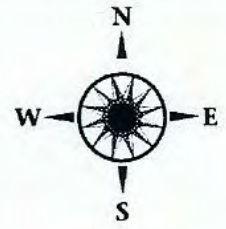


# NORTH & SOUTH TWIN LAKES

RIPARIAN ASSOCIATION



FALL 2015 NEWSLETTER

P.O. BOX 163, PHELPS, WI 54554

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



## President's Message from Roger Ganser

NSTLRA members had a full summer of activities. The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party at the former Holiday Lodge was a super success with 75 people celebrating our history, old and new friends, excellent food, and healthy discussions about the future of our lakes. That party followed another terrific golf outing at the Sand Lake Club and a frolicking good time at the Dublin Sports Bar after the annual (windy) Poker Run. All these activities are the result of hard work, planning, and a good sense of how to have fun by our volunteers and board members. We thank them.

Parallel to our social schedule all lake property owners were faced with a serious expansion of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in South Twin. EWM was first found on South Twin in 2001. We began our lake management planning and treatment programs in 2005. Prior to 2015, our worst EWM condition was over the 2009-2010 summers. What we've experienced in 2015 is, without question, the heaviest and most visible infestation of EWM in our history. In 2010 we did a whole lake treatment of South Twin Lake at the cost of approximately \$75,000. It was effective, but we found the concentration of the chemical also damaged native plants. We now have the capacity to better calculate the chemical level when doing a whole lake treatment. Spot treatments and hand pulling, while effective in the small areas of EWM in North Twin, were not effective in controlling/managing EWM in South Twin.

NSTLRA was successful in securing matching grants for all of our lake treatment efforts to date. With increased competition for grants and the fact that we have been a recipient for so many years we will face a challenge in getting future EWM treatment grants. When we consider that only 25% of North-South Twin Lakes property owners contribute to the AMEN Fund for the treatment of EWM you can easily understand that we do not have the financial capacity to do the required EWM treatments. The lakes we know and enjoy are threatened, as are our lake property values. This is the responsibility of all North-South Twin Lake property owners.

We continue to do research and reach out to other lake communities and treatment strategies in dealing with swimmers itch. While many acknowledge that swimmers itch has been here for years, is cyclical, and is present in many Vilas County lakes, NSTLRA will continue to focus on the principal cause – waterfowl populations. A very basic step is urging all property owners to not feed ducks, geese, etc. Controlling their populations is key to managing swimmers itch. We hope to have more definitive additional measures as result of our research.

Your NSTLRA Board will continue to meet and work on EWM and swimmers itch over the winter. Those NSTLRA members who have provided their email addresses will receive regular reports.

### 2016 Schedule of Events

**July 9**, Annual Meeting and Potluck - Conover

**July 16**, Poker Run, North and South Twin Lakes - Dublin's for Prizes

**July 29**, Friday Golf Outing and Lunch, Big Sand Lake Club

Thanks to the families and friends of

**Jim Tilt and Steve Hash**

who make donations in their honor.

Jim Tilt memorial is earmarked for South Twin Lake management. Steve Hash memorial is earmarked for maintaining the safety buoys on our Twin Lakes.

## NSTLRA Poker Run

Saturday, July 18, 2015



The Shaumloffel Dock

The way the weather started out on Saturday morning I thought the Poker Run would be cancelled, but by 11:00 the sun came out and dried up everything and the day proceeded without a hitch.

This has turned into a fun filled event, meeting your neighbors and getting involved, for those of you on the lake who do not participate give it some thought next year.

Our winners were Debbie Scott winning \$152.00, James Belitz winning \$91.00 and Doug Best, 3rd place, \$61.00. Two of our winners were very generous and gave their winnings back to the AMEN Fund. **Thank You and Congratulations. Total Amen Fund received \$518.00.**

Thank you Jon Racine at the "Dublin Sports Bar and Grill" for hosting our after party.

Jim and I would like to personally thank all the dock tenders for using their docks, #s 2, 6, and 7 had the winds against them but they seemed to handle it well.

Next year's date is **Saturday, July 16, 2016**, the Saturday after the Annual Picnic/Meeting. See you all then. If anyone would like to be a dock tender next year just send me an email, [jj755@gmail.com](mailto:jj755@gmail.com)

Thank You, Jim and Jackie Fruth

## 20th Anniversary Party

A wonderful time was had by all who attended the party on Sat. August 15, at the former Holiday Lodge. The gala event included a catered prime rib dinner, BYOB, raffles and a D.J. As a result of donations by our generous members and local businesses, we were able to raise a substantial amount for our AMEN fund. Denise Pedersen and Kay Ottoson were co-chairs for the party and want to thank everyone who helped us celebrate 20 years of an active and involved Lake Association started by Ginny and Jerry Parker of Phelps.

Kay Ottoson, [kayottoson@gmail.com](mailto:kayottoson@gmail.com)



## Golf Outing 2016

The fourth annual golf outing for NSTLRA members and family will be held on Friday, July 29, at the Big Sand Lake Golf Club.

This is a two person scramble event for both men and women, all levels of play welcome. Cap Pedersen & Ron Ottoson are co-chairs, sign-up at the Annual Meeting or by contacting them. Lunch is served following play and prizes will be awarded in all events.



The Winning Women, 2015



The Winning Men, 2015



Thanks to everyone for your continued support of purchasing the N/S Twin Lake products. As you know the proceeds from every sale go to the Lake Association and its needs, so every sale helps. Just in time for fall we have a new style sweatshirt available and they have been well received by all who have seen/bought them. This year's selling season is coming to an end but I plan to have this great looking sweatshirts available in spring. As always I will be happy to take pre-orders for a spring delivery.

Have a good winter and see you in spring. Laura Babe, [lebabe@wi.rr.com](mailto:lebabe@wi.rr.com)

## Exploring a Lake District ...

### **My Fellow NSTLRA Friends,**

It has been a wild and crazy 20 years as the North and South Twin Lake Association. This was recently brought to mind at the 20th year celebration held just recently this past summer. Good friends, wonderful historical pictures, good food, all brought these beautiful memories back into focus.

We would all like to have these memories, friendships, and the pristine waters of both North and South Twin stay like this forever. But as my father used to share with me in the boat fishing the Twins, "Mike, unfortunately nothing stays forever".

Your lake association is very aware of the changes and challenges which are currently facing both North and South Twin Lakes. We are sensing and seeing not only watershed quality issues and shoreline potential, but also the extremely obvious situation which has occurred in mass on South Twin this past summer. We have had an explosive return of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWF), which was treated a mere (5) years ago. This is an extremely invasive aquatic plant which affects the majority of the waters in the state of Wisconsin. It is a culprit which can never be totally eradicated, but can be managed both chemically and naturally as it turns out.

I had the pleasure of meeting with my fellow teammates recently and talking in-depth with both our aquatic biology plant specialist (Onterra, LLC) and our representative from the DNR. Both had extremely interesting in-depth viewpoints and perspectives, regarding our lake management issues and challenges. The message from both Onterra and the DNR was, "Healthy shoreline, healthy lake". Our Twin Lakes ecosystems are forever attached, giving our watershed property owners the perfect opportunity to develop future lake quality management programs, for sustaining these beautiful waters for generations to come.

Onterra speaks in aquatic plantable terms regarding the natural surface area within a lake which is able to sustain natural aquatic plant materials. Currently, South Twin is besieged by approximately 38% of its natural aquatic sustainable bottom surface with EWF. In researching this issue we also have become acutely aware of the tremendous impact this has on, not only ecological resources, natural aquatic plant life, fish habitat etc., but homeowner property values have a tendency to rapidly decline in both market value and salable appeal.

The state has made it clear that lake management and water quality issues are beginning to slide in responsibility towards the property owners on the watershed. Because of the widespread requests for grants within the DNR, regarding EWF and other water quality challenges, grant relief by this organization is becoming less and less. This forces our Lake Association to become very creative with other forms of contribution efforts and revenue generation.

There are approximately (450) property owners on both North and South Twin. Out of that number less than 50% currently belong to the NSTLRA Lake Association. Extrapolating this out even further, less than 50% of the current NSTLRA Lake Association members voluntarily contribute to the AMEN Fund. This is one of our primary revenue stream inputs for dealing with any lake quality management issues on the Twins. Whole lake treatment efforts for EWF are brutally expensive and there is a grave concern by the board that our voluntary efforts will eventually fall short.

Because of the board's concern over a lack of financial economic means rolling forward, we have voted and agreed upon pursuing the establishment of a North and South Twin Lake District for our watershed communities. A Lake District is a total property owner entity which will allow for equal distribution of lake quality management expenses.

In the very near future your NSTLRA President will be sending out a letter detailing the current challenges facing the watersheds of both North and South Twin Lakes. Included in this letter will be a link to a Question and Answer (Q/A) segment on our NSTLRA website or a set of hardcopy attachment Question and Answer materials which will attempt to answer the basic questions that people will have regarding a Lake District. Following this message, the members of our NSTLRA community will also be sent either a survey link or hardcopy survey, asking your participation in providing responses to several pertinent questions about your position and concern for the current EWF situation, your willingness to establish a North and South Twin Lake District, your willingness to voluntarily contribute funds for a whole lake treatment on South Twin to both manage and combat the existing EWF outbreak, and any suggestions and/or recommendations you might have for the Board, as we solidify our lake quality strategies.

It is very important you understand that our initial and primary objectives in forming a Lake District will be to continue lake quality management programs to help ensure a long and healthy existence of these beautiful waters for generations to come.

**Warmest Regards, Michael Wade** (NSTLRA Lake District Task Force)

Lake Friends and Family, Summer 2015  
To see color versions, [www.nstlra.com](http://www.nstlra.com)



The Hassinger Family & Janet Deban



Poker Run After Party at Dublin's



The Turscany Family



Katherine Naherny & Roger Ganser



Jack & Charlie Schuster (17 months)



Amy Peplow, Jackie Fruth & Winner, Deb Scott



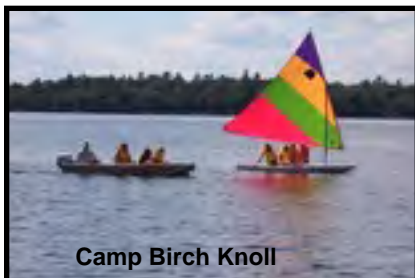
20th Anniversary Party  
Ron, Roger, Joe & Cap



First Time Skiing ,Way to go James!



Kay, Denise, Suzanne  
Sharon & Roger



Camp Birch Knoll



Julia Peterson

## Adopt-a-Highway

Another summer slipping into autumn in the Northwoods. Purple asters and goldenrod color the roadsides, and splashes of orange, yellow, and crimson in the trees hint at fall's glorious color show.



Our 6 miles of adopted highway have been well-maintained this season of 2015. It is heartening that individuals--whether walking, jogging, biking or driving--take the time and effort to stop and pick up roadside litter. As a consequence, our highways remain fresh and clean: it is a good thing.

Once again, we pulled purple loosestrife on Hwy K, and someone dumped tires and car parts near the gravel pit. Road construction on K has also meant debris and pot-holes, but the work should be finished in time for the beautiful fall colors.

Thank you to those who help with this project to keep the roadsides clean and litter-free. Let's all continue our efforts as we transition into a new season.

### **Karen Moore is the new Loon Watch Coordinator**

[karemoore2883@gmail.com](mailto:karemoore2883@gmail.com)

Please email her when you see loons on either North or South Twin.  
Specify the date and the number of loons present.



## Lake Plan

Nearly everyone has seen firsthand, how quickly the EWM (milfoil) has expanded this summer in South Twin. Also, most of the native plants have rebounded back to normal levels, after the past chemical treatments. But, because of not chemically treating the last few years, the EWM has now encompassed 34% of the littoral zone on the lake, meaning it is now growing in one third of the possible area where it can grow. North Twin has seen EWM areas near the island and the thoroughfare. These spots had some successful treatment this summer by hand harvesting.

We are now contemplating a whole lake treatment again for South Twin. The treatment does damage some native plants, and therefore we are only able to treat every 5 or 6 years.

The results from a point intercept survey taken in mid September, will be given to us this winter. This survey will show us the amount of milfoil we have and its locations. The survey will be used to calculate the chemical amounts needed to whole lake treat South Twin.

We have hired a firm to lab test the existing EWM plants at three locations in South Twin. Samples were taken, and are being grown in the lab. They will be exposed to the same chemical we used to treat in 2010. The intent is to identify the ability of these sample plants to react favorably to the same chemical treatment, or to show that the plants might have developed some resistance to this chemical. Results are expected back this winter.

Our consultant and the DNR representative met with NSTLRA board members on Sept. 16th. The meeting was helpful in planning the milfoil treatment strategy. The chance to obtain a grant from the state for chemical treatment is slim, due to the increasing number of EWM affected lakes, and the state budget problems. We will probably need to fund the treatment ourselves, and receive necessary permits as required by the DNR.

Some discussion involving not chemically treating the milfoil at all, was brought up, believing that the milfoil would lessen or stabilize on its own. This has happened in some lakes, where there are fluctuations in the plant appearances year to year.

The main DNR led discussion, was the return of our shorelines to the native, natural appearance. This leads to a self sustaining habitat, and the well being of our lakes. It's very important to all of the property owners of lakeshore to implement these needed changes. Letting the native plants grow, stopping chemical erosion, stopping run off, are all helpful. The board will have information on these items available soon.

**Cap Pedersen**

[The 2015 Lake District Q&A has been added on the NSTLRA website.](#)

You can see the link by clicking on "Lake District" in the blue navigation.

**Here is the link to go directly to the PDF: [http://www.nstlra.com/Downloads/2015\\_Lake\\_District\\_QA.pdf](http://www.nstlra.com/Downloads/2015_Lake_District_QA.pdf)**

**Swimmer's Itch 2015 Report by John Hyde, NSTLRA Board Member**

Dear Lake Owners,

Your Lake Association has been very active the last three years in researching SI with various state and county groups. The following is a review of our contacts with major County Lakes and River Associations and DNR Land and Water Associations over the last three years.

We have found a variety of lakes in various counties that are experiencing SI. We expect many more lakes are experiencing SI though the governing bodies have shown limited, though growing interest, in recording and tracking occurrences and exploring potential solutions. One source said "Unfortunately SI has often been put in the same category as ticks and mosquito bites. Consequently, there are no recordings of cases and no focused studies. However, we have built a stronger awareness of SI and built relationships with a variety of governing bodies who are beginning to indicate an involvement on their part. We plan to continue to work with these organizations to devote resources to study SI.

I will report here what we have published in the past here about limiting the occurrences of SI on North and South Twin lakes on a daily basis. A large percent of you know these suggested practices to limit cases of SI though I get surprised every year by the many who have not heard of them.

First SI is a product of duck poop fertilizing snails which produce **cercaria(sp)** that float in the water but not can not swim. It is the cercaria that penetrates the skin and dies in the skin that causes the itching reaction.

Individuals have different tendencies to get SI. Only one of my grandkids is likely to get it. A fairly effective practice is to put Swimmer's Itch Guard or an oily suntan lotion on to clog the pores before entering the water. This often reduces the likely hood of getting SI.

Other helpful practices include a) Don't swim in shallow water where the snails are typically located. b) If the wind is blowing toward your shore, it is best to go out in deeper water where the cercaria density is likely to be much lower. c) individuals have found different parts of the lake were SI is less likely.

Your Lake Association is asking you to report your water experiences, both when and where you get SI and when and where you don't by date. Please email John Hyde at [jhyde65@gmail.com](mailto:jhyde65@gmail.com) with the following information so we can look for patterns:

1. Date in the water, depth and location in which lake
2. Use of products to clog the pores or no product used
3. Other protective measures tried
4. Whether SI occurred or not; and for various persons if more than one person was in the water.

**Thank you for your assistance,**



The **Clean Boats Clean Water** ,CBCW, UW Oshkosh Student Intern Program was completed the end of August. Hope some of you had the chance to meet our student intern Kalle Johnson.

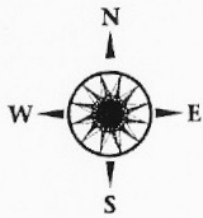
The project cost for 200 student hours at the Phelps Boat Landing are:

Project cost	\$3020.00
Grant amt .	2265.00
NSTLRA share	755.00

NSTLRA received \$566.25 in Dec. as an initial payment for the awarded grant. The remaining grant award of \$1698.75 is being applied for now.

If any member is interested in helping out with the CBCW effort please contact a NSTLRA board member

**Submitted by Mary Schindler**



# NORTH & SOUTH TWIN LAKES

RIPARIAN ASSOCIATION



P.O. Box 163 Phelps, WI 54554

## NSTLRA Membership Form

Regular membership \$25- Includes spouse and all family members under 18 (Renewal \_\_\_ New \_\_\_)

**Please Print!!!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Home Ph No. \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Ph. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to the above information being listed in the NSTLRA directory Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

### AMEN Fund Dotation

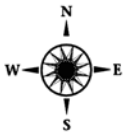
\$70 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$150 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

**Please Note:**

The updated membership directory due to be completed this fall, 2015, will only be distributed to those members that provide the association with their email addresses.

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

Please return with check or money order to : NSTLRA, PO Box 163, Phelps WI 54554



**NSTLRA**  
**PO BOX 163**  
**Phelps, WI 54554**

**NSTLRA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

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President: Roger Ganser	715-545-3650 / 608-345-2703	<a href="mailto:roger@ventureinvestors.com">roger@ventureinvestors.com</a>
Vice President: Bob Bailey (Technical Advisor)	715-479-8971	<a href="mailto:rnb3247@frontier.com">rnb3247@frontier.com</a>
Treasurer: Joe Fritzsche	715-340-4535	<a href="mailto:joefritz812@hotmail.com">joefritz812@hotmail.com</a>
Secretary: Susan Pamperin	715-545-2329 / 608-438-8874	<a href="mailto:spamperin@gmail.com">spamperin@gmail.com</a>

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Steve Bahrke	715-347-6761	<a href="mailto:sbahrke@frontier.com">sbahrke@frontier.com</a>
Mike Wade	630-881-0325	<a href="mailto:muskywhisperer@sbcglobal.net">muskywhisperer@sbcglobal.net</a>

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CB/CW: Mary Schindler	715-545-3922	<a href="mailto:maschind@gmail.com">maschind@gmail.com</a>
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