

#### EARLY LOGGING IN THE WHITE RIVER VALLEY

IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE TO ANNOUNCE THAT DICK REWALT FROM THE MASON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY WILL SPEAK ON THE EARLY LOGGING ACTIVITIES IN THE WHITE RIVER VALLEY AT OUR ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY, AUGUST 5TH.

The Pike Chain exists today because the last dam on the East Fork of the White River still remains and holds Flynn Lake at an elevation of 1120 feet.

Born in Ashland, Dick grew up on a family farm east of Mason and graduated from UW-Superior in 1971 with a B.S. in Geography and a minor in history. As a retired Aerospace Systems Engineer and Air Force Officer he spent his working years in both professions in the area of aerial imagery. Dick is a Vietnam Vet, Air Force instructor, and also taught at two Denver Universities. Upon retiring in 2009, he returned to Bayfield County. Dick and his wife Kathy are very involved in the Mason Area Historical Society. (information from Bad River Watershed Association -Watershed Waves Winter 2015).

The PCLA Annual Meeting is on Saturday, August 5 from 9 A.M. - 11A.M. at the Iron River Community Center – free and open to the public.

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# **AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) UPDATE**

Our lake association completed whole lake treatment for Eurasion watermilfoil (EWM) on Buskey Bay, Millicent, Hart Lake and Twin Bear on June 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> 2017. We had considerable discussion with a number of DNR employees, our consultants Onterra and members of our board. General agreement was to treat all 4 lakes this year with extensive testing on the amount of chemical moving from lake to lake. We had calculations and added 2 4-D to reach 0.3 parts per million in the water column above the thermal which was at about 16 feet on this date. We have to hold this concentration for 21 days to be effective in a major reduction of EWM. The denser water below the thermal will not mix with the top 16 feet.

We will be doing hand pulling of EWM on Eagle Lake with a DASH unit this July. This was done last year with several thousand pounds being removed. Observations this spring show a considerable spreading of EWM into most of the bays. This is part of the research plan for our \$120,000.00 3 year DNR grant we received in 2016.

Individuals can hand pull in any of the lakes. This will help slow the spread to new areas of our lake chain. The hours will count for cost sharing in our grant calculations and can be reported on volunteer forms that can be down loaded from our web site <a href="https://www.pikechain.org">www.pikechain.org</a>

When you see Eddie Wangensteen, Jay Johnson and Howard Lehman give them a big thank you for the dedication they showed in the many trips out on the Chain to take water temp profiles from 2 to 50 feet on the 4 lakes. They are continuing with this for the next 35

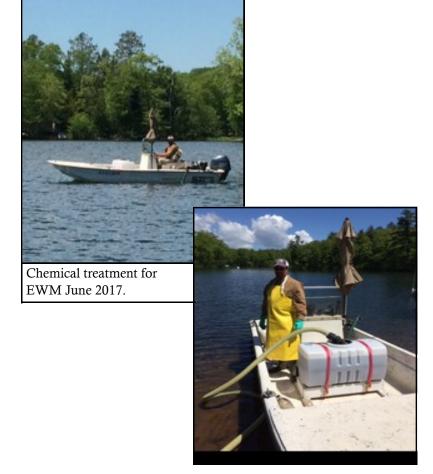
days with temp profiles and water samples being needed 8 times to do the research on our Chain. They also posted over 250 signs on individual docks. They spend about 3 hours to complete each survey.

We had about 100 individuals at our annual meeting in August 2016 with one of our consultants (Onterra) doing a good job of covering the effects of the chemical on our lake chain. We also had an informational meeting this May with about 40 in attendance. We have this information in a form that can be emailed to interested individuals. The majority of the information is on our web page along with the actual DNR permit applications.

(Barb Bochler, JoAnn Bassett, John Westman, Al Bochler-Aquatic Invasive Species Committee)



Jay, Eddie and Al on one of their many outings to take water temperatures prior to chemical treatment



#### **NEW FISHERY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION**

Meetings of the Pike Chain Fisheries Committee and WDNR Fishery Manager, Scott Toshner, have included discussion of Panfish bag limits and Walleye stocking. As a life member of the American Fishery Society, I receive their scientific journals and review them for information relevant to Pike Chain fishery management.

Panfish Management: A recent article measured the "Effects of Reduced Daily Bag Limits on Bluegill Size Structure in Wisconsin Lakes." It provided information on the effects of reducing the daily bag limit from 25 to 10. The study compared bluegill size structure in eight Wisconsin lakes in which the Bag Limit was reduced to 10, to similar lakes with the Daily Bag Limit of 25. Both average and average maximum length increased after the bag limit was reduced in the 10 treatment lakes. The response was greater for more productive lakes. A Minnesota study produced similar results. Other published research has demonstrated that bluegill size structure is enhanced by regulations that promote large size and abundance of Largemouth bass. Predation by Bass on smaller-slow growing bluegill promoted improved size structure.

Walleye Management: Another Wisconsin study compared "Relationships among Walleye Population Characteristic and Genetic Diversity in Northern Wisconsin Lakes". Because maintaining genetic integrity is an important goal of fishery management, this study was conducted to identify the effects of management actions such as stocking on genetics and walleye growth etc. The study compared 5 non-stocked lakes with 10 stocked lakes in Vilas and Oneida Counties. The results suggest that stocking effects genetic structure and overall productivity of stocked populations, possibly resulting in disruption of local adaptions.

Fishery management agencies try to consider both the natural resource and user concerns in making management decisions. The bag limit study increases the likelihood that efforts by Pike Chain property owners to have the Panfish bag limit reduced to 10 should bring about change. Including a discussion of this issue at the PCLA Annual Meeting followed by a strong vote of support would help.

The walleye genetic research suggests that stocking walleye will not result in long-term positive outcomes. Walleye populations are declining statewide and at present it is not clear why. Predation by Bass is suspected but research has failed to provide direct evidence. My past research indicates walleye abundance and growth are closely linked to yellow perch abundance. Research conducted at the Duluth EPA laboratory showed yellow perch require an extended cold period to trigger spring spawning. Perch abundance is also declining. Is global climate change a factor? Stocking extended growth young has produced some results but cost and long-term genetic impacts suggest a need to know more. By: Bill Swenson, Eagle Lake.



Bill and Dana's daughter-in-law Janice Swenson and oldest grandson Logan who is now 15. "Janice always catches the largest fish."

#### THE PIONEER

The Iron River Pioneer was the only long term newspaper published in Iron River. It was started in 1894 by Byron Ripley. The paper was then sold to Judge Pete Savage of Iron River in 1898. Savage was Publisher and Editor for 50 years.

Pete was the father of an invention in the late 1950s which was placed in an auto's headlights, it caused the lights of an approaching car to dim. The device was patented but Pete passed away in February of 1960 before it was marketed.

Pete's daughter Zoe continued to publish The Pioneer until selling to Carl Richards, a Chicago area publisher. Zoe became Zoe Von Ende, a school teacher and long time resident on Buskey Bay. Charles Richards, son of owner Carl Richards, still spends time at the Richards cabin on Nestle Lake. The only former employee of the Pioneer still alive in Iron River is Joe Pemberton living on Twin Bear Lake. Joe was a "Print Devil" at the paper setting type by hand. By: Jim Bender

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Left: Jay Johnson, Al Bochler, Eddie Wangensteen (not pictured) after placing the Boat Cleaning Decontamination Station and Bucket Brigade provided by PCLA that they put together for the Twin Bear Boat Landing as part of our recent AIS Grant.

Right: Brandon Ehemke from the Clean Boats Clear Water staff.



2017 Spring Adopt-a-Highway Volunteers who picked up 8 bags on the highway, a sock, stuffed toy goose and an alternator/motor



Al Bochler collecting water samples that will be sent to Madison for testing of the concentration of the herbicide post lake treatment. 120 samples over the next months period will be collected.

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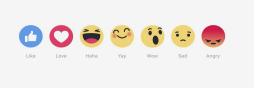
If you're a member we now have a free junior membership for children/grandchildren ages 5-10 years. Junior membership includes a fancy membership card and the chance to attend one to three educational events/activities this summer, including a fishing demonstration by our own celebrity, tour guide Josh Teigen (date to be scheduled). What a great opportunity for your young ones! To sign your junior up for membership, please go to our website for more information at www.pikechain.org. or on Facebook www.facebook.com/PikeChainofLakes.



Please join us on Facebook for updates and current happenings around the lakes! We have added new photos with information and are hoping to encourage you to follow us often.

Our team is looking for folks to submit historical/old photos to give us all a look at our lakes in the past. Contact Jay Johnson jaysattthelake@gmail.com

Please let your family members that use Facebook to "like/join" our page - who knows they might see a picture of Mom or Dad enjoying the lake one day! Facebook can also be a super tool to keep you abreast of lake events as well as a view of the lakes when you are out of town.



### IRON RIVER PIKE CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION (PCLA)

PURPOSE: PCLA is organized and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, specifically to promote the sustainable management of the Pike Chain by:

- Providing leadership in lake management through environmental education, water quality monitoring, prevention of the introduction of aquatic invasive species and controlling populations of aquatic invasive species existing in the watershed.
- Working with government agencies and private organizations to generate the necessary human and financial resources
- Purchasing or accepting the donation of property or conservation easements to promote the overall goal of sustainable lake management
- Monitoring and responding to proposed developments within the watershed, taxation and land use planning and other environmental regulation
- Promoting mutual respect, cooperation and friendship between owners of property within the watershed, other lake users and town, county and state public officials by providing a forum for exchange of information and discussion on environmental issues of importance and concern.

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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR 2016 DONATIONS TO LAKE MANAGEMENT!

Ahren, Curtis & Patria Ames, Ronald & Joyce Anderson, Mark & Judi Angster, Jim Angster, John & Susan Austin, Karen & Bart Barker, William & Cynthia Bassett, Bob & JoAnn Bender, James & Julie Bender, Robert & Thurza Black, James & Dorothy Bloomquist, Eric & Ann Bochler, Al & Barb Bochler, John Bochler, Michael & Amy Bochler, Scott & Ann Bowman, Lawrance & Karen Boxers Inc.-Tenlund Bretting, Paul & Terri Brickson, John Brown, Scott & Gail Brunner, Ed & Linda Christensen, David & Debbie Coffey, John & Sharon Compton, Ken & Donna DeBrise, Thomas & Helen Dietzler, Dennier Doty, Lois Duncan, Melvin & Brooker, Valerie Elverum, Ian & Pamela Flynn, Patricia

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While every effort was made to acknowledge everyone, some names may have been accidentally missed. If you donated in 2016 and your name wasn't listed or listed incorrectly, please contact Kristen Sandager at sandagk@yahoo.com or call 715-559-8622 and your name will be in our next newsletter.



Fugelso, John

Glew, William & Marian

AL BOCHLER, EDDIE WANGENSTEEN, JAY JOHNSON, & HOWARD

**LEHMAN** for your time, energy, and commitment in our fight against EWM. Thank you, thank you, thank you for all that you have done and continue to do!

- RICK TUTTLE OF TUTTLE'S ACCOUNTING in Ashland for continuing to generously volunteer your time preparing PCLA taxes for free. Rick has been providing this service to us for many years.
- PINE POINT LODGE for use of your facility on May 13 for PCLA'S Informational Meeting sponsored by the PCLA Education Committee that was held to answer questions/concerns regarding the upcoming Eurasion watermilfoil treatment plan.

## Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association, Inc. A 501(c) 3

## 2017 Membership & Lake Management Donation Form

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

Type of Membership (circle one): Individu	al/Family* Business** Trust**	
Name(s)		
Lake Address		
Permanent Address (if different from lake addres	ss)	
Preferred mailing address (circle one): Lake	Permanent	
Lake Name	Email address	
If a business membership, would you like your business listed on our website (circle one): yes no		
*Two votes per membership		
Volunteer Opportunities: PCLA Board Member PCLA Committee (please circle)  Aquatic invasive species Education and communications Fishery Water quality Fundraising Membership	We also have a free Junior Membership for member's children or grandchildren, ages 5-10. Go to our website for more information.	
Road-side clean-up "Adopt-a-Highway"Other (please specify)	2017 Annual Membership Dues     Tax Deductible	\$20.00
Please make checks payable to Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association and mail form and check to:	2017 Annual Donation for lake management  Tax Deductible	
Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association Attention: Treasurer PO Box 602	(Suggested donation \$1.00 per front foot. But any amount is greatly appreciated!)	
Iron River, WI 54847	TOTAL (Thank you!)	

Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Assoc., Inc. P.O. Box 602
Iron River, WI 54847



# **SAVE THE DATE: Iron River Lakes Association Annual Meeting!**

PCLA ANNUAL MEETING Saturday, August 5, 2017 Iron River Community Center 9 a.m. –11a.m.

- 8:30 AM-doors open
- 9 AM- Business Meeting
- 10 AM- guest speaker Dick Rewalt: "Early Logging in the White River Valley"
- Free and open to the public

Mark your calendars for the annual PCLA general meeting on Saturday, August 5. The annual meeting is a great opportunity to share your ideas and concerns, network with others who love the Pike Chain, learn what issues are facing our lakes and the significance of the work PCLA does. PCLA is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization working specifically to promote the sustainable management of our beautiful Pike Chain.



