



Land O' Lakes Fish & Game Club eNewsletter

October 2015

Tree Lovers Story #2 Newsletter

Volume 67 Issue 3
www.fishandgameclub.org

IMPORTANT CLUB INFORMATION

Welcome to our new members!



Dick and Marilyn Barney
Cindy Pekrul
Randy Pozen
Sarah Spittler
Roger and Sharon Youngren
Pilates at Black Oak (new business)

IT'S STILL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!!!

You can still renew your Fish and Game Club membership for this year. Our memberships run from July 1st to June 30th of the following year. The dues are the same as last year at \$10 per person, \$20 per family or \$15 for a business membership. Go to page 7 for the renewal form.

CLUB CALENDAR: Save the dates

Please contact the newsletter editor with new dates, cherylpooh@aol.com. (Date/Time Change)

Oct. 12 10:30AM, Fall Color Hike. Meet at Nordines. Get details on page 6.

Oct. 16 7pm, Club Program, NO business meeting, Conserve School

Dec. 5 5pm, Christmas Dinner Dance, Gateway Lodge

Feb. 11 , Valentine's Dinner Photo Contest, Gateway

PHOTO CONTEST ORGANIZER NEEDED

A sad farewell from Bob Wilson, organizer and presenter of LOL's Fish and Game's Valentine Dinner Photo Contest. As we have our house up for sale and are moving back to Iowa, I must take time to say good-bye to all our friends and acquaintances in the Land O' Lakes area.

This brings up the subject of the Fish and Game Club's annual Photo Contest. It is held in February, close to Valentine's Day. I am looking for someone to take over organizing and presenting the contest at the club dinner on February 11, 2016. I am willing to walk someone through the whole project (including the presentation).

Let's continue the Photo Contest in the Land O' Lakes Fish & Game Club's Valentine's Dinner. Give me a call 319-383-8203 or email me at wilsonscarlet@yahoo.com.

Thanks for the memories,
Bob Wilson

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

by Mike Brennand

After many years of exemplary service on the Board of Directors, most recently serving as Vice President, Will Buergey has decided to step down from the board and also as Chair of the Outdoor Activities Committee. Will has spent considerable time and energy furthering the objectives of the Club and providing the membership with some of the most exciting and truly unique outdoor activities in the area. Will's love of the outdoors and willingness to share his knowledge with the membership has been extraordinary. He is definitely a person who has made a difference. On behalf of the Board I wish to sincerely thank Will for his service. Please express your thanks to Will the next time you see him.

Stefan Anderson has assumed Will's responsibilities as Vice President and Judy Challad replaces Stefan Anderson as a director on the board. Thanks goes out to Stefan and Judy for their willingness to serve. Judy will also take over as Chair of the Outdoor Activities Committee.

Many thanks also goes out to Barb Wilkinson for graciously agreeing to take over as Chair of the Publicity Committee. We look forward to Barb's expert assistance in promoting the good work of the Club to the public and in keeping the membership informed.

CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE & SOCIAL

by Karen Sattler

Start off this holiday season by gathering with Fish and Game members and their friends at Gateway Lodge on Saturday, December 5th for our annual Christmas Dinner Dance & Social. A cash bar will open at 5:00 p.m., and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. The Crossroads Band will be providing music for listening and dancing.

Dinner selections this year: Shrimp Delilah, Beef Tips or Baked Herb Crusted Chicken. The price is \$35 per person (includes tax and tip). This popular event will be limited to 98 people again this year so make your reservations early. Reservations need to be made by Monday, November 23. This event is open to the community, so invite your family and friends and begin your holiday season with us.

A REGISTRATION FORM can be found on page 8.

Please thank Headwaters State Bank

EVENING PROGRAM & MEETING

The final Club meeting for 2016 has been changed from October 13 at Ely Church to October 16 at Conserve School at 7PM. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. \$10.00 per person, call 715-547-1300 to reserve your reservation.

October 16 - An evening with award winning author, Gary Ferguson at Conserve School.

Join Conserve School for a special evening with the author as he recounts highlights from more than three decades spent writing about the earth's wild places. In addition, using a mix of science and story, Ferguson will speak about the powerful lessons we can take from nature itself – using them to create a more powerful, more sustainable environmental movement in these challenging times.

Award-winning author Gary Ferguson believes that strong writing grows out of strong experience. Over the past forty years he's hiked and skied tens of thousands of miles through some of the largest tracts of wild country on earth: camping for months in the backcountry with a group of at-risk teens for Shouting at the Sky; hiking from his front door into the heart of grizzly country, to the most remote location in the lower 48, for Hawks Rest: A Season in the Remote Heart of Yellowstone.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Michigan Road Clean Up

by Team Ryden

Greetings from Team Ryden:

What a beautiful day to have a roadside clean up. The nicest part of all this is we had six people who came to help pick up trash. They were: Chris & Gary Ebert, Lucy Brundage, Joan Cavanaugh, Dale Sharpee and Bob C. (sorry Bob...can't think of your last name). Surprisingly enough, there was not a ton of waste material. Highway 2 is looking pretty good these days. Many hands make light work. Maybe the public is getting the message about not throwing their trash out the window. Awesome!

Thanks again to all who helped with our highway cleanup on both Hwy 2 & "B" for the year 2015. We will see you again in the Spring of 2016.

Enjoy the beauty and color of the season,
Lee & Jessica Ryden

Wisconsin Road Clean Up

by Team Wenzel

Many thanks to the volunteers that helped to complete the late summer Highway B Clean up. Bob Cascarano, Steve and Pat Bielke, Deanie Wolbrink, and Jodie Buergey joined us to clean up the summer accumulation of trash and litter on Highway B east and west of Highway S and south on Highway S for a two mile stretch beginning at Highway B. Hats off for their dedication and assistance in collecting several bags full of trash that had accumulated along the roads since our last pick up in June.

Greg & Mary Jo Wenzel

PUBLIC LAND SERVICE PROJECTS

North Country Trail Maintenance

by Team Kickert

This summer volunteers from the Fish and Game Club maintained two and a half miles of the North Country National Scenic Trail. The trail, which is still under construction, will eventually extend 4,600 miles from New York to North Dakota, making it the longest hiking trail in the United States. So far 2,600 miles have been completed.

The club's adopted section of trail runs from US 45 at the O-Kun-De-Kun Falls trail head east to Forest Service Road 733 on the Ottawa National Forest. Prior to the club's adopting the trail, it had been maintained by members Sherry and Tony Zoar.

"Our hats go off to Tony and Sherry for maintaining this trail," said Steve Kickert, one of the volunteers. "It's a tough section of trail with lots of brush and tall grass to cut through."

Work included cutting grass and shrubs that covered the trail and widening the tread to make it easier to maintain in the future.

Thanks to volunteers Will and Jodie Buergey, Steve and Pat Bilke, Cheryl Pytlarz, Steve and Rita Kickert of the Fish and Game Club and Steve Maass of the Peter Wolfe Chapter of the North Country Trail Association.

Looking for a fall hike? Go walk our section of trail!!!!!!

Sincerely, Team Kickert



North Country Trail work day. Top is Rita Kickert marking the trail. Bottom is Cheryl Pytlarz, Steve Kickert and Will Buergey.

Keep Sylvania Beautiful

by Cheryl Pytlarz

The 3rd Annual Keep Sylvania Beautiful workdays were held in July and August with Friends of Sylvania (Friends). In 2013 the Fish and Game Club joined Friends Sylvania Protection Team to keep its perimeter area free of invasive weeds that could threaten the beauty of the Sylvania Wilderness. This year the Fish & Game Club Protection Team covered 5 of the 7 mile stretch of Forest Road 6320.

Many thanks go out to Bob Cascarano, Diana Melhop, Sara Spitzer, Susan Clark, Jaclyn Pytlarz and Steve & Rita Kickert

Brennand's Corner

Ole was vorking at the fish plant up nort in Dulut when he accidentally cut of all ten of his finkers.

He vent to da emergency room in the Clinik and when he got dar da doctor looked at Ole and said, "Let's have da finkers and I'll see what I can do." Ole said, "I haven't got da finkers."

"Vhat do you mean, you hafent got da finkers?" he said. "Yikes... It's 2015 and I've's got microsurgery and all kinds of incredible techniques. I could hafe put dem back on and made you like new! Vhy didn't you brink da finkers?"

Ole says....."Doc....How da heck vas I suppose to pick dem up?"

TREE STORIES

by Club Member Tree Lovers

Can't Live with You... Can't Live without You Trees.



Location - Coming from Watersmeet, it's on East Duck Lake Road just past the juncture with Duck Lake Road, at the top of the hill and to the right. It's on the west side of East Duck Lake Road at the north end of the lake on top of the big hill right before the junction with Duck Lake Road at the bottom of the hill.

From Corrine Duerkop- This tree (these trees?) on my walking route on Duck Lake Road have always interested me. I call them the "Can't live with you, Can't live without you" trees. They are two maple trees that seem to have started out from a common base--or possibly started so close to each other that they formed one trunk. After a while, they must have annoyed each other enough to separate into two distinct trees.

BUT about 20' up, they became connected again, as can be seen in the close-up in the second photo. My best guess is that a branch from one tree rubbed on the other until it was finally taken in. But if anyone knows for sure how this happens, I'd love to know.



BOARD NEWS

AmazonSmile Community Support

by Dale Sharpee

When Trig's initiated a gift card program, Script, on May 1, 2015, the Board chose not to participate. There is another source of financial support that is now available for the Club. This support is from the AmazonSmile Foundation. This Foundation created a program whereby Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to charitable organizations selected by their customers. An account for the Club has been created so that donations can be received from this program. If you would like more information on AmazonSmile, refer to "Frequently Asked Questions" on <http://org.amazon.com>. If you elect to support our Club through this program, the following will link you directly to [smile.amazon.com: http://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1604410](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1604410). (The number in the link is the Club's EIN.)

Treasurer's Report

by Dale Sharpee

The Board has approved a budget that provides for \$3,080 to be spent during the 2015-2016 fiscal year that began July 1, 2015. This is \$420 less than what was budgeted to be spent during the 2014-2015 fiscal year. The majority of the Club's operating expenses for the 2015-2016 fiscal year will be for general membership meetings, administrative expenses, publicity, maintenance and fuel for the groomer for the cross country ski trail, the community photo contest, and membership in 3 organizations.

The Board has also approved the use of funds from the groomer maintenance reserve fund. Those funds will be used for upgrading the groomer equipment and installing a winch.

As of September 18th, membership dues totaling \$1,315 have been paid. This is \$920 less than what had been received as of September 5, 2014. Thanks to those members who have renewed or new members that have joined, we are 50 % on the way towards meeting the goal for revenue from membership dues. If you have not paid your membership dues, please take time to do so. A membership form is included with this newsletter for your use in remitting your dues to Mary Thomas.

2015-16 Membership Renewals

It's still membership renewal time! A membership runs from July 1st to June 30th of the following year. The dues are \$10 per person, \$20 per family or \$15 for a business membership.

Also consider donating to our long standing Educational Endowment Fund which gives grants to teachers in the Northland Pines, Phelps, and Watersmeet School Districts for classroom educational programs as well as scholarships to graduating seniors continuing their education in programs related to the environment. This donation is tax deductible.

The Fish and Game Club has its newsletter online at fishandgameclub.org. If you still wish to receive your newsletter by mail, please indicate this on the membership form on page 7.



Please thank Headwaters State Bank

COMMITTEE NEWS

Educational Grant Committee

by Kathleen Kuchevar

A new school year has begun. The teacher grant brochures have been distributed to the Northland Pines High School, Middle School and Elementary School in Eagle River, the St. Germain and Land O' Lakes Elementary Schools, as well as Phelps, Watersmeet and Christ Lutheran School in Eagle River.

Grant requests are due by November 1st. Our committee will meet early in November to assess and rank applications to present to the Fish & game Club Board for final decisions. Committee members Dianne Brennand, Kathy Floriano, Rhoda Sharpee, Sherry Zoars and Kathleen Kuchevar participate diligently to help determine recipients of the grants.

In the 2013-2014 school year a total of \$2982.62 was awarded for science and environmental related projects, material and books. This was made possible due to the generosity of the Land O' Lakes Fish & Game Club contributors.

Education Fund

by Jim Thomas



Balance as of 8/31/15 was \$29,748.92. The Fund's purpose is to support educational grants given to teachers for programs to foster the conservation of natural resources through the education of our young people. If you would like information on educational grants, the Club has a brochure describing the program. Donations made to this fund are only used for teacher grants or scholarships and are not used for general operating expenses. If you would like information about this fund, call Jim Thomas at 715-547-3556. If you would like to make a donation to this fund, send your check to Land O' Lakes Fish & Game Club, Education Fund, P.O. Box 516, Land O' Lakes, WI, 54540-0516.

Outdoor Activity Committee

The committee has a new chair starting in June of 2016. Thank you Judy Challed for taking on this role. And thank you ahead of time to Will and Jody Buergey for their chairman ship, article writing and mostly great outings! For now if you would like to assist the committee, please contact Will Buergey at: buergeyw@alphacomm.net or 906-544-2673.

SIGHTINGS

Cross Fox Sighting

by Tom Wheeler

In mid-July I looked out the window and not 15 feet away was a beautiful cross fox (a color phase of the red fox) looking at me. It probably heard me walking on the wood floor. I got my camera but it was long gone. A while later I saw it again in the yard but it was gone by the time I got the camera.



Finally, I saw it out in the yard and was able to get the camera without it seeing me. The photo is of it sitting at the edge of the woods next to the yard. A couple of minutes later it crossed the yard and was joined by a second fox which I believe is its mate. I couldn't get a decent photo of both. This sighting is one of the joys of living in the north woods and paying attention to what goes on around us.

A week or so later I was riding my bike home and came around a corner on the driveway and here was the fox coming towards me on the road. I didn't recognize me at first on the bike and stood there trying to figure out what was coming towards it before it ran into the woods.

OUTINGS STORIES

Pontoon Boat Cruise on the Cisco Chain

by Judy Challed

August 21. The day dawned bright and sunny. A dozen members of Fish and Game climbed aboard Kevin Congdon's pontoon boat for a leisurely tour of the Cisco Chain. Bald eagles and a tremendous number of ducks both adult and juvenile sat patiently for our viewing pleasure. After touring the chain, the boat stopped in Record Lake for a sharing of appetizers and beverages. A grand August day was enjoyed by all.



Please thank Headwaters State Bank



Bike Ride on the Agonikak Trail

by Will Buergey

On July 21, the Outdoor Activity Committee hosted a bike ride on the recently completed southern section of the Agonikak Bike Trail that runs from Land O Lakes to Watersmeet, Michigan. This trail section was developed by Wilderness Lakes Trails as a portion of the forty mile loop around the Sylvania Wilderness Area that also connects Land O Lakes with Watersmeet.

For those unfamiliar with this section of the bike trail, the surface consists of crushed and packed fine gravel, suitable for most bikes except for those road bikes with very narrow tires. The southern portion of the trail is relatively flat, but riders encounter numerous hills as they progress north of the area around Allen Lake.

Over twenty club members and guests met at the Michigan highway wayside located on US 45 just north of County Hwy B to enjoy a beautiful ride through gently rolling terrain. While the trail runs all the way up to Watersmeet, each rider had the option of riding as far north as he or she desired before reversing course and joining the group for a picnic lunch at the picturesque Highway 45 rest area.

Everyone had a great time and we all agreed that we were fortunate to have such a wonderful bike trail system in the Land O Lakes area.

Canoe/Kayak in the Tenderfoot Preserve

by Karen Turnquist

Twenty two people enjoyed a canoe/kayak outing on Palmer/ Tenderfoot Lakes and the Ontonagan River joining them, on September 10. The trip was guided by Rod Sharka who provided information on the history of the area and plant identification. A 2 mile walking tour was also done on the Tenderfoot Reserve area with many old growth trees and beautiful views of forested lakes. Many thanks to Rod for guiding us!



Shot taken at the Tenderfoot Paddle

Fall Color Hike

by Will Buergey

On October 12 plan to join the Outdoor Activity committee for a fall color drive along US 2 from Watersmeet to Iron River, Michigan. (This date is flexible as the fall colors are late developing this year.) We will meet at the Nordine's parking lot in Watersmeet at 10:30 AM to form carpools for our adventure.

From Iron River we will travel south to visit the Treaty Tree and then on to the George Young Recreation Complex where we will hike the Wolf Track Nature Trail.

The Treaty Tree marks the site where the first marker was laid in 1840 to define the state boundary between Wisconsin and Michigan. To those who wonder why the Upper Peninsula is in Michigan instead of Wisconsin, the answer is that the UP was awarded to Michigan as compensation after the Toledo area was awarded to the state of Ohio instead of Michigan in another boundary dispute.

Time permitting we will leave the Treaty Tree and drive to the George Young Recreation complex where we will hike the 1.5 mile Wolf Track Nature Trail before returning home.

Please contact Will Buergey at buergeyw@alphacomm.net or 906-544-2673 to sign up for this event.

CLUB BOARD MEMBERS

Officers and directors for the Fish and Game Club 2014-15 year listed here.

President	Mike Brennan	906-544-2366
Vice-President	Stefan Anderson	715-547-6326
Secretary	Steve Wilkinson	906-544-2183
Treasurer	Dale Sharpee	906-544-2463
Directors	Judy Challed	815-678-4057
	Gary Ebert	906-358-4246
	Sudy Wattson	906-544-2461

CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE

www.facebook.com/LOLFGC

Shot taken at the 2014 Fall Color Hike



Please thank Headwaters State Bank

2015-2016 Fish & Game Club Membership Application Form

(Membership year starts on July 1st and ends on June 30th)

MEMBERSHIP DUES: \$10 per person, \$20 per family and \$15 per business

Membership Payment: \$_____ + Education Fund Contribution: \$_____ = \$_____

Name(s): _____

Summer Address:

Winter Address (if different):

Street (PO Box)

Street (PO Box)

City, State, Zip

City, State, Zip

Telephone

Telephone

Email Address(es)

The club is using email addresses more and more. We notify members about outings and events and now we will notify you when our eNewsletter has been posted on the Club website.

Summer E-mail Address

Winter E-mail Address

CHECK here if you want to continue receiving the newsletter by USPS. The Board encourages members to NOT check this box, to save resources and club funds.

Make check payable to the Land O' Lakes Fish & Game Club and mail with remittance to:
Mary Thomas, 5738 S. Black Oak Lk. Rd., Land O' Lakes, WI 54540

DON'T FORGET THE CLUB'S EMAIL ADDRESS!!!

fishandgameclub@gmail.com

We send out periodic e-mail reminders about meetings, activities and outings that are going on within the Club. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, send your request to Mary Thomas at fishandgameclub@frontier.com

Please thank Headwaters State Bank

Reservation Form for Christmas Dinner Dance

The annual Fish Game Club Christmas Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, December 5th at the Gateway Lodge Restaurant. This event is open to the community so be sure to invite friends, family and neighbors. Reservations will be limited to 98 persons.

The cost will be \$35.00 per person which includes snacks, salad, your dinner entrée, potato, vegetable, dessert, coffee, tax, gratuity and entertainment.

The evening will begin with a cash bar at 5:00 p.m., snacks and Christmas Carols at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. After dinner the band, Crossroads will be performing for your listening and dancing enjoyment!

Please fill out this form and enclose a check for the appropriate amount made payable to the Land O' Lakes Fish and Game Club. Reservations need to be made by November 23rd. Your check will be your reservation.

Please indicate your choice of entrée: **Shrimp Delilah, Beef Tips, or Baked Herb Crusted Chicken**

Name: _____ Entrée: _____ Name: _____ Entrée: _____

Name: _____ Entrée: _____ Name: _____ Entrée: _____

Please indicate if you have a table preference and we will try to accommodate your request _____

Include a phone number should a question arise: _____

Mail with remittance to: Chris & Gary Ebert, N3691 Sylvan Isle Dr., Watersmeet, MI 49969
#1doc