



Chairman's Introduction

We had a very cold winter and ice out March 18 with subsequent April flowers followed by May showers. Mother Nature had us all mixed up. The outcome was that vegetation surveys and DNR permissions were not possible until late May making Memorial Day very weedy. Within two weeks things were back under control and I apologize for nature's stumblings. The water has since been nice and everyone seems to be enjoying the lakes.

Zebra Mussels have returned but not seriously, yet. Hopefully they will be even shorter lived than last time. Dave and Fran Cleven have retired from goose mitigation after a successful start up and years of preventing goose deposits. Thank you for your fine service to the lake community. Ernie Roy has taken over those reins and has mobilized the volunteer flotilla again this year. Several Board candidates for the Board have asked to delay a couple of years as the economy has strained their available time. Larry Brady has graciously allowed himself to be renominated for another term. You younger members need to come on board as some of us get older.

Tom Potrykus and Mike Lindemuth have completed the survey of your opinions about the lake operations and social engagement. Results were enlightening and they have e-blasted those of you having known emails with the results through Lillian Roy's GWLPOA database. Their show and tell presentations will be at the annual meeting.

Come out to the Annual meeting August 28th and learn about our plans and costs. Come add your voice to the debates and vote on the plans for action. Incumbents Larry Brady and I are the only candidates running this year and will be happy for your support. The Greater Whitewater Lake Property Owners Association (GWLPOA) will present their annual report. They put on some great social events, dinners, picnics, parties and Music on the Lake. Learn what they have in store for the coming year. Come early, have coffee and donuts while you meet and greet neighbors. NOTE: We will again meet at the beautiful Lions Clubhouse on the lake.

Rich Charts, Commissioner 

Annual Meeting and Budget Review

Where: Lions Club ***Please note venue***
 N7470 Kettle Moraine Dr

When: Saturday, August 28, 2021

Agenda: 9:00am Opening remarks
 Rich Charts, Chairman
 Call to Order
 Approval of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes
 9:10 Review by commissioners:
 Chemical – Mike Lindemuth
 Weed Harvesting - Larry Brady
 Bog Removal - Rich Charts
 Equipment - Chuck Chamberlain
 Financials –
 2021 Actuals – Brad Corson
 Capital Plan – Chuck Chamberlain
 2022 Proposed Budget – Brad Corson
 Audit Report – Don Olinger

10:00 Introduction of candidates followed by voting:
 Larry Brady / Rich Charts
 10:00 Presentations on Lake Initiatives
 Wildlife Management – Ernie Roy
 Safety Patrol/Ordinances - Shawn Blanton/Larry Brady
 Watershed Diversion – Ernie Roy
 Fish Management - Tom Potrykus
 Joint Opinion Survey – Potrykus/Lindemuth
 10:40 5 Minute Break
 10:45 GWLPOA Annual Meeting – Lillian Roy
 11:00 Input from Towns of Richmond and Whitewater
 11:10 Election results
 11:10 Open Discussion/Resident Input Debate Continuations
 11:20 Adjournment – Next Meeting August 27, 2022
 11:30 Brief Lake District Board Meeting

Natureland Park: A South Bay Gem

We are fortunate to have high quality natural lands at the south end of Whitewater Lake. Recently, I took a tour of Natureland Park, led by Kettle Moraine Land Trust staff, to learn more about the various ecosystems, including crystal clear springs, seeps, and rare fens. I encourage you to walk one of the many trails to behold this sparkling jewel of nature.

Around 1953, Walworth County purchased land and began developing it for a park. By 1959, nearly 30,000 trees, mostly conifers, were planted. Today, the 122 acres contain wetlands, prairie, oak hardwoods, and pine plantations.

Whitewater Lake is a seepage lake, receiving water from precipitation and groundwater discharges. With its springs and seeps, Natureland Park is a visible example of the groundwater resources that replenish our lakes. Of interest to me are the fens, a type of wetland formed from the discharge of groundwater over hundreds of years. This uncommon wetland is resplendent with rare and unique plants adapted to the mineralized water.

The park hosts a variety of wildlife. Sandhill cranes are known to nest near the shore, waking everyone with their prehistoric sounding bugle. These rattling calls can be heard from 2.5 miles away and 2.5 million years ago – the earliest recorded sandhill crane fossil. Waterfowl and herons forage near the water's edge. Warblers and flycatchers flit through the trees. In winter, when ice covers the lake in solitude, the springs attract a cacophony of wildlife calls to its open water. Be sure to check out the park during all seasons, as you are bound to witness one of nature's wonders to brighten your day.

If you want to help maintain the natural areas within the park, please contact the Kettle Moraine Land Trust for volunteering opportunities.

Tom Ganfield, Water Quality Team Lead 

Weed Committee Report

SEWRPC has finished the point survey on WWL (where the weeds are) on Friday 7/9. They will begin the survey on Rice Lake on Monday 7/12 & should finish in a day & a half maximum. As of Friday, very light vegetation was uncovered except in the West lobe of WWL, just North of Parkside Marina. Only one strand of Eurasian Milfoil was harvested. All other plant growth uncovered was of native plants. Plant material samples were taken for laboratory examination to determine health of the plants, phosphorous content & species identity.

As an aside, a fisherman asked us what we were up to & commented that, due to light vegetation cover, fishing was not as good as in years past.

SEWRPC will now begin the additional data collection & mapping for our Aquatic Plan Update.

Larry Brady, Commissioner

Lawrence 'Larry' Brady – Candidate for 3 Year Term

Education:

Bachelor of Electrical Engineering – Marquette University
Master of Business Administration – Loyola University (Chicago)

Professional Licenses:

Licensed Home Inspector (IL)
Radon Measurement Professional (IL)

Community Involvement:

VP Medinah Home Owners Asso. – late70's
Junior Achievement – Motorola Chapter
Cub Scout Pack Master – Pack 194 St. Walters Church
Committee – BSA Troop 194 St. Walters Church
Asst. Basketball Coach – St. Walters 4/5th grade teams
Fenwick H.S. – President Fathers' Club
Member Strategic Planning Committee
Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management District Commissioner (elected official)
Certified Boat Safety Instructor (WI)
Medinah (IL) Park District Commissioner (2016 -2019)

Professional History:

45 years as a sales professional
VP of Marketing Wells Gardner Electronics
VP Sales Roel Inc. – Sales representative
Market Manager CE Niehoff & Co.
President Freise Construction Inc
Motorola Inc. Design Engineer

Fall 2021

Safety Committee

Deputy Blanton is holding a Boaters' Safety Course on 7/10 & 11 at the Scenic Ridge Campground. Twenty-two students have signed up. It is doubtful that we (Sean & I) will conduct another class this year due to the late opening of In Person Classes. We will revert back to our usual May date in 2022.

As in past years, please remember that anyone born after January 1, 1989 **must take & pass an approved Boater Safety Class – no exceptions** to operate a powered water craft in Wisconsin. Illinois also now has the same requirement.

Any Safety related concerns about boating or other activities on the Lake may be referred to Deputy Blanton, myself or any other member of the board. Let's all stay safe out there.

Larry Brady, Commissioner

Rich Charts - Candidate for 3 Year Term

My wife Denise and I have been on the lake about 20 years. We are both retired, spending our time in Libertyville Illinois, in Whitewater and traveling. Half of my career was in state government, the other half in corporate life and I have been retired for a decade. I have been on the Board since 2009 when Brian Morris asked me to fill a vacancy and have been Chair since Brian stepped down 4 years later. It takes time to learn the mechanics of lake operations, I have enjoyed my experience on your Board and try to share the institutional knowledge gained with anyone interested. I want to keep our wonderful lake the sweet home it is to many of us. I am asking for another term to continue the advances we have made but also actively want volunteers to start taking over.

2022 WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES TAX ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Projected	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2021 Projected vs 2021 Budget		2022 Budget vs 2021 Budget	
							Increase (Decrease)	% Change	Increase (Decrease)	% Change
OPERATIONS BUDGET TAX	\$ 195,827	\$ 216,415	\$ 231,128	\$ 223,432	\$ 223,432	\$ 236,869	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 13,437	6.0%
Cost per tax parcel	\$278.16	\$307.41	\$328.31	\$317.37	\$317.37	\$336.46	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 19.09	6.0%
CAPITAL RESERVE FUND TAX ASSESSMENT	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
Cost per tax parcel	\$71.02	\$71.02	\$85.23	\$85.23	\$85.23	\$85.23	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
TOTAL TAX ASSESSMENTS	\$245,827	\$266,415	\$291,128	\$283,432	\$283,432	\$296,869	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 13,437	4.7%
Cost per tax parcel	\$349.19	\$378.43	\$413.53	\$402.60	\$402.60	\$421.69	\$ -	0.0%	\$19.09	4.7%

WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES PROPOSED 2022 OPERATING BUDGET

Summary Operations Budget	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Projected	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2021 Projected vs 2021 Budget		2022 Budget vs 2021 Budget	
							Increase (Decrease)	% Change	Increase (Decrease)	% Change
Revenue - Tax Assessments	\$245,827	\$266,415	\$291,128	\$283,432	\$283,432	\$296,869	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 13,437	4.7%
Other Income	-	-	-	655	-	-	\$ 655	-	-	-
DNR Grants	910	-	-	-	-	9,200	\$ -	-	9,200	-
Launch Fees	1,980	3,063	1,096	1,333	1,500	1,500	\$ (167)	-11.1%	-	0.0%
Total District Revenue	\$248,717	\$269,478	\$292,224	\$285,420	\$284,932	\$307,569	\$488	0.2%	\$ 22,637	7.9%
Operating Expenses										
Weed Harvesting	44,307	47,519	48,213	47,595	64,571	61,459	\$ (16,975)	-26.3%	(3,111)	-4.8%
Chemical Treatment & Other	94,994	107,641	74,120	128,275	112,000	112,700	\$ 16,275	14.5%	700	0.6%
Bog Removal	44,722	42,416	33,956	49,460	49,460	49,733	\$ -	0.0%	273	0.6%
Repairs & Maintenance	33,096	33,097	22,142	34,019	30,902	35,040	\$ 3,117	10.1%	4,138	13.4%
General & Administrative	17,620	20,185	19,197	19,391	31,298	23,906	\$ (11,907)	-38.0%	(7,392)	-23.6%
Total Operating Expenses	234,739	250,858	197,629	278,740	288,231	282,838	(9,491)	-3.3%	(5,392)	-1.9%
Capital Reserve Fund	50,000	50,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	\$ -	0.0%	-	0.0%
Prior Year Surplus (Deficit) Carryover	121,397	85,375	53,995	88,589	63,299	35,270	\$ 25,291	40.0%	(28,029)	-44.3%
Net Surplus (Deficit) Carryover	85,375	53,995	88,589	35,270	(0)	-	35,270		0	

Assessed Valuation (000 omitted)	(actual) \$262,745	(actual) \$268,672	(actual) \$281,951	(est) \$296,049	(est) \$310,851
Change from Prior Yr	3.5%	2.3%	4.9%	10.2%	5.0%
Mil Rate	0.94	0.99	1.03	0.96	1.05
Average Assmt (704 Parcels)	\$349	\$378	\$414	\$403	\$422

WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES CAPITAL RESERVE FUND ACTIVITY

Capital Reserve Fund	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Projected	2021 Projected	2022 Budget
Beginning Fund Balance	\$19,819	\$63,099	\$76,540	\$76,540	\$77,740
Additions:					
Transfer from Operations					
Budgeted capital assessments	50,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	\$60,000
Interest income	141	72	100	100	\$100
DNR Grants & Other	1,500	-	12,000	12,000	\$0
Total Additions	51,641	60,072	72,100	72,100	60,100
Expenditures					
Equipment Purchases	(8,361)	(46,631)	(70,900)	(70,900)	-\$2,000
Ending Fund Balance	\$63,099	\$76,540	\$77,740	\$77,740	\$135,840

Chemical Treatment

On Friday May 7 and Monday May 10, the Clarke Aquatic Services team surveyed both Whitewater and Rice lakes identifying and mapping weed growth. With DNR approval, we were able to treat 174.5 acres on Whitewater Lake and 25 acres on Rice Lake. Both lakes were treated on June 4th. Last year is the first year we were able to treat Rice Lake in some time. ProcellaCOR EC was used along the developed shoreline to treat the Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM). ProcellaCOR carries a three year contract guarantee and appears to be very successful. This year, the developed shoreline was treated for Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLP). The balance of the lake is being taken care of through harvesting. There will be a follow up this fall to assess the effectiveness of the treatments on both lakes.

Mike Lindemuth, Commissioner

Fall 2021

Lake Lorraine Watershed Diversion

In December 2020 Lake Management became aware that the Town of Richmond was proposing the movement of Lake Lorraine high water through a series of Culverts (pipes) to Natureland Park and into Whitewater Lake. Lake Management and GWLPOA immediately took action as they were concerned about the potential for associated adverse environmental, hydrogeological, water quality, invasive species, and other harmful impacts to downstream wetlands, springs, seeps, fens, and Whitewater Lake and the impact of agricultural nutrients, herbicides and other pollutant runoffs stemming from their large farm watershed being piped our way. Concerns stemming from such a project necessitated a request for information and enhanced communication to satisfy concerns regarding adequate DNR involvement and lake protections and subsequent actions to ensure proper reviews, permitting and water quality, lake and wetland management and the dam with high water impact.

What has been done to address this permit application:

Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management asked for volunteer assistance from lake residents and has established a formal team of property owners with background and specialization regarding the issues with this proposal.

Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management has established an operating budget to support costs incurred by this team.

GWLPOA has assisted Lake Management by identifying lake owners with background/expertise on these proposal issues and are now represented on the team.

With the assistance of legal and environmental experts, the Town of Richmond, DNR and Walworth County were sent FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) letters asking for all correspondence relevant to this permit application.

GWLPOA has issued multiple email blasts to their membership keeping the lake residents up to date and initiating a letter campaign to agencies asking for support. Your hundreds of letters have helped.

As of July 2021 the team continues to monitor all correspondence, meetings, any and all discussion on this permit application with our lakes' water quality and erosion impact a major concern for property owners and users of the lakes.

Ernie Roy, Watershed Team Leader 

Fish Management 2021 report

The late frosts messed up spring fishing, but things have settled down, and fish stories tell me fishing is good. Even some nice walleyes are being caught.

There were write-in responses in the Survey asking about fish stocking, so here's a brief summary since 2011. Between the WDNR and the Management District, Whitewater was stocked with 30,000 6-9" walleyes, 5500 9-12" northern pike and 3333 4" perch. Also, a walleye spawning habitat was built in 2018. Rice Lake was stocked with 960 Northern Pike to control the carp population. Plans for 2021 call for stocking the same species and creating lake bottom structure (wooden cribs) to make fishing even better. And thanks to the Lions Club for its \$600 donation.

The eagles returned to Bird Island this spring, built a new nest and apparently drove off the herons and egrets, which at one time had over 100 nests on the Island. That probably gave our small fish a lifeline, but the eagle chicks and parents seemed to have left the Island and the herons are returning. Fish beware!

Carp management via commercial netting is still an unresolved issue at the State level. Meanwhile I'm looking for help organizing other alternatives such as fishing contests, carp bow hunting tournaments, etc. Send your fish photos, stories, ideas and offers to help to tompotrykus@icloud.com.

Tom Potrykus, Fish Manager 

2021 Financial Update and 2022 Proposed Budget

At this point, we are projecting 2021 to end with a surplus of about \$35,000 with a number of offsetting variances. With the weeds coming way down after the initial spring growth, we expect to save \$5,000 in the harvesting budget. And we budgeted \$11,000 for the required 5-year SWRPC lake study but that will not be spent until spring of 2022 when its delivered. This expense will be added to the 2022 budget. Conversely, the Chemical budget is now complete and as we took full advantage of spraying all the areas allowed by the DNR, we exceeded that budget by approximately \$16,000. In Legal & Professional, we budgeted \$12,500 for the lake survey conducted by the University of Wisconsin but the expense came in at only \$3,000 giving us another saving of almost \$11,000. Finally, we started the year with a surplus from 2020 about \$25,000 greater than we had projected due to less being spent on the bog last September.

For 2022, we are proposing an increase in the total operating expense budget of 1.5% over what we project to spend in 2021. The Weed Harvesting permit budget includes the SWRPC study for \$12,592 but is offset by a DNR Grant of \$9,200 included in cash receipts. Most other line items are being maintained in line with 2021 with two exceptions. We are maintaining the Chemical budget at the \$100,000 as this has been sufficient in recent history – other than in 2021. And in Legal & Professional, we are budgeting \$5,000 to provide for legal fees, if necessary, to contest Lake Lorraine's proposed water divergence into Whitewater Lake. The Tax Assessment is increasing by 4.7%, which is higher than the expense increase because the projected surplus from the prior year is lower. We will need to continue our annual Capital Reserve contribution of \$60,000 to provide for major equipment needs in the future.

Brad Corson - Treasurer 

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Ernie Roy, Watershed Team Leader 

2021 Whitewater / Rice Lakes Opinion Survey

Last year, the Lake Management District and the GWLPOA agreed to sponsor an Opinion Survey for both lakes. The University of Wisconsin – Whitewater did the survey. The process used a series of focus groups to develop the questions / issues to be researched. 665 households were asked to complete the eventual questionnaire. The response rate was 56%; a sign of an interested community.

The results are available by the entire District, Whitewater Lake and Rice Lake.

Some Highlights:

1. Weed control and Boating Safety were most important
2. There was general satisfaction with existing No Wake hours
3. Respondents were split regarding changing the sunset No Wake rules and moving the buoys out to 150ft.
4. About 58% felt boat wakes were a major problem
5. Carp continue to very unpopular
6. The goose population should continue to be managed.
7. Most feel there should be noise limits, and 52% wanted fireworks time limits
8. Respondents were willing to increase funding to both organizations

The current operational activities of both the Management District and GWLPOA were researched. (see Survey for details.)

Lots of people added their responses to open ended questions, made suggestions for future communications and activities, and added their names to those wanting to help get things done.

The Survey results were sent to the email database of District households.

They are also available on the web at ...whitewaterlake.org. Look for “Click Here” in the yellow box regarding survey results.

Lots of good ideas and suggestions have surfaced. Remember, the District and the GWLPOA are staffed by volunteers.

They could use your help. As you read the survey and an issue strikes you as being important, volunteer to help. Just email volunteer@whitewaterlakes.org, leave contact information and area of interest. Someone will get back to you. And thanks for completing the questionnaire.

Tom Potrykus, Survey Manager 

Equipment Report

All harvesting equipment has been operating on both Whitewater and Rice Lakes since early June. The 7 foot harvester will again be assigned for cutting operations on Rice Lake. The 12 foot and 10 foot harvesters have been harvesting on Whitewater Lake and will continue throughout the season. The large transport barge is available for Saturday weed pick-ups from the end of the piers. PLEASE make certain that only aquatic plant material is placed at the end of your pier for pick-up. Grass, yard vegetation, leaves and sticks are not appropriate for pick-up by the Lake Management District, as they will damage the equipment. Any co-mingled aquatic plant material and yard waste material will not be picked up from the end of the piers. Please be advised that extreme heavy winds or severe weather conditions may result in the postponement of a Saturday weed pick-up.

At the start of each harvesting season, changes in operating personnel may take place. We ask that you not approach the equipment operators with questions or special requests for cutting. Please direct your concerns or questions to the appropriate commissioners who can best respond to your concerns. We appreciate your cooperation and support.

Chuck Chamberlain, Commissioner 

Lakeshore Management

Invasive Species: The Lake District hired Tallgrass Restoration LLC to eradicate lesser celandine along Ridge Rd this past spring. Lesser celandine is a prohibited invasive species that emerges in late March/early April, depending on snow cover, and goes dormant by mid-June. Lesser celandine is best identified by its low carpet-like growth habit; densely packed heart and kidney-shaped leaves; and its small yellow buttercup flowers. Outbreaks of lesser celandine were also discovered on four Ridge Road private properties. After learning about the environmental damage that lesser celandine does to landscapes and water quality, all four property owners were extra-vigilant in eradicating this species from their properties, inhibiting the spread of this menace to other parts of the lake. It's likely that full eradication was not achieved with this first year's effort, but now that we have a dedicated team of property owners, the Lake District, Town of Whitewater and Tallgrass Restoration working together on this problem, we feel quite confident that full eradication is the likely outcome. Thank goodness it was caught early!

Healthy Lakes and River Grants: DNR Healthy Lakes continues to expand, building on the success of the grant program, and now includes river frontages as well as land within 1000' of a lake. The purpose of the program is to protect and restore the health of our lakes and rivers by increasing property owner participation with runoff and erosion control projects and habitat restoration. The grants are designed to enhance shoreland function with five different best-practice small-scale landscape projects (healthylakeswi.com). 75% of the costs of grant projects are reimbursed, up to a maximum of \$1000 per project. The Lake District submits one grant application per year on behalf of participating property owners.

Three Great Programs to Promote Better Landscaping for Healthy Lakes: Please let me know if you would like me to visit with you at your property to discuss the Healthy Lakes and River grant program. I can also provide information about our local Kettle Moraine Chapter of Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes and Geneva Lake Conservancy's Conservation@Home program.

Resources:

Tallgrass Restoration LLC (We restore the health, integrity and beauty of our clients' land and water resources), tallgrassrestoration.com

Healthy Lakes and Rivers (Let's make Healthy Lakes & Rivers together!) healthylakeswi.com

Wild Ones (Healing the Earth one yard at a time) wildones.org

Conservation@Home (the ultimate everyone-can-do-something) genevalakeconservancy.org

Theresa Stegemann, Lakeshore management team leader 

262 458-4226, theresa.stegemann@gmail.com

Wildlife Management

Last year 2020 there were not enough geese on the lakes to have a round up, but this year 2021 we rounded up 46 geese on Whitewater Lake and 22 geese on Rice Lake. I want to thank all of the volunteers who helped make this a successful round up.

Ernest Roy, Wildlife Management Team Leader 