

# President's Corner



## MAY 2013

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Think spring folks---Our Annual Chili Pot Luck Dinner and Scholarship Award presentation will be on Thursday, May 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. Please call Rich Polaski at (715-479-4718) with your reservations for dinner and let us know if you would like to bring a food item for the dinner. We are looking for a few more pots of chili, crackers, onions, cheese, sour cream, or more desserts as well. Please call us prior to Tuesday May 21st for your reservations and food contributions. Set up is at 5:00 p.m. (let us know if you can help out) and dinner at 6:00 p.m. Please bring your own place settings and if you signed up for chili please bring it warm.

Our second Club Fishing Tournament and Picnic is being held on Saturday June 1<sup>st</sup>. Fishing begins anytime after 6 AM and concludes at Noon. The Picnic and get together to discuss fishing tales is at 12:30. You don't have to fish to be a part of the activity. We will hold the event at the NORTH Big Arbor Vitae boat ramp and picnic grounds. You turn north off of HY 70 on Old Highway 51 (it turns into Buckhorn Road) and go 2 miles to the park. Light food (Brats soda beer etc.) will be provided for the Picnic and there will be a \$5.00 fee to cover costs. If you need someone to fish with or can provide space on your boat let us know. Please call Frank Klamik at 715-891-2924 by May 27<sup>th</sup> to sign up for the event.

On Thursday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013 we held our monthly general meeting featuring the topic of "Terrestrial Invasive Species-An update" given by Ted Ritter. This was an eye opening talk about all those bad plants that can takeover our yards and woods. Much of Ted's talk covered the "harvesting" of beetles to use in the fight against purple loosestrife. The bio control beetles are one of the most effective ways to control this fast spreading but somewhat pretty plant. Each plant produces over 2 million seeds each year. Ted led a group of mostly students last summer that picked beetles off existing purple loosestrife plants and placed them (and contained them) on potted plants. After the beetles took hold the plants were planted in infested regions in the county. The results were very good, with the beetles eating away at much of infested patches. Ted also told us of how another invasive -Japanese Barberry- attracts deer ticks making for a greater risk of Lyme disease when it is present. We found out that the Shrub Honey-suckles (the same variety as the ones your mother planted years ago) can quickly takeover all undergrowth in a forest and degrade wildlife habitat. Overall, Ted's talk was loaded with useful information about the ongoing fight we have or will have with these land versions of AIS. Thank you Ted.

On club business, the board voted to up our Scholarship to \$2000 this year. The budget for the donations to various organizations this year was also approved. The list is as follows: Scholarship \$2000, Vilas County Food Pantry \$500 as well as food donations several times a year, \$250 to the Northwoods Wildlife Center, Trees for Tomorrow \$500, Plum Lake Library \$300, Vilas County Historical Museum \$300, St. Germain Elementary School trip and wildlife speakers \$300, North Lakeland Discovery Center - \$500, Hike and Bike Trail \$ 150, St. Germain fireworks \$100, Big Brothers Big Sisters \$300, St. Germain Fire Dept. \$100, Children's Museum \$150, Warm the Children Drive \$500, Loon Watch \$500, and Wild Instincts Rehab Center \$500. We are at \$7000 in donations not counting what is administered for the Lakes Improvement Committee. The Board left open the opportunity to donate to other local causes as the year progresses.



## SUNSHINE REPORT

Wishes of a quick recovery to Lee Olson from his surgery.

Get well to Pat Thier who had her pacemaker replaced.

We will be thinking about Ken Dahnke when he undergoes surgery later this month

We are glad to hear that Judy Schell has recovered from shingles.

*Please call Linda Polaski, 479-4718, if you know of any members who need a card of sympathy, encouragement, cheer, etc.*



## NEXT MEETING



### Annual Chili Potluck Dinner & Scholarship Award

Thurs., May 23<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 pm

St. Germain Community Center  
(Set-up at 5 pm)

*Please bring your own place settings.*

Please call **Rich Polaski** (715-479-4718) with your reservations by May 22<sup>nd</sup> for dinner and if you would like to bring a food item for the dinner

**50/50 Raffle** – Chuck and Pat Thier

## Adopt-A-Highway for May 2013:

Wednesday, May 8  
(rain date ~ Thursday, May 9)

*Meet at 9.00 a.m. at the pavilion parking lot.*

### Who's Signed up for May 8<sup>th</sup>?

Karen Anderson	Trudy Carlton
Marv Anderson	Lori Pergolski
Dick Banks	Donna Rollmann
Don Baumann	Dennis Seegers
Chuck Berard	Carol Seegers
Jim Carlton	Tom Schwartz

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The board also decided to try a season long 50/50 raffle as well. The tickets will be sold at the Flea Market booth and other events. Hopefully as the money pot increases during the summer the interest in ticket purchases will pick up. This may be a less labor-intensive replacement down the road for our main raffle. More on this at the Chili Supper and in the next newsletter.

We held our annual election of Officers and Directors during the April General meeting.. Your slate of officers for the next year are as follows President –Bob Schell, President Elect-Frank Klamik, Secretary –Judy Schell, Treasurer – Dave Zielinski. Directors are Stan Rakowski, Marlene Rakowski, Mac McCormick, Gary Walbruck and Jane Keithley. I want to personally thank the board and officers for all the hard work and support they have given to the Club and me throughout the year.

Plans for the Kayak raffle at the flea market and area events are progressing well. I picked up the Kayak and ordered the tickets and posters. Frank Klamik has acquired a carved 50-inch Musky from Bernie's Birds of Minocqua for second place. We will be giving \$100 cash for third prize. St. Germain Sport Marine will again pay for the printing of the raffle tickets. (Thank you Tom and Kim Christensen) We will have the sign up sheets at the Chili Supper on May 26<sup>th</sup> –so start thinking of any Mondays you might be able to help out manning our booth. We will again set up the tent and Kayak every week (as of now, we haven't been allocated any inside space) and will be looking for volunteers to help me with this chore also.

*See you at the Chili Dinner .*

*Bob Schell, President*

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Club Fishing Tournament & Picnic

Saturday, June 1, 2013

*Rain or Shine*

Big Arbor Vitae Lake

NORTH Boat ramp & picnic ground

( **Directions:** Go north on Old Hwy 51 to Buckhorn Rd.

Then Buckhorn Rd to boat launch. )

*All categories of legal fish*

*(Catch and release honor system for Game Fish)*

*Open to members and guests as a fun event*

*You don't have to fish to participate in the Picnic*

**Fishing hours** - Anytime between 6 am and Noon

**Picnic and awards** - 12:30 pm

Light picnic lunch and Beverages provided.

Bring your own lawn chair.

\$5.00 per person to cover costs.

Please pre-register by May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Call Frank Klamik at 715- 892-2772



# Birds, Animals & Other Wild Things

Springtime brings us the welcome sound of bird songs, signaling the return of warmer weather and a time for courtship, nesting and chick rearing. Along with the many different calls we hear at this time of year, a common sound is the drumming of our area woodpeckers.

While the woodpeckers do have their own vocalizations, it is often easier to identify them by their drumming noises which carry much farther into the distance. Each species of woodpecker has a unique and distinct drumming pattern, which can be learned quite easily by the amateur birder. One great resource for learning each bird's drumming sound is to look them up on the website of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology: [www.birds.cornell.edu](http://www.birds.cornell.edu). Their website has audio clips of both the calls and the drumming of each species. If you happen to have a bird song CD, many of these will also have the drumming sounds.

Woodpeckers drum for two main reasons: to establish their territory and to attract a mate. Both sexes will participate in drumming. You can often hear two birds of the same species drumming on opposite ends of the woodlot, signaling the other that they have laid claim to their acreage.

I watched a pair of male yellow-bellied sapsuckers taking turns at drumming on snowmobile trail signs only twenty feet apart. It was fun to watch them compete, but I never saw a female come in for all of their efforts.

The anatomy of woodpeckers is especially adapted for pecking and drumming. They have a thick skull which helps to cushion their brain. They have a sturdy, straight beak along with very strong neck muscles to allow for repeated hammering on hard objects.

Woodpeckers choose drumming locations that have the greatest amount of resonance. You will often see them on metal signs, hollow trees, gutters, trash cans and charcoal grills. Much to the chagrin of some homeowners, woodpeckers will often choose parts of our homes to do their drumming. While they are not pecking for bugs, these repeated hammerings can cause small indents in siding, gutters and the like. Damage can be prevented by simply hanging shiny strips of foil, reflective tape or windsocks in front of the targeted area. Sometimes it is as easy as tightening up a loose board or piece of siding.

Lately, in our woods, I have been hearing the frequent drumming of yellow-bellied sapsuckers, pileated, hairy and downy woodpeckers. I encourage everyone to learn these sounds while getting out and enjoying the beautiful and long-awaited spring weather.

~ Anne Small



## SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO SENT DONATIONS WITH THEIR MEMBERSHIPS!

Don Abel

John & Carol Cantwell

Jim & Trudy Carlton

Henry & Helene Eberle

Jim & Ellen Finch

Betty Hotter

John & Rita Mezydlo

Ida Nemec

Gary & Lisa Penne

Butch & Diana Rost

Frances Sabick

Gary & Kay Schultz

Mel & Kay Schultz

Don & Dorma Stratford



## FRANK'S FISHING REPORT

What a difference a year makes! Last year we were fly fishing in open water a month now. As I write this article, I am looking at 30" of ice and it is snowing. Cars were still driving on Carol Lake on Saturday, April 20th. There is some doubt if we will have open water on opening day. We may have to get the tip-ups out. If the lakes are open, it will be a tough bite small jigs and minnows or slip bobbers will work. Slow and light will be the name of the game. Become a line watcher as they will drop the bait at any resistance. Rapalas always produce early in the season.

Southern lakes are open and all species will be biting.

~Frank Klamik



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**OFFICERS**

Bob Schell, President 715-542-2321  
 Frank Klamik, President Elect 715-892-2772  
 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  
 Gary Walbruck (2 yrs.) 715-356-3902

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

**COMMITTEES**

**ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY** Dick Banks 715-542-3687  
**BIRDS & ANIMALS** Cora Mollen 715-892-1375  
 Anne Small 715-614-3711  
**HISTORIAN** Cora Mollen 715-892-1375  
**KITCHEN COORD.** Terrie Beier 715-479-9339  
**LAKE IMPROVEMENT** Bob Schell ch 715-542-2321  
 Frank Klamik 715-892-2772  
 Dave Zielinski 715-479-1401  
**MEMBERSHIP** Anne Small 715-614-3711  
**NEWSLETTER** Anne Small 715-614-3711  
**PROGRAMS** Jane Keithley 715-542-2078  
 Marlene Rakowski 715-542-3201  
**SCHOLARSHIP** Clyde Owens ch 715-479-7032  
 Geri Shambo 715-542-4074  
 Dick Banks 715-542-3687  
**SUNSHINE** Linda Polaski 715-479-4718  
**CLOTHING** Bob & Judy Schell 715-542-2321



**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.