



## 38th Annual Lakes Convention

The 38th annual Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention will be celebrating not only lake volunteers, but also other water and environmental citizen scientists. We are teaming up with the Wisconsin Citizen-based Monitoring Network and the Water Action Volunteers (WAV) to celebrate our volunteers in one place at one time (Stevens Point, March 30-April 2). 2016 will be the 30th anniversary of Wisconsin's Citizen Lake Monitoring Network and the 20th anniversary of WAV, so we have put together a diverse program that highlights the tremendous work volunteers have accomplished with state and local partners.

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/conventions>.

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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<br>715-282-7571<br>(Term expires June 2016) | Bill Tischendorf, V. P.<br>715-282-5843<br>(Term expires June 2016)   |
| Joann Beltz, Treasurer<br>715-282-6822<br>(Term expires June 2017)   | Sherry Fechter, Secretary<br>715-282-7571<br>(Term expires June 2017) |
| Michael Ahles, Director<br>715-282-5963.<br>(Term expires June 2017) | Bruce Mezei, Director<br>715-282-5447<br>(Term expires June 2017)     |
| George Beltz, Director<br>715-771-9011<br>(Term expires June 2017)   |                                                                       |

### Lake Association Picnic

2015's summer picnic was held at the Alpine Resort and was attended by 38 member and 19 guests for a total of 57 people. Jerry Sheehan cooked the brats and burgers, the dishes that were brought to pass were a great addition to the meal again this year. We would also like to thank everyone who participated in the silent auction and 50/50 raffle. Congratulation goes to Kent Weyer to the winner of the Kayak (grand prize).



Special thanks go to the following businesses:

- Janet and LaMonte from the Northwood's Store on the corner of Hwy 51 & Hwy K for their gift certificates
- Marv & Sandy Raatz from Ten Point on Harshaw Road for bottle of booze and two \$15 gift certificate
- Pinewood Country Club on Lakewood Road of Harshaw: Sweatshirt
- Birchfield Nursery on Hwy 8 West of Rhinelander for the shrubs and bushes
- Mike Hasteriter from the Woodpecker on Hwy K in Rhinelander: bottles of booze, fishing hat and a tee shirt
- Changing Gears of Tomahawk: gave us a discount on the Kayak

- DeAnn & Scott (Alpine Resort) for letting us use their outside and inside facilities to hold the party

**Hancock Lake Boat Regatta**

This year we had another great time at our boat gathering which met on the lake at the State Owned Island Beach area. We had 6 Pontoon Boats and 3 Motorboats tied together with a total of 22 people at the gathering. Fun time was had by all. There were sub sandwiches and plenty of other food brought by all who attended. The gathering started around 12:00pm and ended at 4:00pm when the last two boats went their separate ways.



Do not miss this opportunity to share your stories and ideas with other lake residents.

**Hancock Lake Winter Fest**

This year's was great success this year with 46 registered fishermen. The Lake Association had a food stand selling burger and soda, raising. Thanks go out to Sherry F and Sherry T for their work to with the food stand..



The day was enjoyed by all that attended whether fishing or just making new friends



If you were unable to attend this year, mark your calendar for February 4<sup>th</sup> 2017.

**Annual Meeting**

Prior to the annual meeting there will be a half hour social gathering starting at 8:30 with coffee, sweets and door prizes. The business meeting starting **9 am June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016** at the Woodboro Town Hall at the junction of Oneida Lake Road and Old Highway K.

**Abbreviated agenda**

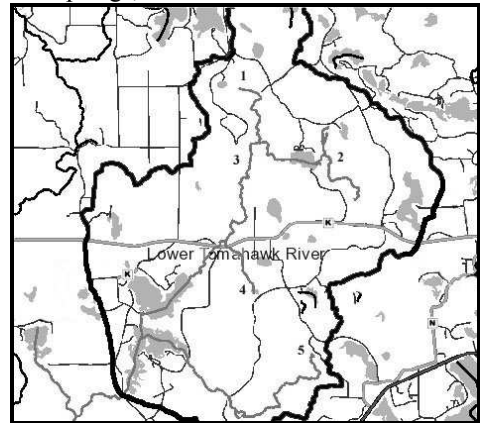
- CALL MEETING TO ORDER
- SECRETARY REPORT; SHERRY FECHTER
- TREASURERS REPORT; JOANN BELTZ

- HANCOCK LAKE UPDATE; BILL TISCHENDORF
- ONEIDA LAKE UPDATE; GEORGE BELTZ
- CRIME WATCH UPDATE; SHERRY FECHTER
- OLD BUSINESS:
- NEW BUSINESS
- NOMINATION OF OFFICERS:
  - o PRESIDENT
  - o VICE-PRESIDENT
  - o 1 DIRECTOR
- PICNIC UPDATE; JERRY SHEAHAN
- COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS:

**Hancock Lake Watershed**

By Bill Tischendorf

Have you ever given much thought as to where the lake gets its water? You may have felt those cool spots caused by springs while swimming but where did the water come from. Precipitation falling within the watershed flows toward the lower elevations some as surface waters in creeks and rivers some as ground water. Ground water can find it way back to the surface as springs, wetlands or lakes.



The Hancock lake watershed is roughly bordered by the Oneida Lake road to old K then up the Harshaw road around the west side of O-day lake, cross country to the Horsehead Lake road then back down the Sheep Ranch Road around east of Soo Lake and south crossing the west of Washburn Lake picking up the Nose Lake road closing the loop at the Oneida Lake Road. This twenty plus square miles area lies in the eastern lobe of the larger 135 Sq. mile Lower Tomahawk River watershed.

The north drained by the six mile long Rice Creek (1) originating at just above the springs off Timber Lake road working its way south where it is joined by the Goodyear creek. The Goodyear creek begins its 2.75 mile trip just a little northeast of where the Goodyear Lake road meets Hwy K. Flowing in a northwesterly direction it passes through Goodyear springs (2) then turning west to Goodyear Lake before joining Rice Creek (3) on its southerly journey to Oneida Lake picking up a small stream coming out of Pritch Lake (4) on its way.

From the east we have Trout Creek flowing from the Woodboro Springs (5) just off the road by the same name, 3 mile through mostly forest land to Hancock Lake.

Everything happening in the watershed will have an effect on the lake

# Asian Lady Beetles

by Bruce Mezei

The Asian lady beetle, an invasive species introduced into the U.S. to control aphids, has become a nuisance to residents of Hancock Lake. It is a bug that looks like a ladybug but it is orange-brown in color. It bites, stinks and stains when it is smashed.



The beetles live outdoors during the summer feeding on pests of plants. They usually make their presence known in the fall and winter when they collect in large numbers around the perimeter of houses and buildings, especially those that are lightly painted. A large number of them make their way inside to winterize in protected places. Indoor heating may even cause some of them to become active during the winter months. They like to congregate together in sunlit areas to warm themselves like the upper regions of window panes and dark screening material.

They are really good at communicating with one another with their scent and this quickly attracts more into your house. When they fear danger, they let off a strong scent to warn other beetles that danger is near.

They multiply quickly. A single female is capable of laying 3,800 eggs per season in batches of 20 to 30 per day.

There are a variety of ways to control them. When you notice them, act fast to get rid of them before the problem gets out of hand.

- Spread Diatomaceous Earth Powder around the base of your house.
- Caulk any cracks around doors and windows and replace weather stripping if needed. Make sure exterior doors close tightly. Repair any damaged screens on windows and vents. Check the attic vents too.
- Outdoors in the fall spray the beetles that are gathered on the side of the house with a garden hose and water to discourage them.
- Indoors use a vacuum cleaner to remove them from windows and walls.
- Use a scent that the beetles don't like, including citrus, citronella, camphor and menthol. Use mint oil or vinegar or make a citrus spray with Wild Orange Essential Oil diluted in some water. Spray liberally in areas you see the beetles in. Place small bags of whole cloves or whole bay leaves in areas that are heavily infested. Burn lemon or mulberry-scented candles.
- Place glue traps in windowsills or other places they are commonly seen.
- Insecticides that contain permethrin are the most effective.

In late September, just before the beetles start looking for places to overwinter, spray a residual insecticide like Hi-Yield 38 Plus Insect Control on the outside surfaces of your house. Concentrate on the sunny south and west sides, and around

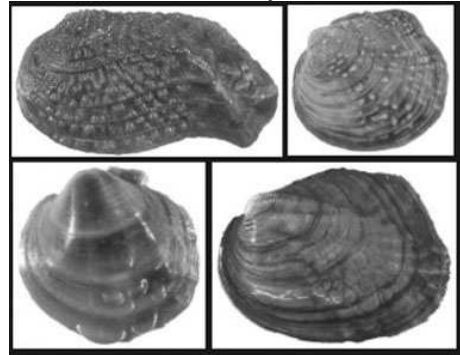
possible entry points like windows, doors, and soffits. On the inside, spray with indoor insecticides like Fertulome Multi-Purpose Insect Spray. .

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# Wisconsin Mussels

Field Guide to Wisconsin Streams

Wisconsin has fifty species of freshwater mussels and forty species of fingernail clams that inhabit our lakes, streams and rivers. While the term mussel and clam are sometimes used interchangeably they can be identified by their symmetry, clams are symmetrical and mussels are asymmetrical.



Freshwater mussels can be incredibly long lived often living many decades. They lead a solitary life on the bottom taking in oxygen and filtering algae and other organic material from the water. They are generally sedentary but can move using their large foot similar to that of the snail.

The mussel has a complex and fascinating life cycle. The male releases sperm into the water where it is siphoned in by the female, the eggs are fertilized in her gills. Fertilized eggs called glochidia have two shells but contain only one mussel for snapping shut and only minimal internal organs. The glochidia require a host to develop fully and disperse. The host is usually a fish although one species uses the mudpuppy, some mussels are very particular as to the host others more general. Mussel species have developed extraordinary tactics to attract and attach to their host. Some species develop lures that look like minnows, crayfish or other prey. When the host fish comes to investigate the female expels her glochidia into the fish. Other species release their glochidia in a egg mass in various shapes that look like worms or other food items even insect larvae.

The glochidia obtain nutrients from the host as well as a free ride, but are generally harmless to the host. After a few weeks to a few months the juveniles drop from the host and settle in the sediment where they stay for up to a half century.

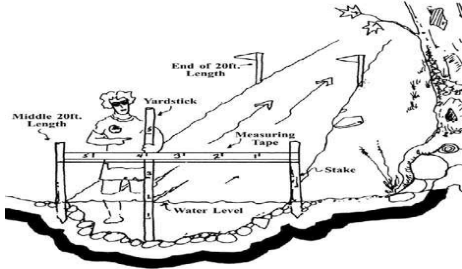
Freshwater mussels are one of the most endangered groups of animals in North America and the globe. In Wisconsin over half our mussels are listed as either endangered, threatened or a species of special concern. In the past mussels were harvested in great numbers, however it is currently illegal to take live mussels from Wisconsin waters. Empty shells may be collected except for shells of threatened or endangered species. Live mussels may be removed for examination but must be returned afterwards to the location they were removed from

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# Stream Monitoring

by Bill Tischendorf

For the last two years I have been monitoring Trout Creek up stream from Hancock, and Rice Creek down stream from Hancock. This year I would like to add the creek from Oneida Lake to my list. Stream monitoring provides important baseline and trend data that may be a early indicator of changes within the watershed. Insufficient data represents a major hurdle to making informed decisions about local resources.



Water Action Volunteers (WAV) is a statewide program for Wisconsin citizens who want to learn about and improve the quality of Wisconsin's streams and rivers. The program is coordinated through a partnership between the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the University of Wisconsin – Cooperative Extension. Water Action Volunteers (WAV) stream monitors measure six important elements of stream health:

1. *Dissolved oxygen*—Measuring of the level of oxygen dissolved in the water is important since aquatic life depends on it. Measuring dissolved oxygen is done with a Hach kit that uses a chemical reaction to compute the oxygen content.
2. *Temperature*—Water temperature changes can affect aquatic life, causing greater demand for oxygen or limiting survival of organisms.
3. *Turbidity*—A measure of water clarity, including effects of both particles in the water and its color. Turbidity determined by the depth of the water in a 120mm tube at which the secchi disc target at the bottom becomes visible.
4. *Stream flow*—Flow is calculated by using the float method. A 20 foot section of the stream is marked off as the test site. Depth measurements are taken at regular intervals across the stream. From this a cross section average depth is calculated. Test floats are taken at regular intervals across the test site. Using the average float time and average depth stream flow is calculated.
5. *Habitat*—Assessing stream bank, bed, and riparian vegetation can tell us if habitat is suitable for aquatic organisms. The length of the stream assessed is 35 times the width of the stream. Within this area we score, bank erosion, riparian buffer, pool areas, riffle ratios, cover for fish to come up with a habit score.
6. *Stream macroinvertebrate life*—Insects, worms, crustaceans, clams, etc. that are visible without the aid of a microscope are used to assess water quality based on their tolerance to various levels of dissolved oxygen. Netting various locations in the stream, riffles, pools, undercut banks and debris we collect a large

array of life. By scoring these as to their tolerance to pollution, and dissolved oxygen requirements we get a biotic index of the health of the stream.

Dissolved oxygen, temperature, turbidity, and flow are monitored once a month April-October. Habitat is monitored once a year and macroinvertebrates are monitored each spring and fall.

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## The Ducks Are Coming!

by George Beltz

The Lake Association of Oneida Lake and the Hancock Lake Association are currently planning an exciting joint fundraiser [on Sept. 3](#). We will be having a rubber duck race starting at the outlet of Oneida Lake and ending somewhere downstream. Preliminary testing will have to be completed to determine the end point – we don't want any ducks to be too stressed out!

Tickets will be available soon and can be purchased from all board members or at the Alpine Resort at the lock box next to the large table. A \$5 ticket gets you one duck. Prizes will be determined soon. There will be raffles, food, and other fund raising activities at the Alpine Resort after the race. Tell all your friends!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

PLACE WOODBORO TOWN HALL

TIME SECOND SATURDAY OF JUNE 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2016, 9AM

### HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL PICNIC

PLACE ALPINE RESORT ONEIDA LAKE

TIME THIRD SATURDAY OF JULY 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2016

### HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION BOAT REGATTA

PLACE HANCOCK LAKE ISLAND

TIME FIRST SATURDAY OF AUGUST 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2016, NOON

### HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION WINTER FEST

PLACE HANCOCK LAKE ON THE ICE

TIME FIRST SATURDAY OF FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup> 2017, 9AM-4PM

### WISCONSIN LAKES PARTNERSHIP CONVENTION

PLACE HOLIDAY INN CONVENTION CENTER STEVENS POINT, WI

TIME MARCH 30-APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> 2016

### NORTHWEST WISCONSIN LAKES CONFERENCE

PLACE HAYWARD, WI

TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED

### KEEPING UP TO DATE WITH THE ASSOCIATION.

[www.HancockLakeAssociation.com](http://www.HancockLakeAssociation.com)

[www.facebook.com/HancockLake](https://www.facebook.com/HancockLake)

[Hancocklake@yahoo.com](mailto:Hancocklake@yahoo.com)

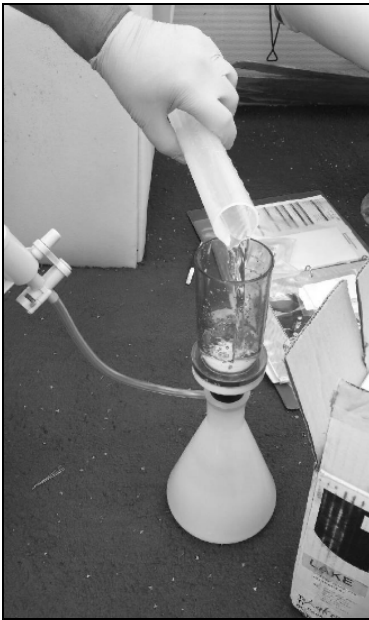
## OFFICER ELECTION.

The term of office of President, Vice-President and one at-large directors 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:** ☺

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and admiration to a very special Hancock Lake Association member: **Bill Tischendorf**. Many of us are aware of his leadership role when it comes to documenting and picking invasive weeds, but there is a lot more to this story that needs to be told. The work and time that Bill contributes for the water in Hancock Lake and the streams that flow into and out of Hancock Lake should be noted. I had a chance to follow along with Bill this last summer, and believe me when I say it was an eye opener after I found out what he all does because of his love of Hancock Lake and its surroundings. Most of us know that our Lake Association was started back in 2005, but it may surprise you to know that Bill began these efforts back in 2000.

Lake and stream water depth, clarity, color, temperature, chemistry and bugs are some of things that are checked, recorded and sent in to Madison monthly throughout the summer. We spent a couple of hours looking at the different bugs that exist in the stream water, which I found amazing and of course Bill could name all of them by sight. Please take the time to ask Bill for more details and most of all thank him for his time and dedication.



**Thank you sincerely, Randy Fechter**

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# Lake Association of Oneida Lake

by George Beltz

The Lake Association of Oneida Lake was formed for the same reason many lake associations form – invasive weeds. When Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) was first found on the lake, Alpine Resort and a few property owners were paying divers to come in once a year and pull the weeds. Soon they had to have divers come in twice a year to keep up. The lake association was officially formed in 2008.

Emergency funding from the DNR was used for several years for lake surveys, divers, and finally chemical treatment. That money is no longer available and any further state money will not be available unless a very expensive Lake Management Plan is completed.

Last year they self-funded over \$6000 for divers and lake surveys in both the spring and fall. Divers from Aquatic Plant

Management, LLC pulled 576 gallons of EWM and unfortunately the final survey showed an increase in weeds over the spring survey. Although it is possible that the first survey was affected by low water visibility, it was still disappointing to see the large amount of weeds in the lake at the end of the season.

A meeting was held with Kevin Gauthier of the DNR in January to discuss the best options for Oneida Lake. The DNR has been noticing that many lakes with no weed pulling or chemical treatments are reaching a natural equilibrium with EWM and are recommending that lake associations at least consider a less aggressive stance on control and see what will happen naturally. They say it is best to focus on the overall health of the lake as much (or more) than any single invasive.

The Lake Association of Oneida Lake has decided to take that advice. They will be focusing on fundraising to build a war chest for whatever is needed in the future, whether it's a Lake Management Plan or aggressive weed control.

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Dues must be paid by the annual meeting, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in June. Dues are \$20 per member and should be made payable to:  
Hancock Lake Association, Inc. Mail to:

**Hancock Lake Association, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 171**  
**Tomahawk, WI 54487**

Contact:

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

Hancock Lake Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 171  
Tomahawk, WI 54487

POSTAGE  
REQUIRED

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address  
Street Number and Name  
City, State 98765-4321