

# NLA Fall Newsletter

## October 2018



Summer and Fall 2018 have been very enjoyable here on Nelson Lake with warm temperatures and lots of sunshine — giving us the opportunity to enjoy our *Awesome Nelson Lake!*

### **NLA 2018**

This summer we have had a couple changes to our Board that most members are already aware of, but are worth mentioning again. The first one is the retirement of our President, Bill Wilcox, who we are greatly indebted to for all his efforts to improve Nelson Lake. He is truly missed! At the annual meeting in June we elected a new President, Rick Lindner, who is known to many of you as a member of the NLA Board of Directors since 2012. To fill the vacancy due to Rick's election, we elected Mark Schaenzer as a new Director. Mark will be the primary interface for the NLA to the *Fishing Has No Boundaries* organization. Mark has actively participated in NLA activities since being elected in June.

### **Upcoming 2019 Events**

- Winter Rama • Saturday, January 5, 2019 @ Nelson Lake Landing
- Annual Meeting • Saturday, June 8, 2019 @ Hayward Veterans Center
- Annual Picnic • Saturday, August 10, 2019 @ Nelson Lake Landing



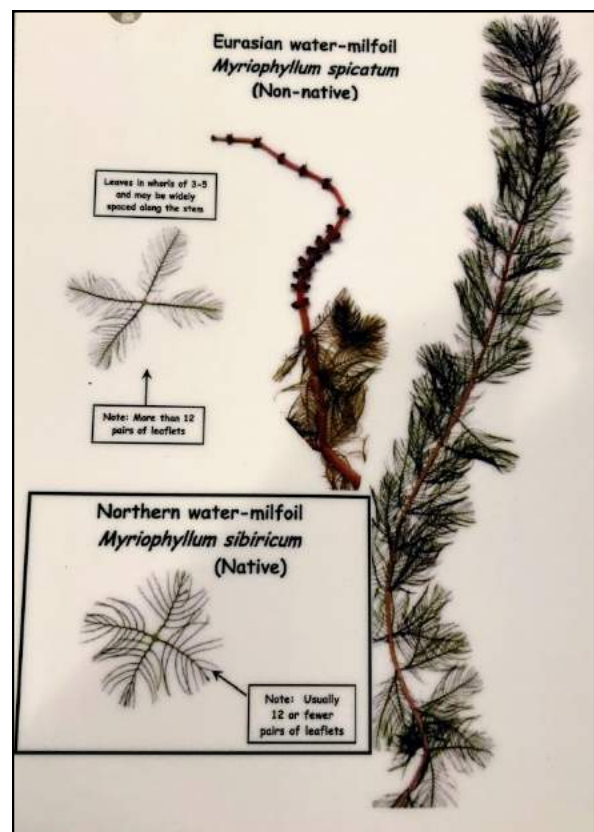
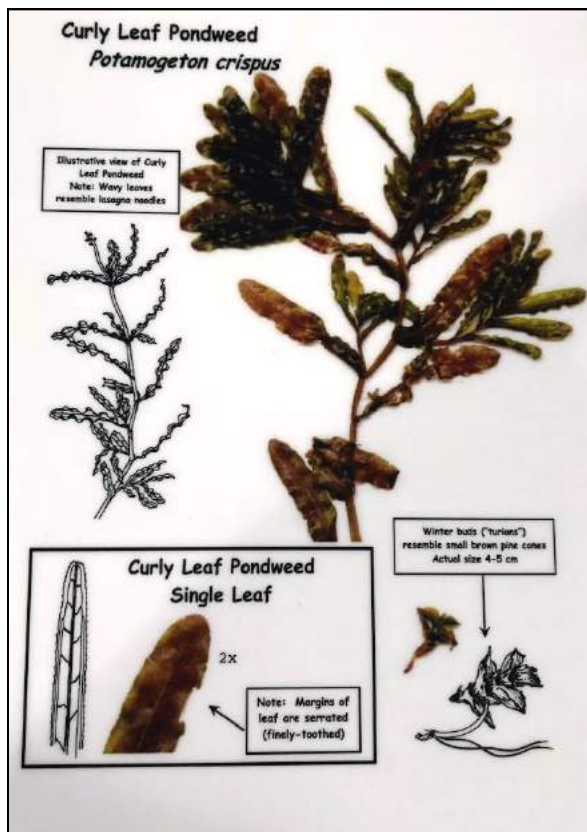
## **From the President**

### *Rick Lindner*

As I begin my service as NLA President I want to thank all the board members for their support and cooperation this summer as we conducted the critical services needed on the lake and at the annual picnic. Most notable are the actions we take to keep the lake free of invasive species. Art Saxum assumed the role of managing the staffing for boat inspections at the landings, which required him to find additional inspectors, as some previous inspectors were no longer available. Inspectors returning from last year were Chuck and Deb Vind, and Ron Kirchdoerfer. New inspectors this year were Bob McClelland and Glen Klueckmann. Art Saxum also served as inspector many days to fulfill the need. A special thanks to all the inspectors.

Another key action we take to prevent invasive species is our Invasive Monitoring Network. Angie Wuethrich-Dorinski assumed the roll of managing the staffing for 31 sectors of lake shoreline. Volunteers inspect their sector twice each summer, in June looking for Curly Leaf Pondweed, and in August looking for Eurasian Water Milfoil. Thanks to the many volunteers returning from last year and a special thanks to the new monitors Scott & Jan Strandemo, Dan & Shawn Craig, Jeff Hanson, and Jeff & Kathy Semrad. We all appreciate their efforts to keep our lake clean.

Even though we have monitors for all 31 sectors, we encourage all lake property owners to look for invasive weeds on their shoreline, and while boating on the lake in other areas. If you find anything you think might be an invasive, please note the location, place a sample in a plastic zip bag with some water, and take it to Angie Wuethrich-Dorinski or Rick Lindner. We will handle getting the sample evaluated by the county specialist.



# NLA Board Members



Rick Lindner  
President



Harold Burton  
Vice President



Cara Goldman  
Treasurer



Steve Bilitz  
Secretary



Gordy Christians



Tom LeMay



John Welter



Angie Wuethrich-Dorenski



Kelly Plote



Art Saxum



Casey Stangl



Mark Schaezner

## Board Members contact information:

### **President**

Rick Lindner  
715-634-4290

Gordy Christians  
715-634-3156

Art Saxum  
715-634-5073

### **Vice President**

Harold Burton  
715-634-2909

Tom LeMay  
715-634-2594

Casey Stangl  
715-699-1213

### **Secretary**

Steve Bilitz  
715-638-2553

John Welter  
715-634-4175

Mark Schaezner  
612-860-9064

Angie Wuethrich-Dorinski  
715-699-1484

### **Treasurer**

Cara Goldman  
715-5080-0317

Kelly Plote  
715-864-0015



# From the Treasurer *Cara Goldman*

## FINANCIALS as of 9-20-2018



General Fund	\$26,442.37
Fish & Wildlife	\$ 5,883.11
Lake Project	\$ 402.55
Invasive Species	\$ 7,404.24
Park Project	\$ <u>378.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$40,510.27</b>



**Nelson Lake Association currently has  
232 members.**

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Your Hosts  
John, Linda, Jessica, Julie

Thank You  
for supporting our  
Association!

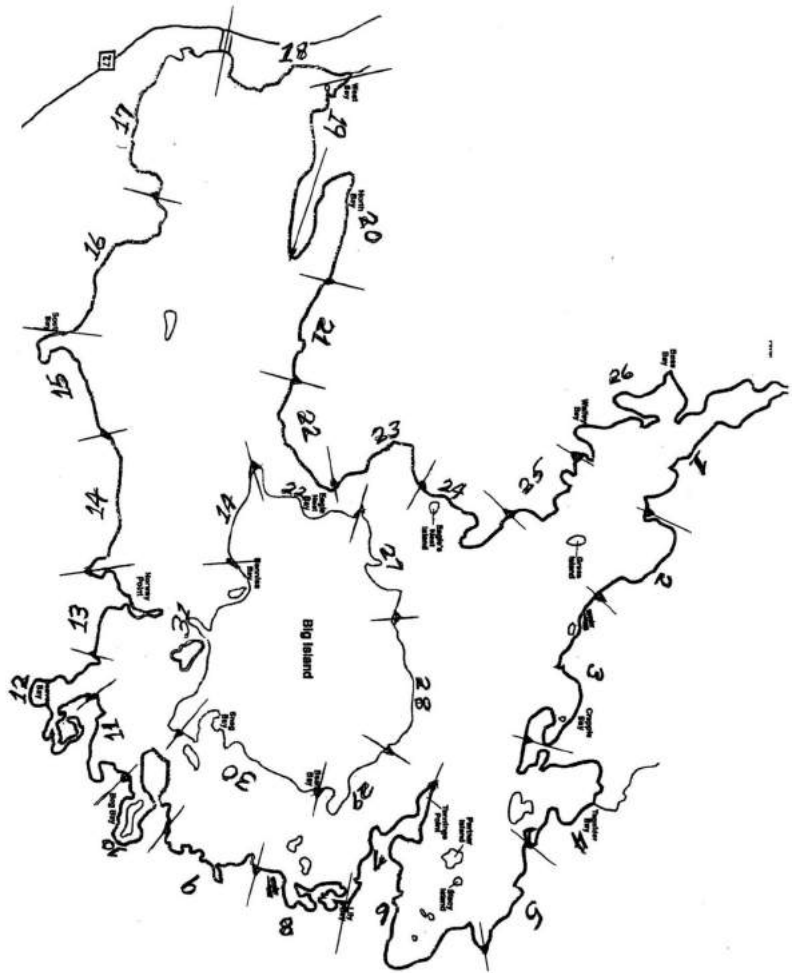


# Invasive Monitoring Network

## 2018 Shoreline Monitors

We want to THANK all the volunteers that agree to monitor our Nelson Lake shoreline for invasive species, *Curly Leaf Pondweed* and *Eurasian Water Milfoil*. Thank you for volunteering to inspect our 31 sectors on the lake.

<u>Sector</u>	<u>Monitor</u>
1	Fred & Linda Goold
2	Doug & Lisa Quast
3	Scott & Jan Strandemo
4	Ray Hale
5	Jeff Hanson
6	Dan & Shawn Craig
7	Joe Stonionis
8	Richard Tollerud
9	Gordy & Deb Christians
10	Diane & Phil Cooper
11	Shirley Redmond
12	Shirley Redmond
13	Erich & Marlene Verhoeven
14	Glenn & Julie Rolloff
15	Casey & Diane Stangl
16	Robyn & Dave Rauch
17	Jim & Nancy Schnaitman
18	Keith & Cindy Cottington
19	Greg & Mary Pieterick
20	George Uschan
21	Jim & Cindy Thoreson
22	Dave Cone
23	Dale & Cindy Anderson
24	Ryan Erickson
25	Allan & Jeanne Erickson
26	Bob Terry
27	Jeff & Kathy Semrad
28	Bill & Anne Fleischman
29	Jerry & Kathy Rasmussen
30	Gordy & Deb Christians
31	Ben & Kris Moncel



Angie Wuethrich-Dorenski  
Invasive Monitoring Network Coordinator

*Thank you*

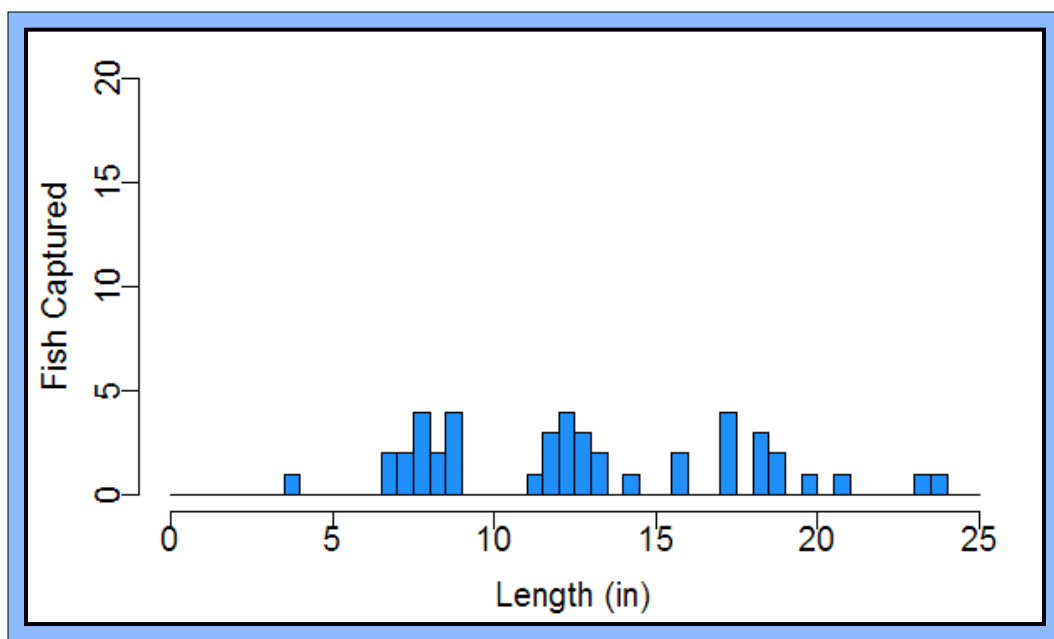
# Fish & Minnow Stocking Results



We are all curious to find out if stocking minnows with the Walleyes last fall had any affect on the survival rate of the Walleyes. To determine the results the DNR conducted an Electro Fishing (shocking) Survey on September 27, 2018. By comparing the 2018 results with the results of shocking surveys done in previous years they hoped to see an increase in the number of small (7-10 inch) Walleyes which were stocked in 2017. Unfortunately, the results did not confirm a benefit. This year they found 3.2 small Walleyes per mile, which is actually lower than the 2015 year class (4.8 per mile), and the 2013 year class (6.5 per mile), but still better than years prior to 2013 which were below 1 per mile.



Keep in mind that this was only one attempt. The only other data point was from Smith Lake where they experienced nearly a 10 times increase in survival, so it may be worth trying again. There are a lot of factors that influence the survey data. Rick will be meeting with Max Wolter (DNR Fisheries Biologist) to discuss the data and future options.



This graph shows all the walleye captured in the shocking survey. It's a mix of sizes and ages, but no clear strong survival of the year class from 2017.



Our 2018 NLA Annual Meeting was held on June 9, 2018 at the Hayward Veterans Center from 9am-Noon and was well attended. Elections were held and the following positions were voted on and filled.

**President:** Rick Lindner was elected, which vacated a directors position on the board.

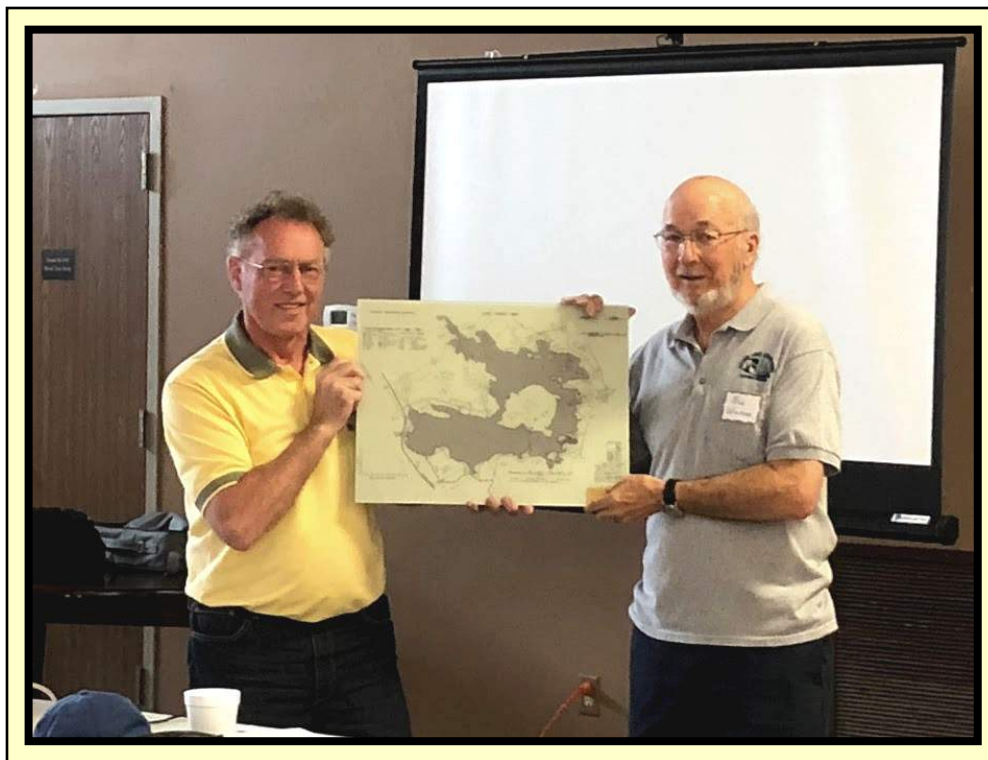
**Director:** Art Saxum and Angie Wuethrich-Dorinski were each re-elected to another term.

**Director:** Mark Scheanzer was elected as a new board member.



This was our President Bill Wilcox's last meeting before retiring and turning over the gavel to Rick Lindner (new President). We will all miss Bill and Marlene and their dedicated work to enhance the quality of Nelson Lake. But most importantly—their friendship! The NLA will always be grateful to Bill for his 12-years of dedicated service as NLA President and his 24 years as a board member.

Rick Lindner presented Bill with a map of Nelson Lake (printed on glass) as a thank you for his service on behalf of the Nelson Lake Association members.





# Photos!



June 9, 2018



## Door Prize Winners!

Winning the two \$25 gift certificates were Doug Dannen and Art Saxum. Certificates are good for a \$25 purchase at various Nelson Lake Resorts (listed on the certificate).

### CONGRATS!



# Nelson Lake Park Development — by Gordon Christians

In 1937 Nelson Lake was formed by the construction of a dam on the Totogatic River just east of Highway 27. The dam was constructed on land owned by Sawyer County, and a small Department of Transportation wayside was developed on the north side of the dam.

In 2006, DOT deeded their portion of the property to Sawyer County. Total property size today is 3.6 acres. Over the years, a well with a hand pump, a restroom, picnic tables, steel grills, and blacktop parking were added. In 2012 a boat landing was constructed in a joint project with the Town of Lenroot, Sawyer County, and a DNR grant. This property receives significant public use for shore fishing, picnicking, and sightseeing. As an example of its popularity, over 1200 people were contacted concerning invasive plants and animals as they launched their boats on weekends and holidays alone during the summer of 2017.

Unfortunately, the well no longer was useable, the restroom was not handicapped accessible, and the parking was not adequate for the use it receives. Last year, the Town of Lenroot signed a memo of understanding with Sawyer County to allow the township to assume maintenance and development responsibility for this park to provide increased recreational opportunities for local citizens and visitors to the area. This included submitting an application to the Department of Natural Resources for a 50% grant to address the following items in the park:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Status</u>
◆ Install a new restroom that will be handicapped accessible (replacing the old restroom & the portable restroom that was there for the last few years).	<b>DONE MAY, 2018</b>
◆ Remove the old restroom.	<b>DONE JULY 2018</b>
◆ Install a new electric pump in the well.	<b>DRILLED NEW WELL, AUGUST 2018</b>
◆ Install a source of power to the well, to the site of a security light, and to the site of a new shelter.	<b>DONE JULY 2018</b>
◆ Remove dead trees and clear sites for parking, shelter, picnic pads.	
◆ Construct additional space for vehicle parking (6-8 spaces).	<b>DONE MAY 2018</b>
◆ Construct additional space for vehicle parking (18-20 spaces).	<b>DONE MAY 2018</b>

(continued on next page)

# Nelson Lake Park Development — continued

<u>Project</u>	<u>Status</u>
◆ Install blacktop on the boat landing access road to eliminate washing of soil and gravel into the lake (blacktop the new parking areas if funding is sufficient).	
◆ Install security lighting.	<b>DONE JULY 2018</b>
◆ Construct a 20'x36' open sided shelter.	<b>BIDS TO BE OPENED SEPTEMBER 10, 2018</b>
◆ Install a new park sign.	

In February, the grant was approved for \$47,486.85, which was to be 50% of the \$94,973.70 project. The half not paid for by the grant is to be covered by the Town of Lenroot—20%, Nelson Lake Association—20%, Nelson Lake Resort Owners—10%. Sawyer County has also agreed to contribute up to 10% which will cover cost overruns or reduce amounts contributed by other organizations. Development facilitation was done by the Town of Lenroot starting in the summer of 2018.

The shelter and remaining items on this list will be done this fall or next summer depending on the remaining balance in the grant.

## BOAT LANDINGS

Nelson Lake has two developed public landings. Gerlach landing and the landing at the Nelson Lake Park. Both have received upgrades in the last ten years with new docks and cement landing pads. Over the last few years, the pads which were installed on a base of rock and steel guard rails, and are secured together with steel cables, have moved out of position—particularly those that are at the end in the deepest water. In some cases the space between them was enough for trailer wheels to be caught in.

The cause of this movement is power loading and unloading with prop wash blowing the rock and soil out from under the last slab. This caused the cables between the slabs to break, as the slab slid into the hole. Moving the 12,000 pound cement slabs back into position when they were in 3'-4' of water presented a major problem. Fortunately, the town was able to borrow a set of specialized lifting connectors from the contractor who made the slabs, and using the township end loader, was able to slide the pads back into alignment. Unfortunately, the holes under the slabs could not be filled nor could the cables between the slabs be replaced, so there will be future damage with continued power loading.

The Town of Lenroot has passed Ordinance 501 in June 2018 banning power loading at Gerlach Landing, the Nelson Lake Park Landing, and at the Smith Lake Landing to try to limit damage. In any case, users of these landings should check them out before backing in and realize they use these landings at their own risk.

# **Nelson Lake Park Development—photos**



Making progress on the Nelson Lake Park project



Drilling new well



New handicapped accessible restroom



**Gerlach Renovation**

# Farewell gathering for Bill & Marlene

NLA Board Members held a farewell dinner for Bill and Marlene at Nelson Lake Landing. A huge thank you to John and Linda for hosting the dinner. It was fun for the board members to gather together and give the retiring Prez a warm and sincere send off.



Our Best  
Wishes  
Go With  
You  
Both!

# Annual Picnic



## Was It HOT or What!

This was one of the hottest annual picnics in a long time—along with no breeze. Attendance was down a bit due to the sweltering weather. A big thank you to all that did venture out in the heat! It was a very fun time! Special thanks to Paula Bilitz for coordinating the food this year. Paula and her team did a fantastic job!



### Time to eat!

Lots of great food! The delicious chicken was catered from Lynn's Custom Meats & Catering.



# Annual Picnic

## RAFFLE WINNERS!

The winner of the Kayak was  
**Dan & Sandy Fonger**  
from Onalaska, WI



The winner of the Rifle was  
**Rob Christ**  
from La Porte, Indiana  
(picture not available)

The winner of the Quilt was  
**Bonnie Small**  
from Hayward, WI



John & Linda setting up the beer keg!



# Annual Picnic

## MINNOW RACES



Lots of fun and participation at the minnow races this year. Kids really had a fun! A special thanks to Gordy Christians and Tom LeMay for setting up and running the races. Great job!



**WINNERS** of the minnow races were: Siri Brumbaugh and CJ Schmidt! Congrats!

Rick Lindner presented a new fishing rod to each of the winners.



# **Buoy Swap — Nelson Lake**



The buoys on Nelson Lake are supplied by Lenroot Township and maintained by the Nelson Lake Association. Every fall the summer marker buoys are replaced with winter “ice bars” that mark the location of the anchors. In the spring, the marker buoys are returned to the lake. NLA volunteers use the association

pontoon boat to do the buoy change-overs. On September 29 the fall change was accomplished by four volunteers. **Pictured below are the volunteers: Tom Ludwig, Tom LeMay, and Jeff Hanson; with Rick Lindner taking the photo.** We as an association could not do all we do without members stepping forward to help with the many NLA tasks. We appreciate you volunteering!



# Awesome Nelson Lake! We are so

fortunate to have active lake association members that care about our lake. Thanks to the membership for volunteering so many hours to keep our lake awesome! Following are a few pictures taken this summer that reflect how awesome Nelson Lake is!



*Photos by Craig Lindner*



# ***Awesome Nelson Lake!***

