

These Free Fishing Weekends provide a great way to be outside and enjoy some winter fun with friends and family and perhaps even a tasty fish dinner.

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

Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association Membership Application 2019

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____ DONATION _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Spouse _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ e-mail Address _____

Cell Phone _____ Additional 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 General Fund Donation _____

Amount of Lake Management (formerly AIS) 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 ___

Seasonal Committee ___ Educate at Boat Ramps _____ Special Projects ___

Board Members & Lake Representatives' Contact Information

President: Bob McGuffin 630-280-9542 ualav8@hotmail.com	Big Lake North & Morley Lake: Tom Krautkramer 906-358-0469	Lindsley Lake: Mark Johnson 970-948-6151 skyisle@sopris.net	Members-at-Large: David Neumann 906-358-0159
Vice President: Omar Shabaz 630-664-5678 mshabaz@ameritech.net	Big Lake South: Ann Rapp 715-547-6073	Mamie Lake: <u>OPEN</u>	Dean Stanton deanscar54@yahoo.com
Secretary: Susan Anderson 906-358-9820	Cisco Lake: Jay Sweney 715-833-1021 sweneycr@yahoo.com	Poor Lake: Rod Brost 906-358-4481	Shore Lines Editor: Linda Hammer 906-250-0902 kittyisland0500@gmail.com
Treasurer: David Fauntleroy 630-533-7010	Clearwater Lake: Helen Hayhurst 906-358-4125 hnhayhurst@gmail.com	1000 Island Lake N: Eugene Clark emclark1223@gmail.com	Webmaster: Gary Ebert 906-358-4246
Membership: Linda Hammer 906-250-0902 kittyisland0500@gmail.com	East Bay Lake: Bob Warren robertfwarren@me.com	1000 Island S: Joan Cavanaugh angel5508@aol.com	THE CCROA IS IN NEED OF A LAKE REPRESENTATIVE FOR MAMIE LAKE!
Parliamentarian: Greg Wenzel 414-581-5444	Fish Hawk Lake: Dean Challed 906-358-4260	West Bay Lake: Roy Knoth 715-547-3286 rknoth7258@gmail.com	

SNIPPETS

New Grocery Store for Land O'Lakes!!!

Early Monday morning, October 22, 2018, ground breaking started for the new grocery store in downtown Land O'Lakes! The main steel for the new building will arrive in January...there are plenty of things that need to be done prior to the steel.

Free Movie Day At The Land O'Lakes Public Library!

Every 3rd Thursday of the Month (except December), at 1:00 pm the Lake O'Lakes Public Library hosts a free movie showing including coffee and popcorn!! Call or visit the website for details.

The library hosts many other activities and events such as Story Time, Tech Time, Mah Jongg, Meet the Author, and Lego Club.

<https://landolakeslibrary.org/> or call 715-547-6006

Below are the website addresses and phone numbers for Watersmeet Township & the Town of Land O'Lakes –

Watersmeet Township
www.watersmeet.us
906-358-4501

Town of Land O'Lakes
<http://townoflandolakes.com>
715-547-3255

Check the CCROA website regularly. The website has a wealth of information, including detailed reports on invasive species, what is and can be done, past newsletters, CCROA event photos, as well as links to other information sites.

You are also able to donate to various funds online -the easy way! At the bottom right of the website click "Donations" and follow the online prompts. Thank you.

www.ciscochainroa.com

Around Town Events-Land O'Lakes



LOL Public Library Boo Bash October 31st 4:30 – 6:30 pm

Santa Comes to Town and Reindeer Search November 23 & 24
Friday, Santa flies into the airport at 1 pm will visit everyone at the Town Tree across from the Library. Before he arrives, enjoy 10 am cupcake decorating at the LOL Pharmacy and 11 am ornament decorating at the Library

Around Town Events-Watersmeet



Trick or Treat October 31st 3:30 pm to 6pm

Senior coffee and get together at the Watersmeet Community Center
Held the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 9am to 11am
Chat, have a cup of coffee, play a game and get to know your neighbors. After coffee enjoy a senior meal at The Roadhouse Grill.