



Sustaining the lakes for everyone.

NEWSLETTER

HELP KEEP HITCHHIKERS OUT OF THE PIKE CHAIN

Whether you're a weekender or a full-timer, your place on the Pike Chain is a treasure – a place to enjoy the beauty and the wonder of Wisconsin's northwoods and waters.

Keeping our places beautiful and sustainable requires keeping the Pike Chain beautiful and sustainable. Pristine lakes are our most valuable assets, but they face the ongoing threat of aquatic invasive species – mainly Eurasian water milfoil.

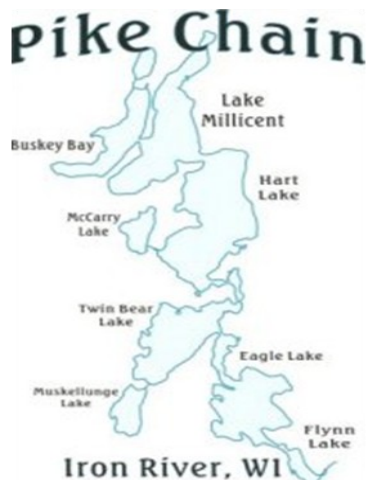
PCLA is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization. We aren't affiliated with the Wisconsin DNR but often work

closely with them as we are both working toward many of the same goals, including milfoil abatement. Annual treatments on the Pike Chain have reduced the amount of treatable Eurasian water milfoil by 78 percent since 2007, but there's still a great burden on the PCLA to keep this effort going.

One requirement of our grant-funded milfoil abatement is that we provide matching funds, which we can achieve with in-kind labor credits. If you have spent time diving for milfoil or inspecting boats at the launch, please make sure to log your hours with PCLA.

Many states have cut funding for milfoil treatments, meaning a sustainable lakes association is a critical part of a sustainable Pike Chain. If you are not yet a member of the PCLA, please consider joining. If you're already a member, please consider an additional contribution to protect our lakes.

For members and non-members alike, one of the simplest things you can do to protect our lakes is to get smart about them. Visit <http://www.pikechain.org> for more information. By: Mike Durkin



2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| Al Bochler, President | Martha Oie |
| Eddie Wangenstein, Vice President | Debb Sharbonno |
| Jay Kernan, Treasurer | Greg Ogren |
| Robert Ruef, Asst. Treasurer | Jim Swenson |
| Kristen Sandager, Secretary | Howard Lehman |
| John Joseph, Past President/
website | Ed Brunner |
| Bill Swenson | |

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES UPDATE

Our AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species Committee) has been working on the presence of EWM (Eurasian water milfoil) that was first found in 2004 with the assistance of a \$160,000.00 DNR grant over the past 5 years. We have been able to control the major beds by hand pulling and chemicals. History shows we can only contain the EWM, not control it.



It spreads from seeds, fragments of the plants when they break up naturally and from the root systems. Our committee has received invaluable support from about 20 individuals over the past 5 years with their hand pulling and monitoring being a major part of our accomplishments.

Our committee is now looking to the future with a new Aquatic Invasive Species Control grant being applied for. We are working with our consultant

(Onterra LLC), Jeremy Bates- Bayfield County Invasive Species Coordinator, and the DNR to complete this application. Our past results with the previous grant will be a positive factor in the grant process.

Thank you for all your support and encouragement over the past years.

Committee: Barb Boehler, JoAnn Bassett , John Westman, Al Boehler

WHAT A GREAT WAY TO START THE DAY

AND IT WAS for the 71 people who gathered at the Iron River Community Center on August 3 for the 2013 PCLA Annual Meeting.

Meeting Highlights

- Time to enjoy refreshments, connect with others who treasure the Chain, and purchase colorful Pike Chain apparel before the business meeting.
- Business meeting started promptly at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 10:35 a.m.
- Informative presentation on common native and invasive species in the area lakes by Jeremy Bates, Bayfield AIS Coordinator. Eurasian water milfoil continues to be our biggest concern; zebra mussels are still confined to Lake Superior and our biggest urgency: rusty crayfish are a potential threat.
- Update on the CBCW Program by Karen Austin, coordinator. CBCW continues to be a successful program with boat inspections and 1:1 education.
- Update on the Vacation Check Program by Scot Eisenhauer, IR Chief of Police. There were 3 break ins during the winter of 2012 on Hart Lake. All were by the same 3 suspects who have been apprehended and were after prescription medication. Prevention: keep driveways cleared in the winter, post a "security" type sign and sign up for the vacation check program- forms available on www.pikechain.org. Lake safety is good.
- Committee reports: Aquatic Invasive Species, Education, Fishery, Fundraising, Water Quality, Adopt-a-Highway
- Elections
- Motion passed keeping membership dues at \$15 as recommended by the Board of Directors.
- Drawing for 4 Pike Chain apparel items
- Time for questions from the audience.

WOW!!! All of this accomplished in less than 2 hours -just as V.P. Eddie promised.

“PADDLE THE PEARLS”



Karen Austin, CBCW coordinator, uses the Pike Chain educational map developed by the PCLA Education Committee during her presentation to the paddlers.

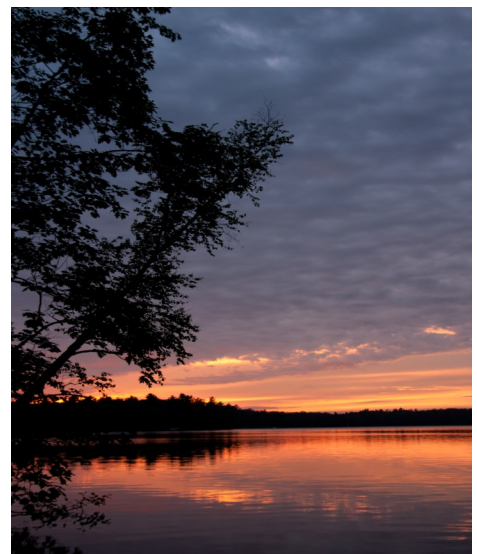
On August 23, a group of paddlers enjoyed an "ed-venture" on the Pike Chain as part of the "Paddle the Pearls" program. While getting out and having fun enjoying the Lake Superior regions various waterways, paddlers also explore the ecology, natural history and culture of Northern Wisconsin Aquatic “Pearls” and learn how to identify native plants and invasive species.

Each 2 hour on- the- water trip, was led by Diane Daulton-Wisconsin DNR Lake Superior Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist and Cathy Techtmann-UW Extension Environmental Outreach State Specialist, in conjunction with local experts. Karen Austin, CBCW, talked with the paddlers about AIS on the Chain before they hit the water.

Other paddling ed-ventures this summer included: Fish Creek Estuary, Ashland; Bark Bay Sloughs-Estuary, Herbster; Namekagon River-Cable; and Manitowish River-Manitowish Waters. “Paddle the Pearls” is through a partnership between WI DNR, UW-Extension, River Alliance of WI, Great Lakes Visitor Center, Cable Natural History Museum, and Sollstice

ADVICE FROM A LAKE

Be clear~ Make positive
ripples~
Look beneath the surface~
Stay calm ~Shore up
friendships~
Take time to reflect~
Be full of life!
(from Your True Nature)



Hart Lake: photo by Martin Wangenstein

2 NEW DIRECTORS JOIN THE BOARD: JAY KERNAN & MARTHA OIE

JAY KERNAN, a 50-year resident of the Pike Chain, is one of our new Board members and our new Treasurer.

Jay's family built their cabin, the A-frame just to the south of the Pike Chain Park and County Road H bridge on Twin Bear, in 1963, and the Iron River area has been a big part of Jay's life. As a teenager in the 60s, he worked for Wayne and Betty Wheeler at Wheeler's Lodge (now Hyde's) and for Lois Leslie at the Iron River A&W, and spent his spare time waterskiing and "chasing the resort girls and car hops". He also fondly remembers playing baseball for the Iron River town team in the late 60s. He took over the the cabin from his Dad several years ago, and has made a number of renovations and improvements to allow it to continue to be a getaway for his family and his brother and sister.

Jay spent his entire 36-year professional career with international accounting firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers. During that time, he managed several practice areas in the Chicago office, and moved to Minneapolis in 2001 to manage the Merger and Acquisition practice. In 2004, he became managing partner of the 400-person Minneapolis office, and in 2008 he became a member of the Firm's National Business Development team. He retired in 2011.

Jay and his wife, Laurie, live in the Minneapolis suburb of Orono, MN. They have 6 children and 2 grandchildren, all of whom gathered at "The Cabin" this 4th of July weekend to celebrate their 50 years on the Pike Chain.

MARTHA OIE is happy to be serving the PCLA. She's a displaced Minnesotan originally from Minnetonka, so has some (unfortunate) familiarity with aquatic invasives, particularly EWM. Her "day job" includes several consulting gigs as well as work in Independent Living – helping folks across all disabilities secure and maintain the highest possible level of independence and integration into their communities through adaptive technology, advocacy, resource development and much more. Martha's education was, and is focused on perceptual and behavioral sciences; her passions leading her to environmental and social issues as well as spending time with good friends, reading and kayaking. on the lakes! . "I am impressed with the level of expertise and dedication among the PCLA Board and members and I look forward to meeting more of you. See you on the lakes! "



Thank you to Bob Ruef –Treasurer, Tony Mullozzi, Eddie Wangenstein-Vice President, Kris Sandager-Secretary whose terms were completed in 2013 and Jim Swenson whose term was done in 2012. Eddie, Kris, and Jim were re-elected to serve another term.

Bob Ruef also agreed to serve as Asst. Treasurer through Dec. 2013-THANK YOU BOB!

If you are receiving duplicate mailings of the newsletter OR know of someone who isn't getting it, please contact Kris at 715-559-8622 or email: sandagk@yahoo.com



JENNIFER HAAS, from Haas Design, has created our *NEW LOOK* and *LOGO* for the PCLA! We want to send a BIG THANKS to her for her creativity and design knowledge. She really tells it all as you view her inspirational loon design. We feel our new look is a true sentiment to send the message of *our commitment to caring for our chain of lakes now and the future!* Jennifer also designs "North Land" shirts, towels, pillowcases, etc. She has a unique talent for personalizing items for each of our lakes. If you are interested, contact Jennifer at haasdesign@comcast.net

MATT STIEVE, photographer, for the beautiful photographic artwork entitled "Loon Lunch on the Pike Chain" that was sold at the annual meeting with proceeds to PCLA.

MARTHA OIE, who contributed to 2012 Lake Management whose name was missed in the 2013 spring newsletter.

CBCW PROGRAM and volunteers.

THANK YOU members, donors, volunteers, and **ALL** who care and work to keep the lakes sustainable!



Have a story idea?

Or a photo to share?

If you would like to write an article about the Pike Chain for the newsletter or have a photo or other information to share for the web-site or newsletter contact:

Newsletter:

Kris at sandagk@yahoo.com

Web-site:

John at iron.river@hotmail.com

Photograph by Dee Sibley

Iron River Area CLEAN BOATS CLEAR WATERS (CBCW) PROGRAM : HELPING SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE THREAT OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

At boat landings on the Pike Chain this past year over 1,500 boats were inspected. This has significantly reduced the threat of aquatic invasive species (AIS) to our lakes. Also, over 4,000 contacts were made and these folks were educated about the steps they should take to prevent the spread of AIS. This was done by a remarkable Clean Boats Clean Waters Team lead by Karen Austin. Together they did almost 1,000 hours of monitoring boat landings at Twin Bear (603 hours), Hydes (250 hours), and the town landing on Wheeler Road. (132 hours) They will continue inspections into the fall and for the Musky Tournament at the end of October.



The Iron River Area Clean Boats Clean Waters program has not only been successful in educating boaters, but also engages many residents and youth in protecting our lakes. Many of those trained for this program also search for invasives when they are out enjoying the recreating opportunities these wonderful lakes provide.

This program has been funded both in part by WI DNR grant funding and some gracious contributions by the area lake associations. **We are pleased to report that this program will continue in 2014 thanks to the award of a \$20,000 Clean Boats Clean Waters grant from the WI DNR.** This funding covers five boat landings in the Iron River area with a minimum of 200 hours of monitoring at each landing. To qualify for this funding there is a 25% local share of the total project. This means that about \$6,500 in local share must be contributed. This can be in the form of financial contribution to the program or by volunteers. Volunteer time is worth \$12 per hour. This is a great way to support the program and give back to the Lakes.

Thank you to this year's CBCW crew members and volunteers: Gary Teigen, Bart Austin, Harry Smith, Shirlene Kennedy, Logan Neveaux, Levi Sanborn, Britt Marx, Brandon Blaszkowski, Pheobe Burchill, Wyatt Pajtash, Kathleen Grey, Nicollett Amber, Patti Mitchen, Melanie Jensen, Susan Brown, and Sheree Bye.

If you wish to contribute to the program in some way or have questions feel free to contact either Karen Austin, Pike Chain and Lake Delta CBCW Coordinator, or Jeremy Bates Bayfield County AIS Coordinator jbates@bayfieldcounty.org. (By: Jeremy Bates)

www.pikechain.org

- DNR Pike Chain Fishery Survey
- A look at our history: Pine Crest Lodge in the 1940's– "a vacation spot for hayfever relief...rest...sports...relief from the heat"
- Understanding the Invasive Species Threat
- Where are the Walleyes?
- History of fish stocking on the Chain
- Articles of Incorporation
- 5 year Lake Management Plan
- Water quality reports
- Eursion water milfoil treatment maps
- Vacation Check Program
- **AND MUCH MORE !!!**



PCLA MEMBERSHIP & LAKE MANAGEMENT CONTRIBUTION

All information is confidential and used only by PCLA. Thank you for printing clearly.

Name _____ Lake _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Preferred mailing method for newsletter (please circle) email mail

Summer Mailing Address-Complete only if you'd like mail to a different address from above

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

From _____ to _____ (dates)

PCLA bylaws allows a household to be member. There is a maximum of 2 voting members per household and they are:

1. _____ (Name)

2. _____ (Name)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

PCLA Board Member

PCLA Committee (Please circle)

Eurasian Water Milfoil Control

Aquatic Invasive Species

Education/Communications

Water Quality Monitoring

Fishery

Fundraising

Water Quality

Purple Loosestrife Control

Shoreline Restoration

Pike Chain Defense Fund

Fundraising/Social Activities

UW Extension Training-Licensed Applicator

Road Side Clean Up

Please make checks payable to Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Assoc.. Mail your completed form and check to:

Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association

Attention: Treasurer

P.O. Box 602

Iron River, WI 54847

• **2013 Annual Membership Dues** **\$15.00**

• **Annual TAX DEDUCTIBLE donation for 2013 to lake management (Suggested donation \$1.00 per front foot or other amount)** _____

Total _____

THANK YOU!

**Iron River Pike
Chain of Lakes
Association, Inc.**

P.O. Box 602
Iron River, WI 54847

We're on the web!
www.pikechain.org

Sustaining the lakes for everyone.



**THE FIRST
SATURDAY IN
AUGUST
EVERY YEAR**

**2014 ANNUAL
MEETING
August 2, 2014**

SAVE THE DATE!

The Iron River Pike Chain Of Lakes Association (PCLA) needs your support!!

PLEASE SAVE THIS DATE: THE FIRST SATURDAY IN AUGUST EVERY YEAR

and show up at the Iron River Community Center for the PCLA meeting. The doors will open by 8:30 am with refreshments. The meeting will start PROMPTLY at 9 am lasting only 1 1/2 to 2 hours. We need your involvement and input.

Any member in good standing (paid dues) may speak at the meeting.

Please respond to the form in this newsletter with any questions or concerns that you have so the board members have some time to think about them as we prepare for the August meeting. It has been suggested that we have a PCLA social event, get together, perhaps on the Chain some where, Moon Lake Park or the Northern Pines Golf Course. We need interested people to get

together to make this happen.

We want the general meeting to be a fun, informative, exciting, productive and fast paced meeting, lasting just 1 1/2 to 2 hours. Please show up and help promote the lakes association and the surrounding area. **REMEMBER... YOU ARE THE PCLA!!**

Eddie Wangensteen
Vice President