



HANCOCK LAKE



Volume 9, Issue 1

Spring 2017



39th Annual Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention

Your 39th annual Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention will offer several concurrent session opportunities. In addition to these sessions, there will also be Hands-on Workshops, Special Technical Sessions, Poster Sessions, and the Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Awards Banquet, as well as keynote and lunch speakers. Don't forget to check out all of the other networking opportunities and hands-on workshops! For complete agenda of concurrent sessions and workshops visit the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership web site.

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 39th Annual Lakes Convention
- 1 Message from the Board
- 3 The Value of Gardening with Native Plants
- 3 From Lake to Sky
- 3 Oneida & Hancock Duck Race
- 4 A Tapestry of Life
- 4 Calendar of Events
- 5 Note From The President
- 5 Oak Wilt
- 6 Midwest Crane Count
- 6 Membership Form

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
715-282-7571
(Term expires June 2018) | Bill Tischendorf, V. P.
715-282-5843
(Term expires June 2018) |
| Joann Beltz, Treasurer
715-282-6822
(Term expires June 2017) | Sherry Fechter, Secretary
715-282-7571
(Term expires June 2017) |
| Michael Ahles, Director
715-282-5963.
(Term expires June 2017) | Bruce Mezei, Director
715-282-5447
(Term expires June 2018) |
| George Beltz, Director
715-771-9011
(Term expires June 2017) | |



Annual Meeting

Annual meeting will be held June 10th 8:30 at the Woodboro Town Hall with a half hour social gathering before the meeting begins at 9AM. On the agenda:

- Call meeting to order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Secretary Report, last meeting minutes; **Sherry Fechter**
- Treasurers Report; **Joann Beltz**
- Crime watch update; **Sherry Fechter**
- Hancock Lake update; **Bill Tischendorf**
- Oneida Lake update; **George Beltz**
- Old business;
 - Island Restoration; **Randy Fechter**
 - Duck Race (Hancock and Oneida Lake Associations) **Sherry Fechter/Joann Beltz**
- New business;
 - Spring newsletter: Mail and/or Email **Randy Fechter**
 - Fund raising committee: **Sherry Fechter**

- Summer Picnic: Door Prize discussion **Randy Fechter**
- Picnic planning committee; **Jerry Sheahan**
- Boat Gathering: **Sherry Fechter**
- Duck Race (Hancock and Oneida Lake Associations) **Sherry Fechter/Joann Beltz**
- Voluntary boat launch fee box at boat landing; **Randy Fechter**
- Boat landing upkeep; **Sherry Tischendorf**
- Nomination of officers;
 - ❖ Secretary
 - ❖ Treasurer
 - ❖ 2 Directors
- Comments or questions;
- Motion to adjourn

Lake Association Picnic



Last years picnic was a great success with good food, good fellowship, door prizes, silent auction and a 50/50 raffle. This year the picnic will be July 15th at the Alpine Resort, and promises to be as much fun as prior years. This year we will be limiting the door prizes to members in good standing(dues paid up to date) the kayaka will be on a raffle each member will have a ticket put in when they signin, additional tickets will be on sale for non member and member. The silent auction and 50/50 raffle will be open to everyone. So mark your calander for July 15th and we will see you there.

Hancock Lake Boat Regatta



Our boat regatta will again be held just off the beach of the island on Aug 5th at noon. In the past the association furnished subs this year we are going with burgers. Last year we used the lake association boat for all the food which worked well. Bring a dish and your own refreshments and join the party, if you do not have away out check with other members for a ride out.

2nd Annual Duck Race

The first joint Oneida & Hancock Lake Association Duck race took place September 3rd last 2016, this years race will be Sept

2nd. See the article on page 3 for more details.



Hancock Lake Winter Fest

Tisch's annual Hancock Lake Fishing Tournament was Saturday 2-4-17 and it was a great time. There were 52 entries in the fishing tournament along with a good number of non-fishing lake association members attending the activities.

Tisch's Hancock Lake Ice Fishing Tournament						
Year	Entry	Northern	Crappie	Pan Fish	Perc h	Fund Raiser \$
2013	44	29 3/4"	13"	7 1/2"	11"	\$100.00
2014	Cancelled					
2015	42	29"	14"	7 1/4"	10"	\$104.00
2016	46	28 1/4"	10"	7 3/4"	10"	\$153.00
2017	52	28 1/2"	11"	7 1/4"	9 3/4"	\$241.00

A special thanks to the following for donating prizes:

- Rocky's Roadhouse Bar & Grill
- Marc & Tanya Tischendorf
- Mike Kocher
- Bill & Sherry Tischendorf
- Mike Dupont
- Milton Kemp

Thank you Marc Tischendorf for the fun time!

Our Lake Association had another successful year of selling hamburgers, chips, soda, cookies and hot chocolate. We collected \$241.00, but more importantly we had a lot of fun. A special thanks for the following for there help to make it another successful year:

- Sherry Tischendorf
- Sherry Fechter
- Bill Tischendorf (donated \$87.00, 1st place Pan Fish)
- Jerry Sheahan (Rice Krispies Treats)
- Margaret Rothlisberger (Cookies)

Hancock Lake President: Randy Fechter

GO PAPERLESS

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via E-mail please let us know by sending a e-mail stating so to Hancocklake@yahoo.com.



The days are growing longer, the weather is warming, and the seed catalogs are coming everyday in the mail. As our thoughts turn to spring planting let us think about native plants.

The Value of Gardening with Native Plants

By Patrick Goggin, Lakes Specialist, UW-Extension Lakes

People around North America are planting more native gardens. Native grasses, sedges, rushes, wildflowers, ferns, shrubs and trees bolster habitat for wildlife, conserve water and beautify our home landscapes. These native gardens can provide a natural privacy fence, offer migratory birds food and shelter and support pollinators in dire need of nectar and host plants. Native gardens are even used beyond home landscapes, such as at hospitals and mental health clinics, to aid in faster healing from many different ailments. But even with all these benefits, replacing lawn areas with natives still has its barriers. Convincing homeowners to make the switch to native plants can be a tough sell, mainly because of the perception that lawns are elegant while natives are messy.

Read the entire article along with color photos in the spring issue of Lake Tides at the UW Stevens Point web site.

www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/resources/newsletter/default.aspx

From Lake To Sky

As I rake the sediment along shoreline into small piles to dry there is movement and a very fierce looking beetle type bug crawls out and scurries back into the water. Not really a beetle but the larvae of the dragonfly she returns to the debris in littoral zone where she has spent the last three years feeding on invertebrate, tadpoles and even small fishes. Later on as the water warms she will crawl out of the lake and position herself in the June sunshine on docks or branches along the shoreline. Here her exoskeleton now splits open and slowly the adult emerges unfolding wings and tail to dry in the summer heat.



Now as an adult Twelve-spotted Skimmer she takes to the air, with 30,000 faceted eyes and four wings that move independent

of each other she has an incredibly efficient 95% success on capturing prey. Consuming hundreds of mosquitoes and other small flying insects per day by catching them in a basket formed by her legs while in flight. She will mate while flying in tandem with the male, after she flies off dipping the tip abdomen in the shallow water while hovering just above the surface and lays a sting of eggs. The male will aggressively guard the female until the eggs are deposited as other males may attempt to mate with the female, which can displace the sperm from the previous mating.



Hancock Lake and the Oneida Lake Associations will host the 2nd Annual Duck Race! This fund raising event will take place September 2nd on [Rice Creek] the waterway that flows between the two lakes.

Being that our lakes are connected, we have the unique opportunity to combine our efforts, meet members from both Lake Associations and understand each other's objectives.

We have started a Fund Raising Committee of our own and are looking for volunteers to join this committee. If you are interested in being part of this fun group please contact Sherry Fechter committee lead. As a member, this will be a great opportunity to engage with a team and have plenty of fun!

Duck Race Tickets are available at The Alpine Resort or from any of our board members for \$5 each. Each ticket sponsors one Duck to compete in the race. Your help is needed promoting and selling tickets for the Duck Race.

For this event to be profitable, we will need the volunteers to help assist with additional event activities that will follow the Duck Race, at the Alpine Resort. Additional activities include a 50/50 raffle, paddle raffles and a lot of other 'Duck' related activities!

Please email or call if you are willing to help, and mark your calendars so you don't miss this exciting event!

hancocklake@yahoo.com or (920-979-8825) Sherry's number

The committees have printed new Duck Race tickets this year, they look great!



A Tapestry of Life

From
Aquatic Plant Management
of Wisconsin

The home for most aquatic plants is the shallow water area in a lake called the littoral zone. Much of a lake ecosystem depends on what happens in that zone. When a part of it is removed, it is like removing a house in the neighborhood, the residents that once lived there can no longer return, and when enough homes are removed, and enough residents are lost, the interactions that make the neighborhood a viable community cease, and the community fails. A community of aquatic plants is part of what makes a healthy lake ecosystem.

Wisconsinites recognize that aquatic plants at the lake edge are a beautiful, protective and nourishing component of the lake ecosystem. Emergent, floating and submersed plants are the binding thread in a watery tapestry of life. Aquatic plants help with soil stabilization and create a thriving habitat for animals.

Emergent plants can help filter runoff from uplands to protect lake water quality. Their roots create complex networks that stabilize sediments at the water's edge where buffeting waves might otherwise erode the lakeshore. These plant beds are essential to the spawning success of many fish species, and provide cover and nesting for marshbirds, songbirds and waterfowl. Purple flowered pickerelweed, delicate white duck potato and sedges and grasses of all textures add beauty to the lake upland interface.

Floating-leaved plants provide shade and refuge for the near shore animal community, giving invertebrates and small fish a place to live. They also serve as hunting grounds for larger predators. Yellow and white pond lilies and red watershield create a stunning ring of color around many lakes.

Submersed aquatic plants perform countless functions in the shallow, near shore area called the littoral zone. These plants photosynthesize, creating life-giving oxygen for the animals that live in the littoral zone. Submersed plants absorb phosphorus and nitrogen over their leaf surface and through their roots, decreasing the nutrient availability to nuisance algae. Plant roots stabilize soils and reduce the turbidity caused when sediments are resuspended. Submersed plants are also a key component of the intricate logic of nature humans call the "food web."

There is great variety in form and texture among submersed plants. Some, like water celery or bur-reed, have smooth ribbon-like leaves. Other plants, such as bladderworts, water-milfoils, water marigold and coontail, have finely dissected leaves. The pondweeds range from fine-leaved to broad-leaved. Rosette-type plants, with short, stiff leaves, are common in sandy and nutrient poor sites. Together, these plants create a diverse and beautiful underwater garden.

Underwater plants are a home, safe haven, nursery and bountiful buffet for the diverse parade of creatures that need the water for life, and that make living near the water enjoyable for us. From moose to minute invertebrates, animals eat the foliage

and seeds, or graze the algae that coat the plants. Fish communities, from minnows to musky, live and feed in the shade and shelter of lake plants. They are linked to the otter and mink. Plants slow water movement and provide cover for eggs and offspring. They are meshed with the dragonflies and water beetles that are bound to frogs and turtles that are vital to herons and loons.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

PLACE WOODBORO TOWN HALL
TIME SECOND SATURDAY OF JUNE 10TH, 2017, 8:30AM

HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL PICNIC

PLACE ALPINE RESORT ONEIDA LAKE
TIME THIRD SATURDAY OF JULY 15TH, 2017

HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION BOAT REGATTA

PLACE HANCOCK LAKE ISLAND
TIME FIRST SATURDAY OF AUGUST 5TH, 2017, NOON

ONEIDA & HANCOCK LAKE ASSOC. DUCK RACE

PLACE CREEK BETWEEN THE LAKES
TIME FIRST SATURDAY OF SEPTEMBER 2ND 2017

HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION WINTER FEST

PLACE HANCOCK LAKE ON THE ICE
TIME FIRST SATURDAY OF FEBRUARY 3RD 2018, 9AM-4PM

WISCONSIN LAKES PARTNERSHIP CONVENTION

PLACE HOLIDAY INN CONVENTION CENTER STEVENS POINT, WI
TIME APRIL 5TH -APRIL 7ST 2017

MIDWEST CRANE COUNT

PLACE ONEIDA COUNTY
TIME SATURDAY APRIL 8TH 5AM-7:30AM

NORTHWEST WISCONSIN LAKES CONFERENCE

PLACE HAYWARD HIGH SCHOOL
TIME FRIDAY JUNE 16TH 2017

KEEPING UP TO DATE WITH THE ASSOCIATION.

www.HancockLakeAssociation.com
www.facebook.com/HancockLake
Hancocklake@yahoo.com

OFFICER ELECTION.

The term of office of Treasurer, Secretary and two 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 or e-mail.



Note from the President:

Hi,

I hope everyone had a great winter. For an outdoorsman the weather was not ideal, but at least the temperature was tolerable.

First off, we board members enjoy blessing our members with sympathy and get well cards. Therefore, please notify us if a situation arises where this would apply to you or other members. We truly want to build relationships, remain connected, and encourage each other through difficult times.

Next, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to all our members and acknowledge the dedication and service for everyone who participated in our activities throughout the year. This extends to the board members who “go the extra mile” to ensure our gatherings are enjoyable.

Furthermore, we had another year of successful lake association events: Summer Picnic, Boat Regatta, Duck Race and Ice Fishing Jamboree. Our newest event, the Duck Race, partnered our Lake Association with the Oneida Lake Association. As a fundraiser, this was a huge success and in my opinion a great time. Even more, our Lake Association collected over \$2,000 from this event.

If you missed our first Duck Race, do not worry for it will become another annual event. With that in mind, we again ask for your help with selling tickets for this year’s event. Please contact us at your convenience to help get started.

Have a wonderful Spring and a Happy Easter!

Thank you sincerely,

Randy Fechter

Pitcher in the bog

Pitcher plants live in wet, acidic, nutrient-poor environments. They survive by luring and trapping insects that become their source for nitrogen. Nine of the ten pitcher plant species found in the United States grow in the south. Only the northern pitcher plant, thrives on sphagnum moss mats of northern bogs.

Northern 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. The green trap leaves, striated with burgundy veins, flare out prominently near the mouth and collect rainwater.

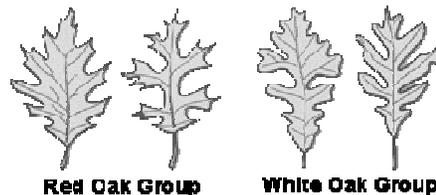
Pitcher plants are present on the bogs around the lake. Grab your camera, jump into a canoe or kayak and explore the bogs. Let’s see how many pics of this incredible plants we can come up with by the picnic.

OAK WILT

From
WDNR Webpage

WDNR recommends that one should avoid pruning, cutting, and wounding oak from April 15, through July 15,

Oak wilt is caused by a fungus. The fungus invades areas inside the tree where water moves. Later, balloon-like bumps are formed plugging up the water's path through the tree. As water movement inside the tree is slowed, the leaves wilt and drop off the tree.



Oaks in the red oak group (black, northern red, northern pin and others with pointed leaf edges) get this disease most easily. Oaks in the white oak group (white, swamp white, burr and others with rounded leaf edges) are less susceptible. Most oak wilt moves from diseased trees to healthy trees through roots that have become interconnected (root grafts). Most root grafts form between oaks of the same species; grafts between red and white oaks are very rare. In general, red oak roots graft more than white oak roots.

Oak wilt can also spread above ground by sap-feeding beetles. In the spring, fungal mats (small masses of *Ceratocystis fagacearum*) develop under the bark of some trees that have died from oak wilt the year before. These mats force the bark to crack open. The fungus produces a sweet odor that attracts sap-feeding beetles to the mats. The beetles then fly to healthier oaks to feed on sap flowing from fresh wounds, carrying the fungus on them and thus infecting healthy trees.

If the disease is allowed to progress, it will spread to healthy oaks that are connected by the roots (root grafts) to the diseased trees. In forested areas where oak is common and root grafting is widespread, an ever-widening pocket of dead oaks will form. Where oak is mixed with other species and is a minor part of the forest, oak wilt will spread slower and may actually stop where roots are not grafted. New pockets of dead oak may also be formed by sap-feeding beetles spreading oak wilt above ground.

Dead oak trees can serve as excellent den trees for wildlife. Oaks do not decay as quickly as aspen, birch and red maple, so they will provide shelter for wildlife for many years. Also, as oaks die, the site often becomes brushy for about 10 years. Warblers, grosbeaks, cuckoos, cardinals, grouse, rabbits, deer and shrews will be attracted to the brushy area. Brown creepers may nest under the bark falling off of dead trees. Dead trees will also supply insects for birds, and large dead trees may provide perches for raptors.

Oak wilt also spreads when firewood or logs from infected trees with fungal mats are moved. Fungal mats hide easily in firewood and often go unnoticed.



Midwest Crane Count

Each year in mid-April, over 1,000 volunteers rise early and travel to their local wetlands and favorite birding locations to participate in the Midwest Crane Count. This annual survey of Sandhill and Whooping Cranes spans over 90 counties in six states of the upper Midwest (Wisconsin and portions of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, and Minnesota). We use the Crane Count data to study Sandhill Crane population trends and new areas where cranes are colonizing, while the survey is a powerful tool for creating awareness about cranes and their wetland habitats.

Last year a total of 1,261 volunteers at 1,062 sites counted 11,761 cranes. In Oneida County 37 volunteers in 33 sites counted 131 cranes. The cranes are counted by their calls, it is not necessary to actually view the cranes, that's only a plus.

Contact calls are low pitched and soft calls that allow the birds to keep in contact with each other even if they can't see each other in the deep grass or reeds.

UnisonCall are produced by a pair of birds. This call, performed with the birds standing close to each other and in a synchronized duet, is a way of reinforcing the pair bond between a female and a male bird.

Guard Calls are single loud vocalizations used to warn other cranes of danger or to threaten other cranes. These calls are sometimes echoed by the other member of the pair.

Midwest Crane Count
Saturday, April 8, 2017 – 5:30-7:30 AM
Post-Count Gathering & Data Collection:
8 AM, Tula's Restaurant, Trig's Riverwalk Centre
232 S Courtney St., Rhinelander, WI

If you would be interested participating in next years annual crane count the Oneida county coordinators are Bob & Jan Dall 715.401.3214 janbobdall@gmail.com.

Do you know where this is?



This might be hard.



This one should be a little easier

Answer will be given at the annual meeting.

Word of wisdom more or less

Why is it that a single match can start a forest fire, but it takes an entire box to start a campfire?

We spend the first two years of our children's life teaching them to walk and talk, and the next eighteen years telling them to sit down and shut up.

When I die, I want to go peacefully like my Grandfather did, in his sleep -- not screaming, like the passengers in his car.

Accept that some days you are the pigeon and some days the statue.

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

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

Signature: _____
Printed Name: _____
Home Address: _____
Lake Address: _____
Phone: _____
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: _____ Contact: _____

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

Hancock Lake Association Website Address; hancocklakeassociation.com
Hancock Lake Association email Address; hancocklake@yahoo.com
Hancock Lake Association Facebook page; facebook.com/HancockLake