



HANCOCK LAKE



Volume 12 Issue 1

Spring 2020



Your 2020 Convention is greatly impacted by the coronavirus and the associated public health protocols. We are not going to be able to meet in person. We are instead developing a method to follow the same agenda in an online format. Those who originally registered for the in-person convention will be "entered" as participants of the new online format. New registrants can [REGISTER NOW](#) for a nominal fee. All those who are registered for this online learning event will receive log-in information for their sessions by email the week of the event.

<https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/convention/default.aspx>

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Message from the Board

The purpose of the Association is to maintain, protect, and enhance the quality of the lake and its surroundings for the collective interests of the members.

Board of Directors:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Randy Fechter, President
920-948-7744
(Term expires June 2020) | Bill Tischendorf, V. P.
715-282-5843
(Term expires June 2020) |
| Joann Beltz, Treasurer
715-282-6822
(Term expires June 2021) | Sherry Fechter, Secretary
920-979-8825
(Term expires June 2021) |
| Bruce Pontel, Director
262-903-1101
(Term expires June 2021) | Bruce Mezei, Director
715-282-5447
(Term expires June 2021) |
| George Beltz, Director
715-771-9011
(Term expires June 2020) | |



The Hancock Lake Association extends a warm welcome to all new residents and would encourage them to attend our events and meet their neighbors

Annual Meeting

Second Saturday June 13th 8:30 at the Woodboro Town Hall with a half hour social gathering before the meeting begins at 9AM.

Meeting Agenda

- Call meeting to order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Secretary Report, minutes of last meeting; Sherry Fechter
- Treasurers Report; Joann Beltz
- Old business;
- Boat landing upkeep; Randy Fechter
- Spring newsletter: Mail and/or Email Sherry Fechter
- New business;
- Summer Picnic: Picnic planning committee; Milt Kemp.
- Fund raising committee: Sherry Fechter
- Nomination of officers;
- Apparel sales committee: Julie Kemp
- Hancock Lake update; Bill Tischendorf

- Oneida Lake update; George Beltz

If you want anything added to the meeting agenda, Please contact Randy Fechter (920-948-7744).

Lake Association Picnic

Third Saturday, July 18th 2020 At the Alpine Resort.

Due to last years rain soaked picnic we will have a rain day Sunday July 19th. The Lake Association will be providing the main dish but asks those that attend to bring a dish to pass. This is a great opportunity to meet your new neighbors and catch up with old neighbors. We will be announcing the results of the board election, there will be a silent auction, door prizes and more.



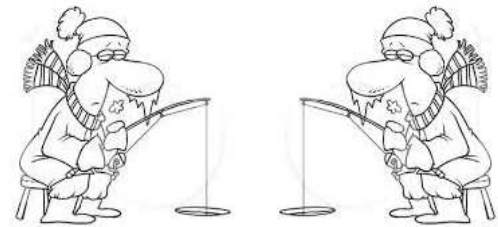
Wisconsin Chairs. There was a dice game to try to win a wood carving of a bear and corn hole game. There were bucket raffles, 50/50, and Oneida and Hancock Lake apparel to purchase. Total made from the duck race was \$11,006.05 each lake made \$5503.13.

We want to thank everyone that donated items and all the volunteers, we could not do this event without you.



**Tisch's Ice Fishing Tournament
First Saturday Feb 6th 2021**

Do to poor ice conditions the 2020 fishing tournament was canceled. We truly missed getting together for a day out on the ice. Hoping we have better conditions in 2021.



Hancock Lake Boat Regatta

Second Saturday August 8th 2020,

We moved the boat regatta to the 2nd Saturday in August and farther from the island to get away from some of the boat traffic. We had a very small turn out last year possibly caused by confusion over the change. Those who did make it out had a pleasant day on the water, plenty of good food and conversation. I am hoping to see a lot more boats this year, anyone wanting a ride out can call we hope to have a water taxi available. Again like the picnic the rain day will be Sunday.



Can Cozies

The Hancock Lake and Oneida Lake Associations are selling can cozies at all of our activities. They have an image of Hancock Lake on one side and Oneida Lake on the other.

Price \$2 ea.



Annual Duck Race

Labor Day Saturday Sept 5th 2020

The 4th annual Oneida/Hancock Lake Association Duck Race was held on Saturday, August 31st, 2019.

It was a great success we sold 1265 ducks 7 more than what we sold in 2018. There was also beer can races between the duck races and the decorated a duck race. After the race at The Alpine we had raffles for a Yeti Cooler with meat package and

GO PAPERLESS

Newsletters received via E-mail will be in color and all internet links will work with the click of the mouse. If you would prefer to receive all future newsletters via E-mail please let us know by sending a E-mail stating so to Hancocklake@yahoo.com.

Snapping Turtles

By Bill Tischendorf



On a calm morning for the past fifteen or twenty years a large snapping turtle will appear about thirty or forty feet off our dock, with his head protruding and the water breaking over his carapace (upper shell) as he suns himself. After he has his fill he sinks below the surface and disappears returning several time during the summer almost in the same spot.

Although we see them more on the roadsides than in the lake the common snapping turtle lives a solitary life almost entirely in water. Sexual maturity has more to do with size than age. Mating occurs in the water once their carapace reaches about eight inches; the female can hold sperm for several seasons, using it as necessary. When ready to lay her eggs the female will leave the water in search of a nest site sometimes traveling great distances. Here she digs a shallow bowl-shaped nest in a well-drained, sunny location and lays a clutch of 20 to 40 ping pong ball-sized eggs, after covering the nest she returns to the water leaving the eggs and hatchling to fend for themselves. About 90% of the nests are destroyed by predators such as raccoons, skunks, foxes and crows. Hatching occurs in approximately 80 to 90 days, eggs maintained at 68°F produce only females; eggs maintained at 70-72°F produce both male and females; and those incubated at 73-75°F produce only males. Hatchlings emerge from their eggs by using a small egg tooth to break open the shell. (Northern snapping turtles sometimes overwinter in this egg stage.) After digging their way out of the nest they instinctively head for the water being preyed upon by raccoons, skunks, foxes, dogs, birds, and snakes, along the way.

The males however may spend their entire life in an area of four to twenty acres as long as there is a good food supply. As omnivores, snapping turtles feed on plants and animals, plant matter accounting for about a third of the diet. Young turtles will forage for food feeding on insects, spiders, worms, fish, frogs, but older adult turtles often lie motionless in the water or half buried in the muddy bottom and ambush their prey. An adult can weigh between ten and thirty-five pounds, and is capable on occasion of taking adult ducks and geese but more often fish, frogs, small turtles, snakes, birds, crayfish, small mammals, and carrion.

Snapping turtles are most vulnerable as hatchlings. Once they reach a certain size there are few natural predators of snapping turtles, though they are often hit by cars when searching for new ponds or nesting sites. Almost all snapping turtles who survive to adulthood enjoy long lives and die of old age.

Snapping turtles often live more than 100 years with a maximum theoretical life span of 170 years. While it is impossible to truly know a snapping turtle's age unless you know the precise date it hatched, you can make an educated guess using its shell, which scientists call the carapace. In captivity they have lived up to 47 years.

The Pitcher Plant Mosquito

By Bill Tischendorf



Pitcher in the bog

Some nectar,
the right shape,
and there's no escape.



Within our boggy shore line lives a very interesting plant the purple pitcher plant Wisconsin's largest and showiest carnivorous plant. Pitcher plants are perennials, each with a rosette of eight-inch leaves that grow together modified into tubular water-holding traps about one to two inches in diameter. Most pitcher plants secrete digestive enzymes to breakdown the insect's exoskeleton and release its nutrients. Our purple pitcher plants are the least efficient member of the family secreting weak digestive solutions. One might assume that every insect that finds its way into the purple pitcher plant becomes trapped. Interestingly, one insect species, the non-biting pitcher plant mosquito, depend solely on pitcher plants, living in the "soup" for all of their lives except for a short-lived adult phase. Feeding on the captive insects, each stage of their pre-adult life breaking their pray into smaller and smaller pieces, their waste providing the nutrients for the plant.

I have found purple pitcher plants on the bogs on the south end of Hancock lake, the best time to look for them would be when they are flowering. Flowers of pitcher plants make an appearance in a two- to three-week span in April or May, depending on the climate. A single purple, red or burgundy, flower is produced on a ten to twelve inch leafless stem.

For more unique animals of our Wisconsin lakes such as the freshwater jellyfish, freshwater sponges, bryozoans and many more check out the youtube recording of Wisconsin Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN) webinar series by Paul Skawinski

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gxdfu2SLzJg>

Dam Repairs Completed

- 1) The inspection report completed by the DNR on October 14, 2002 and the inspection report submitted to the DNR by Flambeau Engineering on December 2, 2013 identify multiple locations on the dam where concrete was chipped and deteriorating.
- 2) Staab Construction Corporation, submitted repair plans and specifications dated May 30, 2018.
- 3) The proposed concrete repairs include:
 - a) Sawcutting, removing and patching of approximately 21 square feet of concrete on the downstream right wingwall and abutment
 - b) Sawcutting, removing and patching of approximately 17 square feet of concrete on the downstream left wingwall and abutment
 - c) Repairing and adding rebar at base of left and right wingwalls is anticipated; extent of rebar placement to be determined during construction
 - d) Using sand bags as coffer dam to isolate wingwall areas

The contractor ran out of good weather for the repairs in 2018 year, but returned in 2019.



Reduce the water flow by blocking off the dam.



Install a coffer dam to divert the remaining flow. Remove old concrete down to a good base.



Add the new concrete and on to the right wing.



Remove the old and install the new.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

PLACE WOODBORO TOWN HALL
TIME SECOND SATURDAY OF JUNE 13TH 2020 8:30AM

HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL PICNIC

PLACE ALPINE RESORT ONEIDA LAKE
TIME THIRD SATURDAY OF JULY 18TH 2020

HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION BOAT REGATTA

PLACE HANCOCK LAKE ISLAND
TIME SECOND SATURDAY OF AUGUST 8TH 2020, NOON

ONEIDA & HANCOCK LAKE ASSOC. DUCK RACE

PLACE CREEK BETWEEN THE LAKES
TIME LABOR DAY SATURDAY SEPT 5TH 2020

TISCH'S ICE FISHING TOURNAMENT

PLACE HANCOCK LAKE ON THE ICE
TIME FIRST SATURDAY OF FEBRUARY 6TH 2021, 8AM-3PM

WISCONSIN LAKES PARTNERSHIP

PLACE HOLIDAY INN CONVENTION CENTER STEVENS POINT, WI
TIME APRIL 1ST -APRIL 3RD 2020

MIDWEST CRANE COUNT

PLACE ONEIDA COUNTY
TIME SATURDAY APRIL 18TH 5:30AM-7:30AM

KEEPING UP TO DATE WITH THE LAKE ASSOCIATION.

www.HancockLakeAssociation.com

www.facebook.com/HancockLake

Hancocklake@yahoo.com

OFFICER ELECTION.

The term of office of President, Vice-President and one at-large director expire this year, the board will be looking for nominations for these offices at the annual meeting. Anyone is interested in running for one of these offices and is unable to make the annual meeting may submit their name by mail.



Note from the President:

Spring is here! With sunshine and warmer weather, we focus more on planning for the upcoming outdoor adventures. This will be my 8th year as president of our Hancock Lake Association. For that period and much longer, our lake has suffered from invasive weeds. So far, we have felt that there were not any sufficient options to address this situation.

Our plan was/is to build up funds for the future, which we have been successful in doing. However, now we are asking you (our members) for feedback regarding our Lake Association funds.

Should we consider researching our options?

This matter will be discussed in more detail at our annual meeting, (June 13th at 8:30 a.m.) at the Woodboro town hall. Please contact me, or any of your board officers, with comments and/or concerns.

I am fortunate and extremely proud to be part of this group that is willing to spend time and effort in protecting and caring for our Lake. I hope you all feel the same, for you are vital members of our Association.

Thank you again sincerely,

Randy Fechter

Nokomis ATV Club

By Bruce Mezei

Nokomis ATV Club is holding a raffle to raise money to build an ATV/UTV trail through the Woodboro Lakes State Wildlife Area which is across Oneida Lake Rd from Hancock Lake. The proposed trail connects with Cruiser Rd linking Oscar Jenny Rd with HWY N. 1st prize is a Polaris Ranger 570 UTV with trailer, 2nd \$300 and 3rd \$200. Tickets are \$10 each or \$20 for 3. Tickets are sold at Alpine Resort, Ten Point Bar and most bars and events in the area. Drawing is at the club picnic held at Prairie Rapids Tavern on September 26. One need not be present to win. Please support this effort as it will provide a close off-road experience for many ATV/UTV enthusiasts living in the Hancock Lake area.

The trail has been approved in DNR's Master Plan and supported by Woodboro Town Board. There is now reduced cost due to DNR's new trail guidelines and stronger support by WATVA, our state representative, County Forestry Department and the state board that approves grants.

Our Loon

Weekly photos by Rick Duba

Our pair of loons got off to a rocky start this year, being driven from their first nest by the black fly.



Their second attempt proved somewhat more fruitful, when on July 4th one of the two eggs hatched. The second egg failed for what ever reason and the pair abandoned it.



Fifteen days old and out cruising with mom and dad. It's been a few years since we had a chick reach this age all is looking good.



Now the big milepost eight weeks old, pretty much self-sufficient, able to feed himself and will start testing the wings.



Soon it will be time to head south for the winter.

Statewide and Regional Fishing Regulation Changes

From DNR News release

A continuous catch-and-release season for bass at all times of the year outside the harvest season will apply statewide, except where refuges or closed areas are in effect. This season will apply to inland, outlying and most boundary waters, and no bass may be harvested during the catch-and-release bass season. Waters with a current continuous bass harvest season will not see any changes.

The daily bag limit for cisco and whitefish will change from 25 pounds and one fish to 10 fish in total. This change will improve consistency in harvest limits among anglers and reduce pressure on inland cisco and whitefish populations.

The closing date of the muskellunge fishing season will be Dec. 31 on open water in the Northern Zone north of US Highway 10, including Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters and outlying waters of Lake Michigan and Green Bay north of Waldo Boulevard in Manitowoc. Open water is considered to include any conditions that do not allow ice to be used as a platform for fishing.

On the Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters, the musky season will open on June 1 and the minimum length limit for musky will be 50 inches.

For lake sturgeon fishing on Lake Superior, the minimum length limit will be 60 inches and only one sturgeon may be harvested per year.

On the Lake Winnebago System, the daily bag limit for walleye and sauger will decrease to three in total, with only one being a sauger. No size limit will apply. The Winnebago System includes Lakes Buttes des Morts, Winneconne, Poygan, Winnebago and all their tributaries from their mouths upstream to the first dam. This includes the Fox River from Lake Winnebago upstream to the dam above Princeton and all its tributaries from their mouths upstream to the first dam and the Wolf River from its mouth upstream to the dam in the city of Shawano and all its tributaries from their mouths upstream to the first dam including Cincoe lake, Partridge Crop lake and

Partridge lake in Calumet, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago counties.

In water bodies of Shawano and Waupaca counties, excluding the Winnebago system and in Lake Koshkonong, the Rock River from the Indianford dam upstream to the lower Watertown dam, the Bark River from the mouth upstream to the former Hebron Dam at Highway 106, the Crawfish River from the mouth upstream to and including the Highway 19 bridge, Busseyville (Koshkonong) Creek from the mouth upstream to County Highway B, and the tributaries of these rivers up to the first dam in Dane, Jefferson and Rock counties, the daily bag limit will also be three walleye, but with a minimum length limit of 18 inches.

For the Turtle-Flambeau Flowage and connected water bodies, including Trude Lake, the Bear River, the Flambeau River upstream of the Turtle-Flambeau Flowage at Murray's Landing, the Little Turtle River, and the Manitowish River upstream of the Flambeau River to the Rest Lake Dam, including Benson, Sturgeon and Vance lakes, the regulation for walleye will be a minimum length limit of 12 inches with only one fish over 15 inches allowed for harvest, and a daily bag limit of three.

** Be sure to check for any local regulations that may have been changed*

Something you would like to see in the newsletter?

I am always looking for ideas for articles and open to anyone's idea. You can send me an idea or write an article, and send it.

Send to billtischendorf@newnorth.net

I subscribe to the purpose of the Hancock Lake Association and have enclosed membership dues for _____ of \$20 per individual.

Signature: _____	Signature: _____
Printed Name: _____	Printed Name: _____
Home Address: _____	Home Address: _____
Lake Address: _____	Lake Address: _____
Phone: _____	Phone: _____
e-mail: _____	e-mail: _____

Please check the method on how you want to receive our Spring Newsletter: Home Address _____ Email Address _____

Membership Dues must be paid by the annual meeting, the 2nd Saturday in June. Dues are \$20 per member and should be made payable to:

Hancock Lake Association, Inc. Mail to:

Hancock Lake Association, Inc.
8412 Dombrowski Rd.
Harshaw, WI 54529

Contact:

Hancock Lake Association Website Address; hancocklakeassociation.com
Hancock Lake Association email Address; hancocklake@yahoo.com
Hancock Lake Association Facebook page; [facebook.com/Hancock Lake](https://facebook.com/HancockLake)