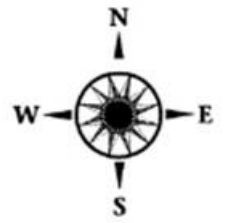


NORTH & SOUTH TWIN LAKES RIPARIAN ASSOCIATION



FALL 2017

WWW.NSTLRA.COM

P.O. BOX 163, PHELPS WI 54554

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ... from ... *Joe Fritzsche*



I am honored to be the new president of our Association. I pledge to the membership to do my best to continue the legacy of excellence established by previous NSTLRA presidents and board members.

First, I want to thank Roger Ganser for his leadership as President of NSTLRA for the past several years. Roger's leadership was focused on pursuing the purpose of the Association and keeping the Association relevant to the evolving needs of our Riparian's and our lakes. We will benefit from Roger's continued service as a member of our Board.

I joined the NSTLRA Board in August 2015. For the last two years I have served as Treasurer of the Association. That experience has provided me with a deeper understanding of how we function, our issues/challenges and our members. It has also given me a great appreciation for the quality of our Board members and their long-term history with our lakes. Many have been coming to North and South Twin since they were kids. This "history" factor is at the core of their commitment to take care of our lakes. As an Association, we are fortunate to have this team of Board members.

I am very appreciative that Bob Bailey accepted the responsibility to be the NSTLRA Treasurer. He has great experience for this position. I am also pleased to announce that Peter Gloede volunteered to be our new Clean Boats Clean Waters chair. Both these Directors have been coming to the Twins for a long time.

Special "THANKS" to Amy Peplow, our Social Events chair (one of those long-termers) for organizing the Poker Run and Historical Tour this summer. Both were well attended and contribute to our purpose to "create a sense of community among property owners". Watch the web site and newsletter for the dates of next season's events.

Mike Wade (another long-termer) has been leading our Lake District initiative. He and his Lake District Task Force have made a Herculean effort. Be sure to read Mike's update in this issue.

We are making good progress on updating our long term Lake Management Plan under the leadership of Jay Wittman - another board member with "deep roots" on the Twin Lakes. Jay is also actively monitoring AIS/EWM and interacting with our aquatic consultant Onterra, LLC and the DNR to identify and plan appropriate control treatment actions. Jay's report in this issue will keep you up to date.

This newsletter does not produce itself. I appreciate the dedicated efforts and patience of Margot Peterson who spends hours in the "behind the scenes" preparation and development of our newsletters. She keeps all those who contribute articles and information "on-task". Great job, Margot!

When was the last time you visited the NSTLRA web site? I encourage you to look at it regularly. Our Board Secretary, Susan Pamperin is doing a great job keeping information up to date.

We have two new Board members: Dennis Babe and Tony Bau. They each bring unique skills and experiences that add to the Board's talent base.

The North and South Twin Lakes are an "Aquatic Asset" to Vilas County and the Northwoods. NSTLRA takes seriously our responsibility to look after the health of the Twins for the benefit of our Riparian's. I encourage our members to contact any Board member with questions or thoughts on how we can be of better service to the Riparian's of North and South Twin Lakes. We are focused on doing what is right for our lakes.

www.nstlra.com

www.phelpswi.us

www.conover.org

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Pat Nebel

Without realizing it, you may have seen Pat fishing on the Twins in late August or early September over the past six years. In addition to her fishing skills, Pat is the NSTLRA webmaster, responsible for the technical performance and maintaining and publishing content on our website, www.nstrla.com.

Pat founded Studio 16 as a website development and support company in the early years of the internet revolution, and continues to support a select group of customers after retiring from active business life in 2016. When NSTLRA website was taken off-line because of the unexpected death of the then webmaster, we put a call to Pat. She and her husband Gary had to recreate and rebuild the NSTLRA website structure and its content. Within a relatively short period of time nstrla.com was live and delivering information to our NSTLRA membership.

Pat's non-professional interests include fishing the inshore waters around her Sarasota Florida home with her husband, and chasing Walleye, Bass and Northern Pike in and around St Germain and Phelps, Wisconsin. An avid wildlife photographer she has had many of her photographs and articles published in regional publications, as well as in National Geographic's Adventure magazine.

Article written by Roger Ganser

Swimmer's itch remains a nuisance and concern for everyone enjoying the lake. The NSTLRA acknowledges how frustrating this can be. While there is currently no feasible solution to the problem, the following are resources we can all access to stay informed

- Lake Tides, Vol.42, No. 3 Summer/Fall 2017, p.13, www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/resources/newsletter/Newsletter-search.aspx
- Lake Tides, Vol.24, No. 3 Summer 1991, pp. 1-3
- www.nstrla.com, Swimmer's Itch Update, and Spring/Summer 2017 Newsletter

North & South Twin Riparian Association Resolution of the Board of Directors

Whereas the North & South Twin Lakes Riparian Association (NSTLRA) receives from its Members personal information including names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses and

Whereas NSTLRA has represented to its Members that such personal information is not released to parties outside NSTLRA, and

Whereas NSTLRA considers the personal information of Members proprietary,

Now, Therefore, be it resolved that it shall be the policy of NSTLRA to NOT intentionally release the personal information of Members and further to NOT use that information to disseminate any material (including but not limited to event or fund raising announcements) from other organizations in either hard copy or email form UNLESS NSTLRA is cosponsoring an event with another organization.

North & South Twin "Lake District" Update ...

Greetings Fellow North & South Twin Lake Property Owners,

This has been one of the coolest, wettest, and quickest summers on record. The last two years of work on our Lake District initiative have flown by as well.

This past spring everyone was sent their Lake District petition package and we are pleased to share with you a majority (**54.52%**) of the qualified property owners on both lakes are in favor of forming the North & South Twin Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District. This riparian majority constitutes **63%** of the property shoreline on the Twin Lakes.

As a result of this positive response your NSTLRA Lake District Task Force presented a Lake District Petition Submission Package to the Vilas County Board of Supervisors on **September 15, 2017**. Our next step will be a meeting with this board. We will keep all our North & South Twin property owners up to date on the progress of this initiative.

We would also like to extend a very heartfelt **"Thank You"** to every member of our riparian base, who signed a petition to move forward with this effort. As we have mentioned many times before our lakes do not take care of themselves, and a Lake District is the best approach to ensure sufficient resources are available to address the challenges to our waters. It is the exact time to do what is right for our lakes and your support has validated this direction.

Warmest Regards,

Your NSTLRA Lake District Task Force ...

Michael Wade, Chair, Robert Bailey, Joseph Fritzsche, Roger Ganser, Peter Gloede and Jay Wittman

NSTLRA LAKE MANAGEMENT UPDATE September 2017

The Lake Management Team has been busy in 2017.

In late 2016, a lake survey was mailed to 439 riparians of North and South Twin Lakes. Responses were received from 171 riparians or 39%. The results of the survey were presented by our lake consultant, Onterra, to NSTLRA in June as part of our Lake Management Plan (LMP) update process. The survey information (on website) will be a key element used in the update of our LMP which will be completed in the 4th quarter 2017.

In spring of 2017 we treated 24.6 acres of North Twin in and around the island for EWM. Results of this treatment will be difficult to assess until summer of 2018. This summer we have seen a concerning level of EWM reappearing on South Twin despite our treatment in May 2016. We are working with our consultant and exploring various strategies for future control of South Twin.

As mentioned earlier, the Lake Management Planning team has been diligently working to update our plan. This plan will utilize information from a variety of resources including our recent lake survey, to developing long term strategies for overall management of our water resource including management of invasive species, specifically EWM.

A new initiative the DNR has introduced, called Healthy Lakes, (www.healthylakeswi.com) will be a topic NSTLRA will be advocating riparians to consider participation for future years. DNR grant money is available to assist lake owners to offset costs, under the sponsorship of an organization like NSTLRA, to improve shoreline management and minimize rapid erosion and watershed into our lakes. Should you have questions or are interested, please send me an email.

We continue to work with Onterra as our consultant to assist us in our overall lake management strategies and trend evaluation. You can view a copy of our 2016 AIS Control and Monitoring report and our Lake Survey on our website.

Lastly, on our website is a document of several slides prepared by Onterra comparing Twin Lakes to other lakes in our Northern Region as well as trends of each of the lakes regarding water quality. The great news is that our lakes rate either excellent or very good as far as Phosphorus, Chlorophyll and Secchi (water clarity) compared to other lakes and have maintained a consistent level of water quality over time.

We are aware of the challenges presented by EWM, swimmers itch, fishing quality and other issues shared with us in the lake survey. We will continue to work diligently to maintain and protect the wonderful resource we have in Twin Lakes and ask for your continued support for either our Lake Association or Lake District in the future.

Jay Wittman, Lake Management Planning Coordinator
NSTLRA Board of Directors

SOCIAL EVENTS

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer at the lake! Our annual picnic/meeting in early July was both fun and informative; lake friends had a chance to reconnect, purchase some of our lovely "lake wear" and glassware, and enjoy many delicious dishes. The **Annual Poker Run** was a tremendous success. The weather cooperated (even though it appeared questionable that morning) and we had our biggest turn-out ever, 25 boats and 131 participants! Winners were Justin Norris from Indianapolis, Nancy Dyo of Phelps, and Katie Coppi all the way from Charlottesville, Virginia. We also raised just over \$1000 for the AMEN fund.

Another social event we ran this summer was a **Historical Pontoon Cruise** of North and South Twin Lakes. We had 3 boats loaded with 31 happy people touring our lake shores and learning a little more history and entertaining stories about our beautiful waters. So much history on these lakes! Special thanks to Ginny Parker for use of the original script from a 2004 tour, and many thanks also to our boat drivers and tour guides: the Hicksons, the Wades, the Peplows, Mak Holcomb and Ellen Forster. The Golf Outing didn't end up happening this summer, but we plan to revive it again next year. There has been talk of a Sailing Regatta on North Twin next summer as well. If that interests you and/or you would like to help or participate in that event, please call **Amy Peplow at (630) 217-2102**.

**Mark your calendars for next year's Poker Run:
Saturday, July 14, 2018.**

ADOPT -A-HIGHWAY



We would like to thank all of the people that helped keep the roadways clean this summer. We checked it weekly out on our ATV and will do so for the final time this fall on or about Oct. 16.

John & Rosie Passer

2018

**July 7, Annual Meeting, Waverly Park,
Phelps**

July 14, Poker-Run

Golf Outing, TBD

LOON WATCH

Got a report on South Twin of an adult loon with chicks on board in June. But no further sightings were sent. I am afraid that the chicks might have been eaten. Please do not hesitate to send me an e-mail or call me at 715-545-2883 as loons are seen this fall. I like to report the last sighting! Typically it has been in November, near Thanksgiving.

Thank you to everyone who helps keep track of our loons! **Karen Moore**



NSTLRA MERCHANDISE

It was another great year for the lake merchandise sales. Not only where the sales good, I'm happy to say that we now have people wearing our lake apparel from California to Maryland. Thanks to all who have been supporting this fund raiser for the NSTLRA. See you in the spring.

Laura Babe



DID YOU KNOW THAT BURN PERMITS ARE REQUIRED IN VILAS COUNTY?

To check local burning regulations, restrictions or obtain a free burning permit call **1888-WIS-Burn** or visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestFire/>

What can I burn with my permit?

Brush, leaves, needles, grass, clean wood, un-recyclable paper and cardboard.

What is prohibited to burn?

Garbage, plastics, shingles, foam, structures, furniture, wire, metal, electronics, vinyl, rubber and oil-based products, painted, stained or treated wood.

We've burned for years. What has changed?

- Garbage has changed. Today's garbage contains plastics, dyes and other chemicals that release hazardous toxins when burned. Many of these materials were not around several decades ago.
- Pollutants from burning today's garbage cause many health problems, and we understand them better than in the past.
- We know more about the harmful smoke from burning garbage, especially for kids and anyone with asthma or trouble breathing.

Above information excerpted from Wisc. DNR publication, PUB WA 1373 2017

2017 Poker Run



Historical Pontoon Cruise



Phelps Triathlon

