



# Lakeshore News

**The Official Newspaper Of Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association**

Vol. 49, No. 05

P.O. Box 21, Battle Lake, MN 56515

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**INSIDE**

## 2019 Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research And Management Showcase!

Registration now open for the 2019 Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research and Management Showcase!

Join the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center on campus on Wednesday, September 18 for a selection of talks about the latest MAISRC research on starry stonewort, zebra mussels, spiny waterflea, invasive carp, harmful fish diseases, and much more. The breakout session schedule will be announced soon!

Interact with faculty and researchers over lunch as they share the latest about their work, get an inside look at our state-of-the-art AIS Lab and Holding Facility, and enjoy a poster session reception. This is the best opportunity to learn all about MAISRC's research and the latest in AIS management recommendations. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. If you wish to attend a lab tour, please be sure to choose that option when registering. Note that all lab tours are identical.

Go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-minnesota-aquatic-invasive-species-research-and-management-showcase-tickets-65565105997> to register!

## Caution When You Buy A License

Don't get scammed! Anglers and hunters who buy their licenses online should do so only from the Minnesota DNR website. There are websites that claim to sell fishing and hunting licenses – and will take your money – but you may come away from the transaction with extra charges or with improper licensure. When you buy a license online, always start at [mndnr.gov/buyalicense](http://mndnr.gov/buyalicense), which will redirect you to DNR's license vendor at [jc.activeoutdoorsolutions.com](http://jc.activeoutdoorsolutions.com).

## Swimming Lessons Held At Amor Park

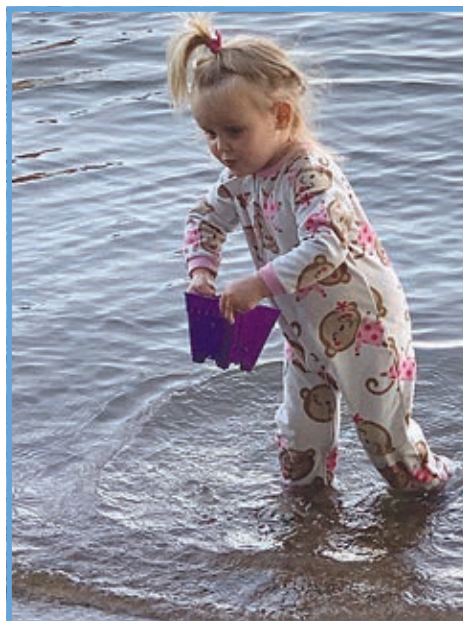
**July 22-26 and July 29-Aug. 8**  
For more pictures and story go to Pages 12 & 13



Photo submitted by Scott Simdorn



Photo submitted by Bernie Steeves



## It's Never Too Early For A Swim

Photo submitted by Scott Simdorn

## Could You Or Would You Swim Across Otter Tail Lake?

Cal Mouritsen, along with his father, Steve, wanted to do what his Grandfather, Steve's dad, had done in 1957... swim the 3.5 mile width of Otter Tail Lake.

See the full article and more pictures on page 5.



## Cal, Jack, Steve Mouritsen - Jack holding the article from 1957

Photo submitted by Steve Mouritsen

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# President's Corner



Scott  
Simdorn  
OTLPOA  
President

It's early August and what can I say? Seems like just yesterday we were wondering if all that snow and ice would ever be off the lake, especially for fishing opener. It came off surprisingly fast and now it's less than a month from Labor Day and school will be starting shortly thereafter. Hopefully everyone has had a chance to get out and enjoy our wonderful lakes this summer.

The board members have been busy working on a new project. The DNR is auctioning off a piece of property between Otter Tail Lake and Blanche Lake. This 58.2 acre property was originally designed as a fish rearing pond in the 40'/50's, but due to design issues it was abandoned. A group of people from that area approached us wondering

if we could help save this property for future generations. The property is currently used for walking, cross country skiing, bird and other wildlife watching. This project fits very well with our purpose as defined in our articles of incorporation. While the board felt we didn't want to own the property for various reasons, they still wanted it preserved for future generations. After many hours of discussion with the county and various government organizations, it was determined the Waste Water Management District would own and conserve the property. An agreement has been made with West Central Initiatives of Fergus Falls who will spearhead the fund drive. The lake association will assist them in their fundraising efforts and support the project. No current OTLPOA or Foundation funds will be used for this project. This is a separate project and all donations will be made to West Central Initiatives who will hold the money until the purchase date. We have a goal of \$90,000.00. We have a two-year time frame to raise the required money. Donations can be made online at [wcif.org/rearingpondtrail.html](http://wcif.org/rearingpondtrail.html). Please help support this project for future generations to enjoy for

years down the road. Rob Bope, our VP, is heading up this committee. Please contact him or any of your board members with any questions you may have and seePage 7 for more information in this edition of the Lakeshore News.

The Foundation also provided swimming lessons at the park this year. The lessons are put on by the Red Cross and all participants who complete the class are refunded the cost of the lessons by the Foundation. This is a great opportunity to get your kids/grandkids into a lake swimming environment.

Thanks again to all who participated and the Foundation for funding this program. Our grandson and granddaughter both attended and enjoyed the lessons. The instructors were excellent with the young kids. Otter Tail had 24 kids the first week and 27 the second. Congratulations to all who attended!

If anyone has not received their 2018 directory, please let a board member know. We also have extras for anyone who may need one.

We have been informed the public access on Deer Lake will be closed from Sept. 9 thru October.

The board has also been working

with the residents of Round Lake. Round had a serious winter kill last winter. They are working with the DNR and fisheries to monitor and restock the lake. The association voted to approve matching funding for restocking costs over a two-year period. We are excited about this project and hopeful the restocking efforts succeed in replenishing the lakes fish.

I would like to personally thank our water testers for all their efforts. This group goes out once a month and samples water, does clarity checks, and has the waters tested at a lab in Detroit Lakes. This is a great group most people probably aren't aware of their efforts. This is my first year as a water tester and I now have a better understanding of the effort involved in taking samples. Thanks again to all who help!

As I write this letter, the sun is shining, lake is beautiful, and grandkids are waiting for Papa! Enough said. Have a great remaining summer and get out and enjoy the wonderful lakes we have.

Scott



Cannon B...a...l...l...!!!  
Photo submitted by Scott Simdorn

## First Annual Long Lake Carp Fishing Derby

*Submitted by Lynn Cave*

The first annual Carp Fishing Derby sponsored by the Long Lake/Riviera Property Owners Association (LLRPOA), was held on July 26 & 27 on Long Lake.

Several fisherman participated. The winner of the Carp Fishing Derby was Preston Maassen, who received a \$50 gift certificate, for catching 5 carp.

The Carp Fishing Derby is one of the many water quality improvement projects by the LLRPOA.

The next Carp Fishing Derby on Long Lake will be held Memorial Weekend, May 30 & 31, 2020.



Photos submitted by Lynn Cave

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## God's Acres Extravaganza

Young & old come and enjoy an afternoon/evening of fun, food & entertainment! The God's Acres Extravaganza will be held on Sunday, August 18, 3-8 pm. God's Acres is located at 36051 County Hwy. #74, Battle Lake, which is adjacent to Zion Lutheran Church of Amor, off Cty. Hwy. #1.

At the Extravaganza you will find:

- "Discover God's Acres" from 3-4:30pm with demonstrations at eleven areas of God's Acres. They include Master Mile, labyrinth, prayer garden, a child's dream playground, gaga ball, volleyball, pickle ball/basketball, ball field, disc golf with a disc golf expert available, horseshoe, apple orchard, & community gardens.
- "Grill Fill" from 4:30-6pm with Amor pork hot dogs plus more.
- Patrick Murphy Concert from 6-8pm. Patrick is a Nashville singer & song writer who released the single "Nothing But the Rain" in June 2019. He will be on an elevated trailer near the pickle ball court, with tents available to sit under.

Bring a lawn chair, golf cart transportation will be provided as needed throughout the day & evening. All this for a free will offering to help support God's Acres.



## Check Out God's Acres






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## Water Pollution

Everyone knows that trash is no good for lakes and rivers, but many people unwittingly contribute to water pollution because they do not understand that "natural" debris—leaves, grass clippings, fertilizer, road salt, and pet waste—becomes pollution when it hits the water.

When these natural pollutants break down, they become food for algae, causing it to grow out of control. Here's how it works...

- Organic stuff like leaves and grass wash down into the water.
- Algae and weeds are fed by all this organic matter.
- Water gets green and soupy.
- Less sunlight gets through the water so bottom plants can't grow. Fish and wildlife lose habitat.

• When a lot of algae die, they create a dead zone.

Don't feed the algae. Help keep our waters clean by doing your part...

- Pick up after your pet. Dog poop carries harmful bacteria.
- Leaves, grass and dirt feed algae and turn lakes and rivers green. Keep them off streets and sidewalks.
- Trash clogs drains and pipes, causing flooding. Put it in a garbage bin.
- Remember when winter comes, salt is almost impossible to remove from waterways. Just one teaspoon pollutes five gallons of water forever. Use it sparingly. Sweep up and reuse extra. Use sand when temperatures fall below 15 degrees.

Source: [www.cleanwatermn.org](http://www.cleanwatermn.org)

# Patrick Murphy Concert

## at God's Acres Extravaganza Sunday, August 18

Adjacent to Zion Lutheran Church of Amor Junction Co. Hwy's 1 & 74

**3:00-4:30pm - Golf Cart Tours God's Acres**

**4:30-6:00pm - Hot Dog Barbecue**

**6:00pm - Patrick Murphy Concert**



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## Learn What's Happening With Minnesota's Lakes, Streams At Detroit Lakes Aqua Chautauqua Aug. 15

Submitted by Daniel Olson, MPCA

Chautauquas were held in the late 19th and early 20th century to bring education and culture throughout rural American until about the mid-20s. The second annual Aqua Chautauqua in Minnesota hopes to recapture some of that spirit of discovery in Detroit Lakes Aug. 15 at Dunton Locks County Park

from 5-8pm.

The free outdoor learning festival has more than 20 interactive learning stations, including:

- Create your own water art project
- Sample drinking water from around the state at the Water Bar
- See the aquatic robotics demonstration
- Explore a land use simulator
- Learn how aquatic insects can serve as clean water indicators
- Many more.

*The event is hosted by the University of Minnesota Extension service along with local and state agencies and organizations involved with helping Minnesota residents learn about and protect our much-valued lakes and streams. This year's event has a special focus on the Otter Tail River Watershed. In addition to learning, you can sign up to win a kayak.*

## Starry Trek Sat., Aug. 17 - Sign Up Now!!!

Join MAISRC for a day searching for one of Minnesota's newest aquatic invasive species - Starry Stonewort (and other invaders). The two sights for Starry Trek in our area are in Battle Lake (Eagle Lake Public Water Access) and Detroit Lakes (Becker County SWCD Offices).

Participants will meet in the morning and will be assigned sites to search. All participants will need to return to check-in and turn in specimens and datasheets at the end of the day. Training will occur on-site when you arrive. No experience necessary! Participants under the age of 18 will need to be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

For more information and to sign up go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/starry-trek-2019-registration-63798369641>

## Otter Tail Lake Property Owners Association, Inc. Board Meeting Approved Minutes June 27th - 7:00pm at the Ottertail Community Center

### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order by President Simdorn. Members present: Wentz, Steeves, Kemling, Hunke, Sndyer, Cave, Bope, Rizk, Anderson, Wing and Mouritsen. Absent: Ness, Gedde, Feters

**Approval of Agenda** – unanimously approved as distributed

**Approval of Minutes** – unanimously approved as distributed

**Approval of Bills** – Approved unanimously as distributed

**Presidents Report** – No report due to Round Lake residents presenting information on Lake Freeze out.

Round Lake residents reported their lake froze out over the winter, they had to restock using private funds due to lake not having a public access. They are wanting donation from OTLPOA. This will be discussed at July meeting.

### Committee Reports

**Membership** – Snyder reported we are at 1066 members. We have approx. 1,000 email addresses. Discussed ways to use and get more. Wentz reported 2nd mailing sent out, getting some response back from people that they had already paid. Discussed ways to do better mailing.

**Auditing/Finance** – Need budget for next year.

**DNR/GOV'T** – Fishing opener 2020 discussed, Steeves reported that Howard Fullhart will be speaking at annual meeting. Wright County discussed, Otter Tail County AIS board is asking DNR commissioner to attend meeting in July to discuss. 57 boats used decon unit at Pelican Bay access along with 6 boats that just wanted to clean their boats.

**Water Testing/COLA** – Otter Tail reading is 20 ft. and Blanche at 13 ft., Long Lake at 1ft. Long Lake low reading due to high phosphorus levels. Long Lake phosphorus levels are down from 52 to 38.

**Communications** – Website is

updated for secure credit card payments. New contact is John Carlson.

**Worm** – Worm spraying was very successful. Over 50% payment from mailing. Discussed ways to improve mailing, finding out who is paying.

**Foundation** – Discussed swimming lessons, they will be held last week of July to 1st of August. Location of next year's lessons may change due to shallow water and bugs at Amor location. Buoys are all out on Otter Tail Lake. Looking for new board member. Old buoys for sale, will put ad in LSN.

**Rearing Pond** – Bope reported had a meeting with WCI and Water Management Board. Water Management board will not allow any improvements. No new signage will be allowed. Will have a full page ad in LSN and in Presidents corner. Committee will meet June 28th 1PM to discuss plan going forward. Once memorandum of understanding is signed payments can be made.

**Social** – Plan for Annual meeting June 29th. Doughnuts and rolls from Ottertail Bakery, juice, coffee water will be provided. Notices of meeting were be placed in Battle Lake Review and Midweek. Speakers speak for 10 – 15 minutes. Board should be there by 7:30AM.

**Old business** – Donation to U of M AIS foundation. This will be on July meeting agenda. Bernie discussed plans for fishing opener 2020, they would like it to be county wide to promote Otter Tail County. They would like 500 to 600 volunteers. Bernie asked for back up to attend meetings in Jan./Feb. next year as he may be gone.

**New Business** – Lynn discussed Long Lake, they will be having a 1st annual carp tournament in July. A meeting notice of an RV park on Long Lake, will need more information.

### Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm. Next meeting is July 25th at 7:00pm.



## Photos From Long Lake 4th of July Root Beer Floats sponsored by the LLRPOA

Photos submitted by Lynn Cave



## Swimming Across Otter Tail Lake



Cal ready for his swim

Written by Cal Mouritsen, submitted by Steve Mouritsen

There's a newspaper article from 1957 framed on the wall of my grandparents' cabin. My grandfather, having just graduated from high school at the time, and one of his friends swam across the 3.5 mile width of Otter Tail Lake. After hearing the story as a youngster (and plenty of times from my grandmother through past summers), I decided that my time to tackle the swim had come. I wouldn't be completing it alone, however. My father had also decided to tag along, aiming to make the event a generational trifecta. Thursday, July 11, 2019 was the date; a sunny morning with a light south wind. I set out first, with my dad, brother, and his fiancé following alongside in the pontoon. I was lucky enough to have a water-proof iPod Shuffle along as well, and quite the playlist to help ease the boredom. From the relaxing vibes of Jimmy Buffet and Dire Straits, to the anthems of Nirvana and Metallica; the time passed rather quickly. I



Cal swimming

Photo submitted by Steve Mouritsen

touched the shoreline by Balmoral in one hour and five minutes. My father's swim went by uneventful as well. His choice of music for the iPod was 80's one-hit wonders and Jimmy Buffet. Aside from some leg cramps towards the end of the swim, dad hit the beach at my grandparents' cabin in one hour and forty minutes. It was an amazing feeling of accomplishment for the both of us. We celebrated the feat

with a lunch at Zorbaz. And let me tell you....Bezt....Quezadilla....Ever.

## 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aug. 16	Household Hazardous Waste Mobile Collections - Wadena	Sept. 14	542 Foundation Fundraiser - Tastes. Toasts & Traditions & Stubs, Battle Lake
Aug. 16	Corn Feed/Puppet Pageant, New York Mills	Sept. 17	OTC Cola Hosting MN Cola Meeting, Thumper Pond
Aug. 16	Annual Turkey BBQ/Crazy Day, Henning	Sept. 18	AIS Research & Management Showcase St. Paul Campus, U of M
Aug. 16-18	Black Powder Rendezvous, Perham	Sept. 19	OTLPOA Board Meeting* TBD
Aug. 17	Starry Trek 2019	Sept. 20	Household Hazardous Waste Mobile Collections - Wadena
Aug. 17	Watermelon Day, Vining	Sept. 25	Fall Supper, Zion Lutheran Church, Amor
Aug. 17	Monarch Butterfly Event	Sept. 28	Lakes Area Home Tour, Perham
Aug. 17-18	Pioneer Days, Perham	Oct. 5	I Outran the Hairy Man, Vergas
Aug. 18	God's Acres Extravaganza - Patrick Murphy Concert	Oct. 10-12	Oktoberfest, Pelican Rapids
Aug. 22	OTLPOA Board Meeting*	Oct. 12	Foster Hope Run 5K and 1 Mile, Fergus Falls
Aug. 22	Turtle Races 11am, Free Concert 7:30pm at Battle Lake Community Center	Oct. 18-19	Henning Haunted House
Aug. 23	Landmark Corn & Brat Feed, Henning	Oct. 24	OTLPOA Board Meeting*
Aug. 23-24	Barnesville Potato Days	Oct. 25-26	Henning Haunted House
Aug. 24-25	Finn Creek Festival	Nov. 29	Old Fashioned Lighted Horse Parade, Pelican Rapids
Aug. 27	Music in the Park, Ottertail	Nov. 30	Old Fashioned Christmas, Vergas
Aug. 30- Sept. 2	Steam Threshermans Reunion, Rollag	Dec. 7	Battle Lake Craft Show
Aug. 31	Gathering of the Airplanes, Battle Lake	Dec. 7	Over the River Holiday Festival, Fergus Falls
Sept. TBD	COLA Member Meeting	Dec. 7	Otter Dazzle
Sept. 6	Household Hazardous Waste Mobile Collections - New York Mills	Dec. 14	Wine Walk, Vergas
Sept. 6-8	Lake Region Pioneer Threshermen's Assn., Dalton	Dec. 21	Longest Night Music Fest, New York Mills
Sept. 11-14	Wissota 100, Fergus Falls		
Sept. 13-14	Disgruntled Daze 4th Annual, Perham		
Sept. 14	Dream for Kids, Perham		

\*Held at the Ottertail Community Room in Ottertail unless indicated by TBD.



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**Fundraising event of the Battle Lake Lions Club**

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## Otter Tail Lake Property Owners Association, Inc. Board Meeting Unapproved Minutes July 25th - 7:00pm at the Ottertail Community Center

### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order by President Simdorn. Members present: Wentz, Steeves, Kemling, Snyder, Cave, Bope, Rizk, Anderson, Wing, Mouritsen, Ness, Gedde, and Feters. Absent: Hunke.

**Approval of Agenda** – unanimously approved as distributed

**Approval of Minutes** – unanimously approved as distributed

**Approval of Bills** – Approved unanimously as distributed

**Presidents Report** – Pres. Simdorn discussed music on the lake. He had received a call wondering if OTLPOA sponsored the Tunes on Toons, Simdorn informed him that we do not. They need approval from DNR and permits to do this.

### Committee Reports

**Membership** – Snyder reported we are at 1083 members. More applications are in the mail.

**Auditing/Finance** – Budget should be completed by next meeting.

**DNR/GOV'T** – Steeves reported that more decon units will be at access's on Otter Tail Lake next year. Otter Tail County AIS board is asking someone from DNR to attend meeting in Aug. to discuss. Over 100 boats have used decon unit at Pelican Bay access.

**Water Testing/COLA** – Otter Tail reading is 19 ft. and Blanche at 11 ft., Long Lake at 11 in., Round Lake 17 ft.

**Communications** – pictures and articles needed for LSN. Discussed that the last issue was very good, good pictures and articles. Website is in good shape.

**Worm** – Worm spraying costs were discussed, had good participation across the lakes in the association.

**Foundation** – Foundation has \$29,996.00 in the bank and \$30,378.00 in CD's. New board members were voted on by OTLPOA board, Jon Anderson and Lana Ouren were approved to join foundation board. Steve Mouritsen was approved to be the liaison to OTLPOA board. Discussed swimming lessons, 51 swimmers participating. Location of next year's lessons will be at Corner Store due to shallow water and bugs at Amor location. Old buoys for sale at 150.00 per buoy ad will be in LSN.

**Rearing Pond** – Bope introduced a motion that read: OTLPOA will enter into a memorandum of understanding with West Central initiative to help facilitate

fund raising efforts in order to help Water Management District purchase the rearing pond. No current OTLPOA funds will be spent in order to pay for this property. (Even though we could according to our By Laws/Articles of Inc.) OTLPOA will not be the owner of the Rearing Pond (Even though we could according to our By Laws/Articles of Inc.). OTLPOA will act as a facilitator for fund raising efforts in order to assist the Water District Management to purchase the Rearing Pond property consistent with our purpose as stated in paragraph 3 of our Articles of Inc.

Motion was approved.

**Social** – Discussed Annual meeting attendance, how to improve will be discussed at later meetings.

**Old Business** – Donation to Round Lake for fish stocking was discussed. There are approx. 66 properties on Round Lake and approx. 25 – 26 have donated private money to this cause. After some discussion the board voted to approve a donation of \$2,250.00 this year with another \$2,250.00 next year.

Rob Bope made a motion to donate \$1,000.00 to U of M AIS foundation to support AIS research.

Motion approved.

Kemling gave an update on fishing opener 2020, they are looking at Phelps Mills for picnic to promote Otter Tail County. They are still wanting 500 to 600 volunteers. We will have an update on that after Sept. 11th meeting.

**New Business** – Election of officers – Scott Simdorn was re-elected President, Rob Bope was re-elected to Vice President, Pat Hunke was re-elected as treasurer, and Becky Kemling was elected as secretary.

Lynn gave an update on the Long Lake campground, they are proposing 53 unit lots and will have to adhere to the 1000 ft. set back. It will be discussed at the next Planning commission on Aug. 14th.

Feters advised that the public access on Deer Lake will be closed from Sept. 9th thru October for improvement.

The September meeting will be held on Sept. 19th. Location to be determined.

### Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm. Next meeting is Aug. 22th at 7:00pm.

Otter Tail County  
wants to remind  
you about  
**21 DAY DRY TIME**  
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Battle Lake, MN

## EOTSW/LLRPOA Long Lake Buffer Zone Project

Submitted by Lynn Cave

On Friday, July 26, Paul Oxberry & Lynn Cave of the Long Lake/Riviera Property Owners Association (LLRPOA) met with Ben Underhill & Aimee Duchene (East Otter Tail Soil & Water) to begin the RFP (request for proposal) process for a grant to establish shoreline buffer zones on Long Lake. These wildflower buffer zones will help reduce phosphorus run off and contamination to Long Lake.

This grant will be a cost-sharing project with participating shoreline property owners, reimbursed 75% of the cost of their buffer zone installation.

Timeline for this grant is as follows:

- Sept. 9 - Grant RFP submitted
- March 2020 - Notification of grant approval or denial
- Fall 2020/Spring 2021 - Installation of shoreline buffer zones begin

For more information on this grant project for Long Lake shoreline property owners contact Lynn Cave, 641-373-6021 or [iasewtaquilter@gmail.com](mailto:iasewtaquilter@gmail.com)

To schedule a site visit on your shoreline property contact, Aimee Duchene (EOTSW) 218-346-9105.

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## Rearing Pond Trail



**There are four entrances to the rearing pond walkway.**

**The one pictured here is right off the Blanche Lake Access, off of 78**

*Photo submitted by Rob Bope*



The DNR is auctioning off this beautiful piece of property between the lakes of Otter Tail and Blanche. The property is 58.2 acres and was originally designed as a fish rearing pond in the 1940 to 1950s. The property is currently used for walking, cross country skiing, bird and other wildlife watching. This project fits very well with OTLPOA's purpose as defined in our articles of incorporation. After many hours of discussion with the county and various government organizations, it was determined the Waste Water Management District would own and conserve the property. An agreement has been made with West Central Initiatives of Fergus Falls who will spearhead the fund drive. OTLPOA will assist them in

their fundraising efforts and support the project. No current OTLPOA or Foundation funds will be used for this project. All donations will be made to West Central Initiatives who will hold the money until the purchase date. There's a goal of \$90,000.00 and a two-year time frame to raise the required money. Donations can be made online at [wcif.org/rearingpondtrail.html](http://wcif.org/rearingpondtrail.html). Please help support this project for future generations to enjoy for years down the road. Rob Bope, our VP, is heading up this committee. Please contact him or any of your board members with any questions.



## Rearing Pond Trail

Preserving habitat and enjoyment for years to come.



Nestled between Otter Tail and Blanche lakes, the 58 acres of woods and paths known informally as Rearing Pond Trail have been an oasis for residents and visitors of the area.

Developed by the DNR in the late 40s and early 50s as a fish rearing pond that refused to hold water, the land instead has been enjoyed by families and wildlife for generations.

When the DNR scheduled this piece of land for public auction, the Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association stepped forward with an alternate plan. The association, in conjunction with West Central Initiative, is working to raise \$90,000 to help the Otter Tail Water Management District purchase the land from the DNR and maintain it as it currently exists through volunteer support.

*"This is a terrific opportunity to save and promote a wonderful part of the world in which we are lucky to live. We never fail to take visitors on a walk through the 'Pond.' It underlines how fortunate we are."*

**D.W. Bernauer**



*"People who might not otherwise have the opportunity to walk, run or enjoy nature have found this property to be ideal as it is safe, quiet, easily accessible and provides a perfect place to enjoy the four seasons in our beautiful state."*

**Ken and Mary Jo Wentz**

### Here's how it works:

Funds raised for this project will be used to purchase the land (\$79,500), pay for fundraising/marketing and legal fees (\$8,500), and leave a \$2,000 cash reserve for contingency costs and other future projects.

Once the land has been purchased by the Otter Tail Water Management District, they will then own and care for the property. The intention is to keep it as it currently exists and to work with any volunteers who have been mowing and maintaining the property.

All legal documents have been drafted and signed, which now allows for the project to move forward.

There is a two-year window of opportunity to make this happen. We need your support today. We think we can accomplish this in the first year, leaving us an extra year for good measure!

**Please join us in meeting our \$90,000 goal.**

**Donate online at [wcif.org/rearingpondtrail.html](http://wcif.org/rearingpondtrail.html)**

**Questions? Contact Rob Bope at 612-889-8771.**

*No current OTLPOA funds will be spent for the purchase of this property and OTLPOA will have no ownership interest.*

**Goal:  
\$90,000**

**\$2,000  
contingency**

**\$2,000  
fundraising**

**\$3,000  
marketing**

**\$3,500  
legal &  
consulting fees**

**\$79,500  
property cost**

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The Rearing Pond Fund is a component fund of West Central Initiative, a regional community foundation that serves the west central Minnesota counties of Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse and Wilkin.  
wcif.org | 800-735-2239 | PO Box 318 Fergus Falls, MN 56538

**YES! I/We want to help make sure the Rearing Pond Trail is a place for the public to enjoy for years and generations to come.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would like this gift to be anonymous.

**Donate via credit card online: [wcif.org/rearingpondtrail.html](http://wcif.org/rearingpondtrail.html)**

One-time payment amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Two-year pledge:

Payment date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Amt: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Amt: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Pledged: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make check payable to West Central Initiative and indicate "Rearing Pond Trail Fund" in memo.**  
Mail along with pledge card to:  
West Central Initiative  
PO Box 318  
Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0318



West Central Initiative is an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

Does your employer provide matching funds?  
West Central Initiative, an independent public foundation,  
non-profit 501(c)(3) tax exempt corporation.



# Quick Tips to Reduce Home Water Waste

Few people realize that the land of 10,000 lakes may soon face a water shortage. While surface water is abundant in our region, the majority of



Self-registration is easy.

Otter Tail County is now using the **CodeRED® Emergency/Weather Warning Notification System** - a high-speed community communication service. This system allows us to send specific information to individuals, businesses, and organizations throughout the county - or just in affected areas - in case of an emergency or severe weather situation.

The **CodeRED® Emergency/Weather Warning Notification System** also delivers weather warning information to anyone that signs up to receive it - whether on your phone, by text, or email.

Go to <https://public.coderedweb.com/cne/en-US/BF58FD528F29> for the new **CodeRED®** registration page. If you need assistance to sign up, or have any questions about the system, please contact **Otter Tail County Emergency Management: 218-998-8067**

the metro relies on groundwater. This out-of-sight natural resource is far from limitless. Groundwater isn't replenished as quickly as surface water, and our supply is already dwindling.

Become conscious of water waste is the first step to making a change. The EPA estimates that as much as 50% of the water used outdoors is wasted. A combination of evaporation, wind, and inefficient irrigation methods adds up to a massive loss of a precious resource.

Here's some quick tips to reduce home water waste

- Check an automated irrigation system for leaks and broken sprinkler heads at the start of each summer.
- Install a rain gauge in your yard. Grass needs no more than one inch of water per week, including rainfall.
- Set your mower blade to three inches tall to promote deeper grass roots. Deep root systems are more drought resistant.
- Install a smart irrigation controller — or simply run your irrigation system in manual mode only when needed.
- Establish native plants in your gardens that thrive with normal rainfall.

Source: [www.cleanwatermn.org](http://www.cleanwatermn.org)

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association Inc.

#### 2019 Membership (Check one)

Property Owner Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Owners Lake Property)

Associate Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Does not own lake property or shares ownership)

Name of Property Owner living at lake property address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Property

House/Street # \_\_\_\_\_

(this is the blue house number/street for your lake home)
City/State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Summer "mailing" address (5/15 – 8/30):

House/Street # \_\_\_\_\_

(must be valid US Postal deliverable address)
City/State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Winter mailing address (9/1-5/15):

House/Street # \_\_\_\_\_

City/State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: (please print legibly) \_\_\_\_\_

Notification of date for tent caterpillar/worm spraying, updates of possible lake changing issues, etc. (If you don't personally have an email address, you can substitute one for a family member who will let you know of these notifications).

#### Annual Dues (Jan.-Dec.)

- Membership \$25.00
  - Foundation \$10.00
- Includes \$10 donation to OTLPOA Foundation
 \$
 35.00

#### Additional support for the Foundation (tax deductible)

\$10.00

\$20.00

\$50.00

Other

\_\_\_\_\_

\$

The OTLPOA Foundation was established to obtain financial resources to maintain water quality for recreation, fishing, and enjoyment when Government resources are not provided.

(Total enclosed)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: OTLPOA and mail to: PO Box 21, Battle Lake, MN 56515  
 Or visit [www.OTLPOA.com](http://www.OTLPOA.com) to pay by credit card (under the membership section)

#### How can the association better serve you? (On another sheet of paper)

What lake related topic or issue is most important to you? How do you think our Association can help?

# Blanche Lake Sailor Tom Peterson

Submitted and written by Peggy Gunn and Tom Peterson

“Hanging out” on Blanche Lake takes on a whole new meaning when the winds are brisk and Tom Peterson hoists the sails on his 17-foot catamaran, Double Jeopardy. He brings extensive “big water” sailing experience, including a 2010 Atlantic Ocean trip from Duluth, Minn. to Portugal and back to Florida. It was a six-month adventure with two sailor friends after ten years of planning and practice, primarily on Lake Superior. “When the weather turned nasty, we headed out into the Apostle Islands to gain experience with big wind and big waves,” Tom notes. “Yet we found the ocean was always bigger and more challenging.” Years earlier he completed a month-long solo trip on Lake Michigan, from Chicago to Madeline Island to Door County, sleeping on the beaches in a tent propped up on the catamaran’s trampoline. Now he sails closer to home. “Blanche Lake isn’t the biggest one around, yet having friends “hang out” with me here is always fun and exciting.”



## Kids and parents love to give a wave while trapezing on Tom's catamaran, Double Jeopardy



## OTLPOA director Fred Rizk “hung out” with Tom on a windy July day on Blanche Lake

Photos submitted by Peggy Gunn and Tom Peterson



## 25-Year Anniversary Event Both Celebratory And Sober, Given Issues Facing Minnesota's Lakes & Rivers

By Jeff Forester

For the 25th Anniversary Annual Meeting of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates (MLR), its Board decided to try something new: Have our annual meeting during the summer out in an area with a lot of lakes. It was a great idea, and a wonderful event.

Minnesota's lakes and rivers are in trouble. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has determined that 40% of our surface waters are impaired to the point where fishing and swimming are no longer recommended. There are impaired waters in every county of the state, and the current trends are towards more impairment, not less.

The solution to this is organizing the many lake home and cabin owners in the state, the lake associations, marina and resort owners, and local resource managers into a constituency that focuses on protecting un-impaired waters, and rehabilitating impaired water. I use the word "rehabilitating" rather than "restoring" because unlike prairies, forests and other terrestrial ecosystems, complete restoration of an impaired lake is very, very difficult, very slow, and very, very expensive.

Partnerships are the answer, and so the theme "Water Connects Us All" was born. Water does indeed connect us all. Most Minnesotans have a deep connection to a lake or river in Minnesota, and all MLR members recognize the need to be engaged and take specific actions to protect our lakes. Minnesota is the origin of three continental sized watersheds, the Mississippi River Basin that flows to Gulf of Mexico, The Red River Basin which flows north to Lake Winnipeg and ultimately the Arctic Circle, and the Great Lakes Basin which flows to the Atlantic.

The event was only possible with partnerships, including Cass County and the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, who donated generously to help keep expenses down. The food, service, and facilities at the Northern Lights Casino were exceptional. The Association of Cass County Lakes, ACCL, and President Linda Blake were key partners and responsible for much of the groundwork and planning. MN COLA was a co-host of the event with ACCL and MLR.

Almost 200 lake advocates attended. Twenty one different groups came to participate in the Water Connects Us All showcase, sharing the latest technology, programs, and information including a new Resort Ambassador's program, One Watershed One Plan participation and funding, new ways to increase lake association membership, opportunities to work with local schools to develop lake based science education, using weevils as a bio-control for Eurasian watermilfoil, new boat cleaning technology, and more. For a full list of all of the showcase participants, check the Water Connects Us All event program.

Special thanks to Hans Blix and the Weapons Inspectors for providing wonderful bluegrass music. Hans Blix and the Weapons Inspectors are not only wonderful musicians, but also natural resource managers in a variety of roles from non-profit, county and MN DNR. They truly are the water advocates' house band!

On Monday night, Cass County Administrator Josh Stevenson, and Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe President Robbie Budreau welcomed the group to Cass County. These two governments, over the course of many years, have developed a strong and trusting working relationship. The results are that their natural resources have benefited.

Attendees enjoyed a wide-ranging discussion and question and answer period with Senate Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Funding Committee Chair Sen. Carrie Rudd, and House Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Funding Committee Chair, Rep. John Persell. Together they covered aquatic invasive species, wakeboard boat impacts, the importance of healthy forests for water quality, and funding priorities.

Both legislators congratulated MLR members on the impact that their advocacy was having on educating legislators, and advancing the goals of clean and healthy lake and river ecosystems in Minnesota.

After a delicious walleye and wild rice dinner, MPR Chief Meteorologist Paul Huttner presented, "Changing Weather patterns and the Impacts on Our Lakes and Rivers." The data is sobering. Minnesota is experiencing the most rapid rise in average yearly temperature of any state in the lower 48, mostly due to warmer nights and winters. In addition, the data shows that Minnesota is also experiencing the most dramatic increase in our annual precipitation. Both of these facts will have significant impacts on our lakes moving forward, and require planning, adaptive management, and adaptation. You can see a PDF version of his talk at the MLR website: [www.mnlakesandrivers.org](http://www.mnlakesandrivers.org)

Next, newly appointed DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen shared with MLR members a goal she had for her time as DNR Commissioner. She laid out a compelling case for all conservation minded Minnesotans to get more kids outside learning about and enjoying our lakes, rivers and natural lands. She noted that people care about things they understand and have a connection with. Given falling hunting and fishing license sales among young people, finding new ways to engage young people with the outdoor world is critically important.

Commissioner Strommen also recognized that lake associations can play an important role in this effort. But Lake Associations often struggle to bring in younger members. There is tremendous opportunity for lake associations to partner with the MN DNR, school districts and local governments to develop programs and curriculum that will not only help develop the next generation of conservationists, but engage with their parents and the broader local community. You can see a copy of Commissioner Strommen's PowerPoint, again at [www.mnlakesandrivers.org](http://www.mnlakesandrivers.org).

Jeff Forester is the Executive Director of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates ([www.mnlakesandrivers.org](http://www.mnlakesandrivers.org))



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# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**2019 Upcoming OTLPOA Board Meetings**

**Aug. 22 • Sept. 19\* • Oct. 24**

7pm • Ottertail Community Center (103 Lake Ave. S)

\*TO BE DETERMINED

**[www.otlpoa.com](http://www.otlpoa.com)**


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## West Nile Virus Impacting Minnesota Loon Population

A recent uptick in reports of dead loons and test results indicate an impact from West Nile virus (WNV), according to nongame wildlife staff at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

The Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at the University of Minnesota confirmed WNV as the cause of death in two of three dead loons from northeastern Minnesota earlier this month. Wildlife staff are receiving a small but noticeable increase in calls from people finding dead loons in northeastern Minnesota this summer.

WNV was first confirmed in Minnesota in 2002 and was documented as a cause of loon mortality in Minnesota as early as 2005. It is not uncommon for people, animals and birds to be exposed to WNV through mosquito bites. Most people and animals successfully fight off the virus and develop antibodies against future infection. Some birds, like loons, crows and other corvids, are especially susceptible to the infection. Researchers are attempting to discover the rates of infection among ruffed grouse.

Loons can die from a variety of illnesses and injuries and individual bird deaths are a normal occurrence and not cause for alarm.

“Minnesotans love our loons and it’s concerning for people to find them dead. When we start seeing multiple birds dying on a single lake, we want to know about it so we can start tracking the information and determine when further testing is warranted,” said nongame wildlife specialist Gaea Crozier. “While there isn’t a way to treat the West Nile virus infection, knowing the cause can help us rule out other, preventable causes of mortality.”

Lake homeowners and other lake users who observe two or more dead loons on a single lake with no obvious injury or cause

of death are asked to email the nearest DNR nongame wildlife staff for tracking. For our area that would be Christine Herwig. Email christine.herwig@state.mn.us

Individual bird carcasses can be disposed of by burial or in the trash. There is no evidence people can contract WNV from infected birds, but gloves or a plastic bag are recommended when handling any dead animal. If reporting numbers reach a threshold that indicates a need for further testing, more information and handling protocols will follow.

The Minnesota Nongame Wildlife Program is funded almost entirely through grants and donations. More information about the DNR’s Nongame Wildlife Program and the Loon Monitoring Program can be found on the DNR website at mndnr.gov/nongame.

**Butterfly Tagging Demonstration**

On Wednesday, August 24 from 10:00am-12:00pm there will be a Monarch Butterfly Tagging Demonstration Meet at the Prairie Hill trailhead at Glendalough State Park. All ages can learn how to catch and handle a monarch, determine whether it is male or female, and properly tag it. All monarchs will be released after they are tagged to continue their long migration to Mexico. Bring your own butterfly net if you have one, or share a park net if you don't. Long pants are recommended. Tagging will continue as long as there are enough tags and butterflies.

Check the events calendar for more programs at [https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_parks/events.html?location=spk00167](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/events.html?location=spk00167)

**BAPTIST**

**Basswood Baptist Church B.G.C.** 

38188 340th St., Richville, MN 56576  
Bert Holmquist, Pastor—218-495-3800  
Church—218-495-3771

Sunday School 9:30 am, refreshments following  
Worship Service 10:45 am  
Bible Study, Youth Group & Kids Club - Wednesday 7:00 pm  
Ladies' Bible Study - 3rd Thursday  
Men's Prayer Breakfast - 1st Saturday 7:00 am  
Potluck Dinner - 2nd Sunday

**First Baptist (ABC) - Battle Lake**  
“The Little Brown Church on the Hill”  
Lynn Hansen, Pastor—651-485-7378  
www.firstbaptistbattl lake.org  
Sunday Worship 9:30 am  
Fellowship & refreshments 10:30 am

**BATTLE LAKE ALLIANCE**

401 W. Gilbertson St., Battle Lake  
Derek Mansker, Pastor • Church—218-864-5539 

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am  
Fellowship & refreshments after service  
Find us on the web at battlelake.org

**CATHOLIC**

Father LeRoy Schik, Pastor  
Mass Times—218-864-5619  
www.olls j.org

**St. James Catholic** - Maine Township   
Sunday Mass 8:30am, May 1 - Sept. 30

**Saint Edwards** - Henning   
Saturday Mass 4pm, May 1 - Sept. 30

**Our Lady of the Lake** - Battle Lake   
Saturday Mass 6pm, Memorial Day-Labor Day  
Sunday Mass 10:30 am

**LAKES AREA**

**Church Directory**

**2019**

**LUTHERAN**

**Bethel Lutheran Church**  
Battle Lake Campus:  
Meets at Lakes Area Community Center  
112 West Main St., Battle Lake  
218-862-4903  
Sunday School 9:15 am  
(no Sunday School during summer months)  
Worship: 10:30 am  
Website: bethellutheran.church

**First Lutheran - ELCA**   
505 W. Holdt St., Battle Lake  
Bradley Skogen, Pastor  
Rob Nelson, Visitation Pastor  
blfirstlutheran.org  
Church—218-864-5686  
Coffee Fellowship: 9:00 am  
Worship: 10:00 am  
Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

**Sverdrup Lutheran Church**   
PO Box 70  
209 Southern Ave. E., Underwood  
Martha Halls, Pastor  
Church—218-826-6919  
Worship 9:00 am

**Tingvold Lutheran Church**  
6 miles north of Underwood, Co. 1 & Co. 35  
Martha Halls, Pastor  
Church—218-826-6487  
September 1-May 31: Service 11:00 am  
Fellowship 10:00 am  
June 1-August 31: Service 10:30 am  
Fellowship 9:30am

**Zion Lutheran - ELCA**  
36051 Co. Hwy. 74, Amor  
Hwy. 1 & 74, 10 miles north of Battle Lake  
James Gronbeck, Pastor • Church—218-495-2563  
Email: zionamoroffice@prt el.com  
Website: www.zionamor.org  
Summer Services May 12-September 15  
Worship 8:15 am & 10:00 am  
Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays  
8:15 am - Traditional Service Weekly  
10:00 am - Informal Service 1st & 4th Sundays (Piano)  
Contemporary Service; 2nd & 3rd Sundays (Praise Team)  
Fellowship and refreshments between services.  
Bible Study - Tuesday 10:00 am, Evening Bible Study -  
Contact church office for date and time

**METHODIST**

**Ottertail United Methodist Church**   
104 Shores Drive, Ottertail  
Rod Turnquist, Pastor  
Church—218-367-2270  
Worship 8:45 am  
Coffee Fellowship following Worship

**Richville United Methodist Church**  
130 SW 1st Ave., Richville  
Rod Turnquist, Pastor  
Church—218-346-5656  
Worship 10:30 am  
Coffee Fellowship following Worship 2nd & 4th Sunday

**PRESBYTERIAN**

**Maine Presbyterian**   
30761 Co. Hwy. 45, Maine Township  
2 miles north of Phelps Mill  
Ed Morgan, Reverend  
Website: mainepresbyterianchurch.org  
Church—218-495-2539  
Summer - Worship 9:30 am (Thru August)  
Coffee Following Worship Service  
Winter - Worship 10:00 am

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# Swimming Lessons At Amor Park Sponsored By The OTLPOA Foundation

The OTLPOA Foundation provided swimming lessons at Amor Park this year. The lessons were put on by the Red Cross and all participants who completed the class were refunded the cost of the lessons by the Foundation. This is a great opportunity to get the kids into a lake swimming environment. Please note that the instructors were excellent with the young kids this year.

Why is swimming so important?

• Learning to swim is a skill that once learnt is rarely forgotten and it is

open to people of all ages.

• Swimming is the only sport which can save a person's life

• Drowning is one of the most common causes of accidental death in children, so being able to swim is an essential life-saving skill.

• Swimming keeps your child's heart and lungs healthy, improves strength and flexibility, increases stamina and even improves balance and posture ..

• Children of any age or ability can

take part.

• Swimming provides challenges and rewards accomplishments, which helps children to become self-confident and believe in their abilities.

• Learning to swim also opens up the door to a range of other activities such as kayaking, canoing, scuba diving, surfing, and more.

Remember, you can't always be there. Learning to swim may save their life one day!

# PILLOW CLEANING

## Sat., August 24th

### 7am-1pm

#### at the Lions Park in Battle Lake



## Battle Lake Lions



# LOST & FOUND

Have you lost something? Have you found something in your yard or on your shoreline that wasn't yours? If you have been unable to locate your lost items, or unable to return a found item to the rightful owner, email photo or description to [secretary@otlpoa.com](mailto:secretary@otlpoa.com)

[WWW.OTLPOA.COM](http://WWW.OTLPOA.COM)





# Long Lake Fishing

Photos submitted by Lynn Cave



Photos submitted by Berne Steeves



Thanks to everyone who participated and to the Foundation for funding this program. There were 24 children that participated the first session and 27 the second week. Congratulations to all who attended!



Photo submitted by Rob Bope



Photos submitted by Berne Steeves



LAND TRANSFERS July 9, 2019 until Aug. 12, 2019					
TWP	LAKE	PROPERTY TYPE	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	PRICE
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Chaffee, Orison Y. & Cassandra P.	Welle, Robert L. & Gail M. & Chad R. & Kristin	\$770,500
Everts	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Larson, Barbara	Wahl, Duane T. & Jeanette M.	\$314,850
Girard		Rural Land Unimproved > 35 Ac	Heifort, Steven C. & Dorothy I.	Borchardt, Matthew	\$146,000
Girard	East Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Erdahl, Heidi	Lindquist, Karl & Samantha	\$92,500
Girard	East Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	John E. Groneman Revocable Living Trust, U/A	Sanda, David C. & Susan Watkins	\$126,700
Girard	East Battle	Residential < 4 Units	Pagel, Carol	Christensen, Thomas W. & Paula M.	\$471,000
Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Lehr, James D & Connie & Thomas M & Nancy & St	Devos, Scott M.	\$262,500
Otter Tail		Residential < 4 Units	Sweere, Kelly & Nicolette	Olson, Benjamin & Jessica	\$249,350
Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Lehr, James D & Connie & Thomas M & Nancy & St	Devos, Susan M.	\$262,500
Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Donald Galuk As Trustee Of Peter Galuk And An	Schone, Roger & Joyce	\$155,000
Otter Tail	Long	Seas Res Unimproved	Habeeb, Colette & William	Hammers, Joe & Kristi	\$56,000
Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Hought, Timothy & Beatrice	Strandberg, Candice	\$255,000
Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Smith, Phillip R. & Kelsey J.	Syvrud, Ryan S. & Kristin	\$262,000
Otter Tail		Farm Improved < 35 Ac	Harm's Farm Storage, Llc	Schone, Roger	\$500,000
Ottertail City		Commercial Unimproved	Chase, Allen F. & Elizabeth M.	Dgogottertailmn031919, LLC	\$199,900
Ottertail City		Rural Land Unimproved < 35 Ac	Carr, Brad & Roxane	Sethre, David C. & Linda Sue	\$28,000
Ottertail City		Rural Land Unimproved < 35 Ac	Carr, Brad & Roxane	Chisholm, Kevin & Jean	\$61,500
Ottertail City		Residential < 4 Units	Wheeler, Harold M & Sharon R.	Strand, Theodore O. & Marie E.	\$40,000
Ottertail City	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Rick, Trustee, Gerald Thomas	Nelson, Dale & Marilyn	\$400,000
Ottertail City	Pelican Bay	Residential < 4 Units	Bailey, Charles & Cindy	Christensen, Jill Michelle & Troy Carol	\$373,350

### Let's Get Canning!

Canning is a treasured tradition that many people remember their mom or grandmother doing, but is a feat that many people don't feel they have the time or talent for. Here are some helpful tips to help you feel confident enough to start canning and stop wasting the veggies and fruits of your labor.

- Canning Jars-You must use jars specifically for canning. You cannot use any basic jar as they cannot endure the high temperatures or pressure of canning.
- A big heavy kettle to process the food before it is put in the jar.
- A large pot with a jar rack to process the jars once they are full.
- A lid lifter is needed to pull the lid out of hot water and put it on the jar without damaging the seal of the lid or burning your fingers.
- A set of tongs to lift the jar out of the boiling water.
- A pan to simmer the lids in to soften the sealant making them seal better.

Things to know:

- Make sure your recipe is current and tested.

- Thoroughly clean your work area, utensils and hands.
  - Jars should not be cracked or chipped. They should be sterilized in hot water for up to 10 minutes.
  - Lids should be new, but you can reuse your rings
  - Set aside enough time to complete your canning project as it can take several hours.
  - Cut/chop all foods to similar size so that they all heat at the same rate.
  - Water must be boiling before you can start your timer
  - There are so many different foods you can try canning with.
- Canning methods:
- Water bath Canning is typically used for high acid foods like jams, jellies, salsa, sauces or tomatoes.
  - Pressure Canning for low acid foods such as beef, poultry, pork, vegetables or venison.
- Always make sure that you read each recipe and process carefully. Keep the canning tradition Alive! Pass this tradition with your tips and recipes on to your family, friends and neighbors.



# CALL Before You Dig

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## What a beautiful evening for a pontoon get together on Blanche Lake

Photo submitted by Fred Rizk

## Zion Lutheran Church Activities

- Bible Study Tuesdays 10am
  - Faith N' Films – 2nd Sundays at 6:30
  - Harvest Garden Sunday Market 9am-11am Aug.-Oct.
  - Patrick Murphy Concert God's Acres Extravaganza - Aug. 18, 6pm
  - Fall Supper, Wed., Sept. 25, 4-7pm
- Zion Lutheran Church of Amor, is located off of Co. Hwy. 1, for any questions call 218-495-2563.

## Concerts In Ottertail

The Ottertail Business & Community Association's (OTBCA) 2019 Music Series will be performing these concerts at the Ottertail City Park:

- Tuesday, August 13  
Castaways, 6:30-8:30pm
- Tuesday, August 27  
Anthony Miltich, 6-8pm

These are free concerts. Hot dogs, pop, popcorn will be available. If there is rain it will be held indoors at Thumper Pond.

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## Announcing Nine New Research Projects

Source: Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC)

MAISRC is excited to announce nine new research projects that are launching this summer. These projects were selected as part of a competitive proposal process following a comprehensive research needs assessment. The results of these projects will improve our ability to detect, prevent, and manage aquatic invasive species throughout Minnesota. The projects include:

### Developing Carp Removal Schemes Using Social Learning Behaviors

This project will develop a new way to effectively remove invasive common carp from Minnesota lakes by selectively attracting them with food and removing them with specialized nets, while also taking into account their social behaviors. Led by Przemek Bajer.

### Historical Analyses Of Spiny Waterflea Invasion Patterns

Now that research has indicated that spiny waterflea have been in some Minnesota lakes much longer than originally thought, this project will test key hypotheses about the relationships between spiny waterflea invasion and the response to ecological, economical, and recreational services provided by Minnesota lakes. Led by Donn Branstrator.

### AIS Impacts On Walleye Populations And Mercury Concentrations

This project will assess the impacts of zebra mussels on walleye in Minnesota lakes, and will identify lakes that are most vulnerable to negative impacts based on recruitment, food web dynamics, and mercury concentrations. Led by Gretchen Hansen.

### Field Validation Of Multibeam Sonar Zebra Mussel Detection

This project will include field validation of laboratory results that test the utility of a swath mapping system -- multibeam sonar -- for detecting and quantifying the

presence and abundance of zebra mussels at large scales. Led by Jessica Kozarek.

### Impacts Of Invader Removal On Native Vegetation Recovery

This project will evaluate the ability of invasive aquatic plant control efforts to lead to recovery of native aquatic plant communities. Led by Dan Larkin.

### Genetics To Improve Hybrid And Eurasian Watermilfoil Management

This project will identify potentially problematic genotypes of hybrid watermilfoil and begin to test these genotypes for herbicidal response. Led by Ray Newman.

### Evaluating Innovative Coatings To Suppress Priority Ais

This project will test and develop a new coating that can be applied to equipment surfaces in order to decrease the spread of zebra mussels. Led by Mikael Elias.

### Will Property Values Cool As AIS Heat Up?

This project will evaluate the economic impacts of Eurasian watermilfoil on property values as well as quantify the role of water temperature and other lake characteristics in determining Eurasian watermilfoil abundance. Led by Gretchen Hansen.

### Evaluation Of Koi Herpesvirus For Use As A Potential Biocontrol Agent For Common Carp In Minnesota

After detecting koi herpesvirus in numerous mass mortalities of carp with no apparent effect on native species, this project will now evaluate its potential safety and efficacy as a biocontrol agent. Led by Nick Phelps.

**Hear directly from these researchers about their new projects at the AIS Research and Management Showcase on Sept. 18!**

## Cola General Meeting

Featured at the August 15, 2019 General Meeting of the Otter Tail County Coalition of Lake Associations (OTC COLA) will be presentations on the Internet Landing Installed Device System (I-LIDS) by Eric Lindberg and the Otter Tail County 2020 Governor's Fishing Opener by Erik Osberg. The event is also the Annual Member Meeting for OTC COLA.

The OTC COLA General Meeting will be held at the Ottertail Community Center, 93 Lake Avenue South, Ottertail MN 56571. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm following a meet-and-greet time, coffee, cookies and an opportunity to network with other OTC lake property owners. All OTC lake property owners are invited to attend.

For more information please email [otccola2@gmail.com](mailto:otccola2@gmail.com) or call 701-219-0465.

## OTC Cola Hosting MN Cola Meeting

The OTC COLA will host the Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MN COLA) Meeting Tues., Sept. 17 at Thumper Pond, Ottertail MN.

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## Farmers Market

The Farmers Market is held Saturday mornings from Memorial Day Weekend to Labor Day Weekend in Battle Lake. You can find locally grown produce and handmade crafts.

For more information, or follow them on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/blfarmersmarket/>

## OTLPOA MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

were mailed. If you do not receive a renewal form you are encouraged to let us know immediately.

Renewal forms can be found in this issue - please fill out and mail to

**PO Box 21, Battle Lake, MN 56515**  
**or you can visit [www.OTLPOA.com](http://www.OTLPOA.com)**  
**and under the membership section pay online.**



## DNR Seeking Public Input On Cass Lake Fisheries Management Plan

Cass Lake – one of Minnesota's 10 large walleye lakes – has a new draft management plan and the Department of Natural Resources is seeking input on it.

Cass Lake sunrise - The plan outlines the proposed five-year fish population objectives and fisheries management actions for Cass Lake and connected waters on the Cass Lake Chain. While the plan focuses on Cass Lake management, it is understood that fish populations, and anglers move throughout connected waters, and a management action on one basin affects the others.

The plan incorporates recommendations from a 14-member Cass Lake Fisheries Input Group, which included representatives from resorts, residents and lake associations on Cass Lake and connected waters, angling groups, species work groups, the Leech Lake Reservation Department of Resource Management, the Chippewa National Forest and the Cass Lake Area Chamber of Commerce.

"Fishing on the Cass Chain is very important to the communities of Cass Lake, Bemidji and the surrounding area," said Gary Barnard, Bemidji area fisheries supervisor. "Minnesota's large destination walleye fisheries like Cass Lake attract anglers from all across Minnesota and numerous other states."

Members from the input group


provided important and diverse perspectives as users of the resource with a genuine interest in the long-term sustainability of the fishery. Input group members were concerned about the impact of angling pressure on the Cass Lake yellow perch fishery, and sunfish on connected waters, as anglers have become more mobile in targeting high quality populations.

The input group felt that the current status of the walleye and yellow perch fishery was excellent and encouraged the DNR to continue to support management efforts to sustain current levels of harvest.

The group also expressed concerns about system change and recommended that the DNR continue to study the potential impact of invasive species on the sustainability of the Cass Lake fishery.

The DNR is accepting public comments through Tuesday, Sept. 3, online at [mndnr.gov/casslake/index.html](http://mndnr.gov/casslake/index.html). Paper questionnaires also are available at the DNR's Bemidji area fisheries office, 2114 Bemidji Ave. in Bemidji. Following a review of comments, the DNR will revise the draft and finalize the Cass Lake management plan in October.

For more information, contact the DNR's Bemidji area fisheries office at 218-308-2339.



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# Summer Life At Long Lake

Photos submitted by Lynn Cave

## Finn Creek Museum Summer Folk Festival

The Fink Creek Museum Summer Folk Festival will be held August 24-25, 2019. There's so much to do, see and eat...

- Food 7:30am-5:00pm both days (hot options, concessions, Finnish treats, homemade pies and ice cream)
- Entertainment 10-5 both days
- Area Artists and Craftspeople
- Children's Tractor Pull
- 5th Grade Essay Winners
- Finnish Heritage Conversation
- Antique Tractor Pull
- Activities and Demonstrations
- Gift Shop 10-5 Saturday, 11-5 Sunday
- Authentic Finnish products iittala and Arabia glassware marimekko textiles
- Fazer Candy
- Tours of the Museum Buildings
- Heinola Store and Gift Shop
- Schoolhouse • Chapel
- Ecumenical Church Service
- Town Hall • Petting Barn
- Log Sawing • Blacksmith Shop
- Small Gas Engines
- Rug Weaving • Crafts

Finn Creek is located 3 miles east of New York Mills, Minnesota on U.S. Highway 10 to State Highway 106, south 2-1/2 miles, then 1/2 mile west on 340th Street, or 4-1/2 miles north of Deer Creek on State Highway 106, then 1/2 mile west on 340th Street. Museum signs are posted on Highway 106.

For their complete schedule go to <http://www.finncreek.org/index.php/folk-festival>



**OTLPOA Foundation Has Buoys For Sale**

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