

# President's Corner



JANUARY 2011

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Happy New Year! Yes, time does fly by. Last month I covered our November Meeting and December Christmas Party so I guess I could fold up my chair and computer and not write anything this month but there are a few things we should cover.

*First, I want to again say a big THANK YOU to all of you who send in donations to the Club. I want to assure you that we recognize the contributions you make and work to make sure those funds get used wisely. This month a big thank you goes out to Dale and Judith Faesi for their generous contribution.*

*We have received thank you letters from the Vilas county Food Pantry for our Donation of food and cash from our members as well as the Club's donation of \$500 last month. Also, we received a thank you card from Warm the Children for our \$350 donation to provide warm clothing to less fortunate children.*

*Our bat house-building project with the Brownie Scouts is progressing nicely. Anne Small, Frank Klamik, Dave Zielinski and I met last month to plan the project. Frank selected a design and built a prototype that the girls can put together and paint. The scouts chose to do bat houses because of all the attention being given to bats these days as a result of the "white nose" syndrome that is spreading very fast from state to state. The white-nose syndrome is a fungus that is a devastating disease to bats. It apparently infects bats in their winter hibernation caves or old mines. It kills up to 75 percent of bats in hibernation the first year; 90 to 100 percent the second. All four of Wisconsin's cave bat species (little brown, northern long-eared, eastern pipistrelle, and big brown bats) are very susceptible to the disease. The disease is expected to reach Wisconsin within the next few years. Bats can eat up to 1000 insects per hour in the summer so they do provide a valuable service to those of us who dislike mosquito bites.*

*Our next meeting will be on January 27<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. and will feature a discussion about Porcupines given by the Northwoods Wildlife Center. Rich Polaski will lead the meeting for I will be on a business trip with Judy in Washington DC.*

Bob Schell, President

## NEXT MEETING

Thurs., January 27<sup>th</sup>  
2:00 pm

St. Germain Community Center

## PROGRAM

The programs for 2011 are interesting, informative, and entertaining. On January 27 at 2pm we kickoff the season with the Northwoods Wildlife Center's presentation on Porcupines! These little guys are in our forests and some are even eating our garage doors and decks. So what's with these guys? You'll find out in January how we can coexist with the Porcupine.

~Jane Keithley

## REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

Linda Polaski and Terrie Beier

## RAFFLE TICKET SALES

Linda Polaski

## BOARD MEETING

Thurs., January 27<sup>th</sup>  
1:00 pm

St. Germain Community Center

# Lakes Committee Report

As you can see from Frank's fishing report, the ice fishermen have been active and have actually been out on the ice since early December. We had a Christmas week thaw and rain that has now refrozen our area lakes to a smooth hard surface. As always watch out for those areas of springs or under ice currents. With the temperature below zero last night, we still have a small open spot on the lake in front of our house where there is apparently a spring. The interesting thing about this is that in past years there has never been an open spot in the area.

Now for a year end breakdown of the various Lake account balances for the end of 2010 and opening of 2011:

Little Saint Germain	\$ 4,954.44
Found Lake	11,056.67
Lost Lake	7,620.12
Alma Moon	6,762.75
Stella	455.00
Pickerel	5,341.95
Big Saint Germain -Fawn-Content-	\$10,722.53



As a reminder, these balances are a combination of funds directly from the various lake organizations, the Chamber of Commerce as well as from a portion of room tax funds from the Town of St. Germain. These restricted funds are distributed back to the respective Lakes for improvements such as fish stocking, signage, marker buoys, AIS education, fish shelters, algae studies, weed control, etc. The Sayner - St. Germain Fish and Wildlife Club Lakes Improvement Committee only administers the funds.

~ Bob Schell



Don't forget to support the club by writing CD14 on your grocery receipts and depositing them in the red bucket on the customer service desk at Camp's!!!

Above: Photos from the Christmas party on Dec. 2nd at Clearview Supper Club

# Birds, Animals & Other Wild Things



We've had a generous dose of it this winter ----snow, that is. The woodlands under white, wind-smoothed mounds of it are splendid and there's a pleasure in seeing the snow-roofed curves of tree branches and the boughs of the balsam, spruce and cedar where snow crystals are spread like sugared frosting. The Inuit peoples have more than 50 words describing snows and, truly, when you think about it, every snowfall and subsequent blanketing of snow has its unique character.

Snow should amaze us. It begins in a cloud with crystals born in a coupling of super-cold temperature and water vapor. When cold enough, a water droplet adheres to minute bits of dust and other material floating in the atmosphere and condenses into an ice crystal. More water molecules freezing and building on this crystal create the lacy-like, fantastic formations that fall on our shoulders, tree tops and road ways as snowflakes.

After a stint at shoveling, snow blowing or plowing it can be grumbled that snow is trouble and burden. But, even leaving aside the matter of the beauty it adds to the landscape, snow brings benefits. It is an excellent insulator. It shelters wintering wildlife and protects roots of tree, shrubs and perennial plants against excessive cold and from damaging effects of repeated freezing and thawing of soils. Snow absorbs nitrogen from the air and releases this valuable fertilizer at melt time. Farmers have long recognized this. As one old proverb ran "More snow, more hay." At winter's end, a slow snow melt will send fresh water trickling slowly into the earth, percolating through the aquifer, eventually supplying water to soils, lakes and rivers.

A good snow can move us from the easy chair in front of the TV to enjoy the whitened outdoors on skis or snowshoes, or snowmobile. Even that old shovel or handy snow blower, used in moderation, beckons with promise of some healthy exercise.

Let it snow! Let it snow!

~ Cora Mollen

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

Bob Schell, President	715-542-2321
Rich Polaski, President Elect	715-479-4718
Judy Schell, Secretary	715-542-2321
Dave Zielinski, Treasurer	715-479-1401

### DIRECTORS

Marlene Rakowski (1 yr.)	715-542-3201
Mac McCormick(1 yr.)	715-892-4400
Jane Keithley (1 yr.)	715-542-2078
Stan Rakowski (2 yrs.)	715-542-3201
Frank Klamik (2 yrs.)	715-892-2924

*Phone #s are included so that you may pass along any information, questions and concerns you may have regarding the club.*

## COMMITTEES

<b>ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY</b>	Dick Banks	715-542-3687
<b>BIRDS &amp; ANIMALS</b>	Cora Mollen Anne Small	715-542-3749 715-614-3711
<b>HISTORIAN</b>	Jane Keithley	715-542-2078
<b>KITCHEN COORD.</b>	Terrie Beier	715-479-9339
<b>LAKE IMPROVEMENT</b>	Bob Schell ch Frank Klamik Dave Zielinski	715-542-2321 715-892-2924 715-479-1401
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	Ellen Finch	715-542-2436
<b>NEWSLETTER</b>	Anne Small	715-614-3711
<b>PROGRAMS</b>	Jane Keithley Marlene Rakowski	715-542-2078 715-542-3201
<b>SCHOLARSHIP</b>	Clyde Owens ch Geri Shambo Dick Banks	715-479-7032 715-542-4074 715-542-3687
<b>SUNSHINE</b>	Linda Polaski	715-479-4718
<b>CLOTHING</b>	Bob & Judy Schell	715-542-2321
<b>LICENSE PLATE FRAMES</b>	Stan Rakowski	715-542-3201

When feeding birds this winter, stick to the black oil sunflower and Niger seeds, and also hang some suet. While it is tempting to buy the cheaper bags of mixed seed, these often contain fillers like red millet, which birds will not eat. Give them what they like and you will have lots of happy, feathered visitors this winter.

SAYNER-ST. GERMAIN FISH &  
WILDLIFE CLUB, INC.  
PO BOX 214  
SAINT GERMAIN WI 54558-0214

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## FRANK'S FISHING REPORT

Most of my articles have given you tips on location by the month. If you noticed, fish do not change much in a year. The exception is at turn-over and that is short lived. By now they are back on rocks or weeds.

Winter is the only time of the year when a person can find the hot spots, the good baits and the presentation without much trouble. Use your field glasses, walk out in the groups of fishermen, talk to the bait shops. Watch other fishermen. While watching other fishermen, you will notice three things: color, size and speed. Pay close attention to the speed used by the people that are catching fish. Try to see their bite.

FRANK KLAMIK



### CLUB PLEDGE

- ✓ I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the state of Wisconsin—especially of the Sayner-St. Germain area.
- ✓ I promise to obey all rules and regulations governing the harvest of wildlife and plant material.
- ✓ I promise to educate future generations so that they may become the caretakers of our water, air, land and wildlife.

