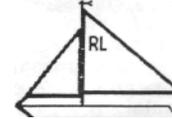


# ROUND THE LAKE

Round Lake Property Owners Association, Inc.



No. 1 July 1990

**PICNIC** As President of your Association, it is my pleasure to invite you to our Annual Picnic. It will be held at Richardson's Bay Resort, Thursday, August 2nd. 5:30 Social hour 6:30 Dinner. It will be \$6.50 for adults, 12 and under \$3.50 (tips included) Free beer on tap. The menu is : beef roast, pork roast, turkey, fruit salad, wilted lettuce, pasta salad, baked potato, bread and dessert. There will be DOOR PRIZES for SIX lucky people.

**For reservations call;**

Glenn Nolte - 634-3974

Jane Frisbie - 462-3792

We hope you like our newsletter "ROUND the LAKE". My compliments to Bob Burns, our editor. This form of mailing should answer many questions that would come up if we were able to have a business meeting at the picnic.

On a sad note, we would like to express our sympathy to Mary Gibbons and family and to Shirley Hedrick and family on the death of Bill Gibbons and Berry Hedrick. They were long time members of the association.

Please take note: We were able to get our Fall Meeting on a Friday evening for this year, Oct. 12. Hopefully this will help our nonresident members to attend.

Looking forward to seeing you at the picnic.

Sincerely, Jane Frisbie President

**EDITORS NOTE**

With this "new to us" format we hope to better inform members on items of common interest. Your board of directors hope to represent your views and concerns related to our lake and to be ready for any emergency that might threaten its quality.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact one or all of the following board members. All of Hayward, WI 54843 except as noted.

Jane Frisbie, President, R9 Box 9282;  
Den Habel, V. President, R1 Box 1196;  
Bob Milbrath, Secretary, R1 Box 1181C;  
Glenn Nolte, Treasurer & Membership, R9  
Box 941 9B;

Ken Carlson, Water level, R9 Box 9225,  
Randy Lawry, Fishing Comm., R7; Jim  
Johnson, Fishing Comm., 2541 Orchard  
Lane, White Bear Lake, MN 55110;

Ralph Ohrm, R1 Box 1194; Jim Duffy, 106  
W. Second St., Ashland WI

54806;

Bob Burns, Past President, R1 Box 1170.

**WATER LEVEL (orlackofit)**

The other day I was mulling over the similarities that exist in the world, when I happened to think how my checkbook balance and the lake level were much the same. Both are in a state of chronic low reserves and there doesn't seem to be much chance of a reversal soon.

Without laboring with dates etc. I might explain some of the history of our water level problems. It all started back in the late 30's and in the 40's when the area experienced another period of drought. At that time the County and the DNR decided that the level of Round Lake should be maintained (I think they also had some input from the property owners). At that time Big and Little Round Lakes were not connected and water access to Hinton Bay was restricted. As a result a dam was built on the outlet of Little Round Lake, a channel provided between the two lakes and a channel provided to Hinton Bay. These were great ideas but they would not raise the lake level alone and so into the plan came a diversion canal from the Tiger Cat Flowage. The canal joins Lake Placid through a small retention dam to the corner of Round Lake. Now this project was not unlike most government projects, it took some time from concept to completion, and as luck would have it by the time it was

completed it was no longer needed because it finally started to rain and the water level began to rise. Oh well, so much for our tax dollars at work.

Everything seemed OK with the water level for awhile, (We property owners even quit complaining) so no one noticed that in the late 40's a county motor grader fell through the bridge that was part of the dam at Little Round Lake. County government in their desire to make things right hurriedly went to work to repair the dam and bridge. At the time no one noticed that the new dam floor was much higher than the original dam floor (I see a problem coming but more on that later).

In the next 40 odd years we, the property owners have had our ups and downs with the water level, including projects to dredge material from below the bridge at Hwy. B in the 70's. In the early 80's the drought of the late 70's ended and the waters again started to rise. We, and the beavers below Little Round Lake, thought this was great and everyone tried to save as much of this excess as possible. We placed retaining boards in the dam and the beavers built one (or was it 30 or 40). As time went on and the rain and snow continued a new rumor could be heard around the lake, "maybe the construction of an ark would be in order. The Property Owners Association, being ever quick to pick up on the groups desires, removed the boards from the dam and declared war on the busy beavers. Remember the problem I mentioned with the floor of the darn?. Here is where it comes in. We could not move the water out of the lake as fast as it came in and so we lived with high water for many years. So many that some of us came to view this high level as normal. Like my checkbook balance the excess has disappeared and we are now looking at ways to cover the rocks and get by until payday or until the rains come back to normal.

The construction of the diversion canal was done at a time when few people lived around the Tiger Cat Flowage and so the diversion of that water now would probably influence a few attitudes about us as their lake is low also. We however intend to look at the possibility of diverting excess run off to Round Lake.

For ease in monitoring the lake level a DNR certified gauge has been installed on the N.W. corner of the Hwy. B bridge underpass. Normal water level is 5.25 on the gauge and a sign is posted in case you forget that number. The gauge was placed at our request

by the DNR. How and why zero on the gauge ended up 4 feet underground I don't know and probably wouldn't understand fully if they told me so I guess I will just accept 5.25 as the marker for normal. Current level is 4.35 or .9 foot below normal.

I have included precipitation information from the DNR station in Hayward to let you see trend in the moisture received, the 50 year average is 32.23" of precipitation. 1982 38.18 1983 37.20 1984 36.64 1985 42.17 1986 29.30 1987 23.69 1988 27.16 1989 26.47 Through June of 1990 we have 13.59, normal rainfall is 14.05, we are still running short.

So much for a short history of water level (good thing it wasn't detailed). If you know how to do a rain dance or know someone to contact about added rain, please feel free to speak for us all.

Thanks, Ken Carlson

P.S. While you have their attention would you see if they could fix our check book balances also.

#### ZONING LETTER

At the request of the Zoning Committee, Dave Heath, County Zoning Administrator wrote the following.

Dear Property Owners^ar

I am writing this letter to the property owners of Round Lake with respect to building and land use regulations. In the past few years there have been a fairly large number of zoning violations within the shoreland zone, these being decks and gazebos.

To begin with I will try to explain what the regulations are. Buildings, decks and gazebos are not generally permitted within 75 feet from the ordinary highwater mark of the lake. If a zoning hardship can be proven, then a property owner may petition to the Sawyer County Board of Adjustment for a Variance of the lake setback. Again, a zoning hardship must be proven. In the past we have been informed by owners that some contractors have told them that permits are not required for decks or gazebos. Of course when this type of violation is found it is the property owner who then becomes the victim of the violation. It is unfortunate that this happens. I would strongly recommend that any property owner that plans on building a seek of gazebo contact this office for an on-site inspection before starting any project to make sure a permit can be obtained and get the necessary information regarding the lake

setbacks. We will advise you as to whether we can issue you a regular Land Use Permit or whether you will have to petition for a Variance to the Board of Adjustment.

Also, another area of great concern is the removal of shoreline cover. There has been a few instances where more shoreline cover has been removed than is allowed.

If you own a lot 100 feet wide at the lake, you may remove only 30% of the natural cover, while the remaining 70% must stay in its natural state. I would advise that any person wishing to remove any shoreline cover to contact this office for proper approvals before any work commences.

Round Lake seems to be one of the most popular lakes and frontage on the lake is in high demand. It is the intent of this office to administer the Zoning Laws to the best of our ability to protect the pristine value of the lake and prevent pollution of the lake.

Each property owner can help by contacting this office before starting any project on their property. As I stated before, I feel we can assist you in doing things the right way. Sawyer County has adopted a Uniform Citation Ordinance and it is in effect. We would feel a lot better offering our assistance rather than writing Citations.

You, as property owners, can prevent Citations by asking our assistance first. If any person has any questions, please call myself or Robyn Thake at 634-8288 for assistance. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Yours truly,

David Heath  
Zoning Administrator

#### **FISHING COMMITTEE REPORT**

In 1990, our committee has concentrated mainly on two projects, the first being modular plastic fish cribs. In cooperation with the DNR we are placing 50 new cribs in Round Lake this summer. They are being set in depths ranging from 15 to 35 feet. We spent hours with the DNR, depth sounding and mapping to locate desirable locations. By varying the depth of cribs in the same area, we hope to hold fish in these areas during various weather and water conditions. In contrast, most of the existing cribs are at approximately the same depth within a particular location. As stated earlier, we are cooperating with the DNR on this project. They are listed on the permits as co-applicants and have been very enthusiastic about this program.

Another project we finished earlier this year was the polling of the property owners as to their feelings on resuming muskie stocking. Out of 192 property owners, we received responses from 118. We felt this was an excellent return. Of the 118 replies, 71 were on favor of muskie stocking and 47 were opposed. This was a bit more one-sided than expected by us and the DNR.

It is likely that muskies will be stocked again beginning in 1991. The stocking quotas will be smaller than previous plants and will coincide with odd year stocking of 10,000 seven to eight inch walleyes. Even year walleye stocking will consist of 100,000 two to three inch walleyes on which years no muskies will be stocked.

With these great stocking programs and fish habitat improvement, we hope to see Round Lake become better and better. One thing everyone can do to help is to practice catch and release fishing. This is one way to insure fishing for our future generations.

**Good Luck!**

RLPOA Fishing Improvement Committee  
Randy Lawry and Jim Johnson

#### **PUBLIC BEACH**

On June 5, at the regular meeting of the Town of Hayward, a group who live near the town beach on Round Lake peninsula were there to complain about the lack of enforcement of the laws related to the beach, boat landing and the surrounding water.

As a result, the town board appointed a committee to come up with solutions for the problems. The RLPOA members appointed to the committee were Frank Hamilton, John Hirschfeld, Mark Waterston and Bob Burns. If you have any input on this problem, the committee members would be glad to hear from you.

#### **Membership News**

Membership in the RLPOA has been rising over the last few years due in part to the active stance taken by the dedicated members of its Board of Directors and because it's fun.

The organization has devoted many hours addressing items in many categories of interest to property owners of Round Lake. This gives us each a much stronger voice in the matters concerning the future of our lake. One summer resident stated that "as a RLPOA member, I now feel that I have some say about what I feel is good for our lake."

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ROUND LAKE NEWS