

# Turtle Rock Rag

Turtle Lakes Chain Association

Autumn 2016



*View of the Divide from North Turtle Lake  
October 2016*

## **The Winchester Lake Management Plan-Update**

As faithful readers of the “RAG” know, the Town of Winchester approved a four year phased lake management plan in late 2014. The first phase involved Harris and Hiawatha Lakes as those lakes were studied in 2015. The second

phase in 2016, involved Birch, Rainbow, and Tamarack lakes.

Now comes our turn. Phase three in 2017, will involve the Turtle Chain of Lakes. Those of you who attended the 2016 TLCA annual meeting will recall that those attending that meeting overwhelmingly approved our participation in phase three of this plan.

So what happens next? A grant application for phase three will be submitted by early December this year. We will know if that application is successful sometime next February. If the grant application was not successful, that would simply stop everything for one year before we could apply again. Both phase one and two grant applications were rated quite highly, so hopefully that luck will continue this time around.

Assuming the grant application is successful, we would be hearing from both the Winchester Town Lakes Committee and the company doing all this field work/study,

Onterra LLC; by sometime in the spring. One of the first big and critical events would then be a kick-off meeting for Turtle Chain property owners.

As mentioned in previous articles, grants for this process cover 75% of the cost, with the remaining 25% (known as the local share) would be assumed by the lake association(s) involved in the study. Most importantly; that local share can be mitigated or paid for by doing a wide variety of volunteer tasks during the two years of the study. For

TLCA those years would be 2017 and 2018.

All of this information would be presented in great detail at the kick-off meeting mentioned in a previous paragraph. As soon as we know about the grant application status (February) and a possible date for the kick-off meeting; that information will be disseminated far and wide and as quickly as possible. My guess is that we would get information regarding a kick-off meeting date sometime in the spring with that meeting to take place in late spring or early summer.

We will need a steering committee of at least six people or two per lake. Those folks will have some responsibilities regarding keeping track of the volunteer activities over the two year period. More on that also as we move into Spring 2017.

*Steve Budnik*

## **Measuring the Lake Chain Water Level: Staff Gauges**

In many previous articles, mention has been made regarding water levels in our chain of lakes. As you may recall, water levels are required by Order to be maintained between 96.0' and 97.0'. It has been found that maintaining the level in the upper part of this range allows for better recreational activity, more water over hazardous areas, better navigation between Rock Lake and North Turtle Lake and better access to docks and boat hoists located along the shallower shorelines. So, just how are

these levels determined?

A small metal plate configured similar to the one at the right is attached at water level to the round culvert structure at the dam. This is known as a staff gauge. Staff gauges measure water levels in tenths of a foot...not inches.

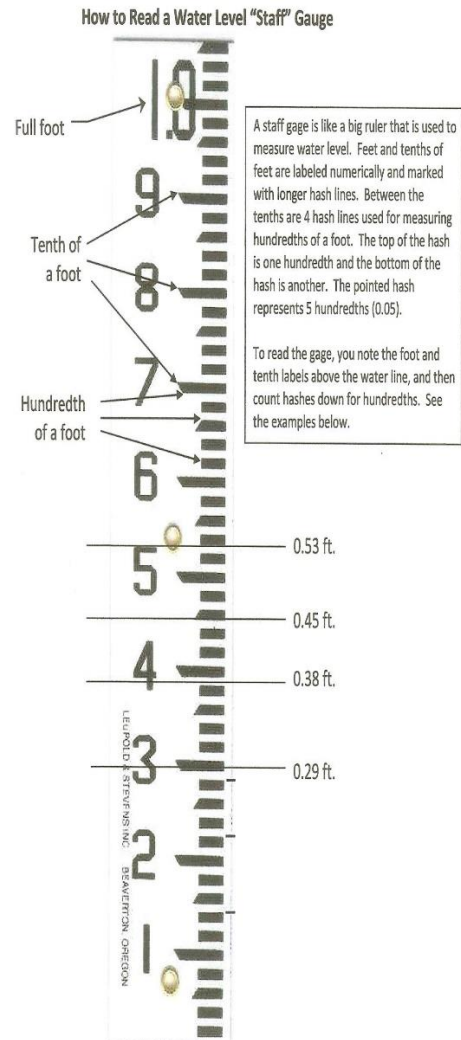
For discussion purposes, let's say you are looking at the staff gauge at the dam. The depicted 1.0 foot level at the right will actually show up as 97.0 on the dam staff gauge. The bold 9, 8, 7, etc. numbers below 97.0' represent tenths of a foot and will be recorded as 96.9', 96.8', 96.7', etc. Likewise, the bold 1, 2, 3, etc. numbers above 97.0 will represent water levels of 97.1', 97.2', 97.3', etc. Hundredths of a foot are determined by where the water level is on the hash marks between the tenth of foot markings. A good explanation of this measurement is noted in the description on the right.

If you are still unsure about determining accurate readings, I would be more than happy to give you some personal assistance.

*Mark Schuelke, North Turtle Lake*

## Preparing your Snowmobile for the Season

Soon the ground will be covered with snow and the thought of snowmobiling will enter your mind. There will be many questions, such as: Did I properly put my snowmobile to rest last April?



Did I put fuel stabilizer in the gasoline tank? There is time to check out your snowmobile but time is running out. Prepare your snowmobile NOW while



the weather is warm instead of waiting until it is single digits.

Here are some things you must do before hitting the trails: Grease the fitting on the suspension; spray WD-40 on all rubber parts; change spark plugs; charge the battery (check that it has “water” before charging); inspect/replace the drive belt; put in fresh gasoline; if you have oil injection, check the oil reservoir; check wear bars; tighten all nuts & bolts, especially, if your track is studded; make sure the shut off valve for the gasoline in “open”; make sure the “kill switch” is in the running position; and wipe off the entire snowmobile with warm, soapy water. The last thing I would recommend is to put the rear of the snowmobile on a stand so that the track is off the ground and start up the snowmobile. Slowly increase the rpms and observe if the drive clutch engages the secondary clutch properly. If it does not or the engine is not running smoothly you have two options: take it to a certified dealer to check out, or go to your manual and read what it says in regards to repairing fixing the problem. Don’t wait until December to take it to your dealer because there will be many people wanting the dealer to fix their snowmobile “now” ahead of you.

Another thing I recommend is to get a copy of the snowmobile rules and regulations for the state of Wisconsin and read them. There are several changes that you are expected to comply with while operating your snowmobile on state trails. Also, make sure your snowmobile is properly registered and

the sticker is affixed to your snowmobile in the proper location.

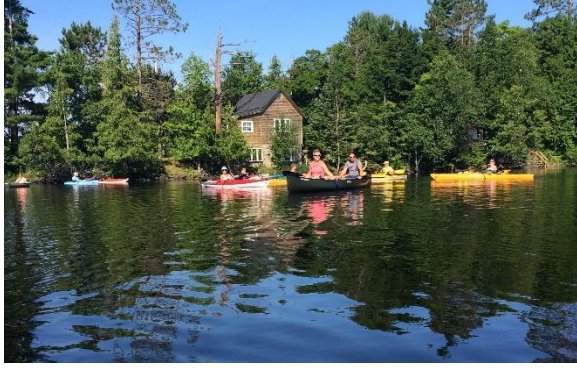
I will be giving a DNR safety certification course December 27 at the Manitowish Waters Community Building. The course costs \$10.00 and includes both classroom instruction and actual riding a snowmobile. It is REQUIRED by the State of Wisconsin that anyone born after January 1, 1989, must have taken and passed a snowmobile safety course. Assisting me teaching this course will be a former DNR Warden and a local retired teacher. You will receive excellent classroom instruction as well as actually driving a snow-mobile. You will need to bring your personal clothing and helmet. To register call: Merry Perkins at (715) 543-2048 or me (715) 686-7595.

*Tom Bawulski, Rock Lake*

## **FUN DAY PADDLE**

We had about 20 people and a beautiful day to paddle the circumference of North Turtle Lake. Winners of the youngest paddler and paddler who came from farthest away were presented at the Fun Day Picnic. Next year we plan to meet at the boat landing between Rock and North Turtle to paddle around Rock Lake, completing our tour of the three lake chain!





## **A Great Fish Story!**

The week after the Fourth of July, Monty and I had our two children, Sara and Zac, along with my nephew, Mark and his family at our lake house on Priest Point, North Turtle Lake. Zac, age 29, has always loved to fish- mainly right off the dock. My nephew, Mark, who is in his mid-30s, knows what he's doing with a fishing pole too. The two of them were casting off the dock late afternoon and had caught a small rock bass, which

they had on a stringer tied to the dock. Our paddle boat and canoe were also tethered there.

My daughter and I had decided to go out in the canoe, and as she climbed in, she commented to the two fishermen that they had caught quite a fish! The boys exchanged an amused glance, and Mark said, "It's just a rock bass." About that time, I was approaching the dock and heard her reply, "Maybe the water is magnifying it or something, but that sure looks like a big fish to me!"

Right about then, we all heard a splashing under the dock and decided to investigate. There, under the dock WAS a big fish! A musky had decided to munch on the bass and had the smaller fish in its mouth- both now "attached" to the stringer! Zachary thought it would be a great idea to lasso the musky's tail with a scrap of rope that was lying there on the dock. He fashioned a loop and attempted to slip it over the musky's tail. The first attempt failed, as did the second.

Meanwhile, that fish just calmly held on and didn't seem to mind all of this attention. Now Zac tossed out the idea of a lasso and just reached in with his bare hands to lift the fish out of the water by its tail. As the musky let go of the bass, Mark reached in and took it by the gills, lifting the whole fish out of the water. Now looking back, I can't believe no one had a phone or called up to the house for someone to bring a camera.

Mark, who is 6' 4", held the fish up at shoulder height as we all admired its coloring and teeth! We figure it had to be 46-48" and it let us oooh and aaah over it for what seemed like a full minute before it gave a mighty thrash of its body, freeing itself from Mark's hold and

landing back in the water, never to be seen again. The rock bass had some impressive tooth marks, and Mark's fingers were a bit cut up. We are still amazed at the situation, the size of the fish, and our stupidity at not having taken a photo!!! *Laura Giffin, North Turtle Lake*



*Framed photo of the Great Fish*

Also, many thanks to tenders of the bridge flower boxes. I'll send out a schedule like I did last Spring and if you are not able to help, we hope others will step up to take your week! The flowers make such a lovely addition to our road between North and South Turtle.



*Laura Giffin, North Turtle Lake*

## **Members Involvement Appreciated**



Thanks go out to the helping hands that did road cleanup this spring along County O as well as those who faithfully attend our local roads around the lakes. I truly feel there's less trash, and we all appreciate that!

## **\*\*\*Reminder\*\*\***

### ***Update your email address:***

Do you have an update to your email address? Many of our notices are sent only by email. Email is faster and is the only way we can send time sensitive communications out to our members.

If you have new contact information or changes to your current listing, please forward them at any time to Board Treasurer Gee Esslinger:  
[geesslinger@gmail.com](mailto:geesslinger@gmail.com)

***Be sure to attend the 2017 TLCA Meeting. Look for the date in the Spring RAG.***



## Your TLCA Membership

Thank you to everyone for your continued membership and support of our beautiful Turtle-Rock lake chain. We are approaching 200 member households and yet have representation of around 30 to 40 households and about 50 (multiple family members attend) attending at the July meeting. ***Have you been to the meeting lately?*** Come by and meet your neighbors at the July 2017 meeting- -we will hear a very important presentation on the **Winchester Lakebs Management Plan** (see the article in this edition of the RAG) in which we will need your participation.

Many of us have guests for the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday...I promise a crisp meeting. It is the only one we conduct. Look for the date in the Spring RAG. Do you have a new neighbor who is not a member?-bring them along so they can join!!

**“Make the Scene in 2017.”**

*Mike Bantz, President TLCA*

## Fun Day 2017

Fun Day was established shortly after the creation of the Turtle Lakes Chain Association in 1990. It is a way for people to meet their neighbors on the Chain and help to establish a social network. The “Day” is always the fourth Saturday in July and consists of a choice between golfing and canoeing/kayaking during the day and a picnic in the late afternoon. This year, we had a fantastic time golfing at Gogebic Country Club and canoeing/kayaking on our very own Turtle Lake Chain. The popular picnic, featuring barbecued pork, perhaps a libation or two and plenty of summer-

time food and fun followed, with a terrific turnout and tons of awarded prizes. **Make the Scene in 2017!!** Meet your neighbors while you celebrate the summer. *Mike Bantz*

## Fun Day Golf Tournament Results 2016

In a breathtaking Sudden Death Playoff between Team Martin and Team Schuldt, Team Martin captured The 2016 Championship!!

### Congratulations to Team Martin:

Mike Martin  
Rose Martin  
Arnold Palmer (ringer)  
Jack Nicklaus (ringer)

### Individual Prize Winners

Tom Bawulski  
Deb Schuldt  
Michelle Taschek  
Jon Taschek  
Vicki Myers  
Bill Hills

*Darryl Osikowicz, North Turtle Lake*

## Musky Contest 2017



In 2017, Archie Clark and Tom Brogelman are responsible for the Musky Contest. The day of the 2017 contest is the Saturday before Fathers’

Day - June 17, 2017. Register by



*Al Kiuess with winning 38" Musky*

phone, mail, email or in person with either Archie or Tom as indicated below. Participating boats include one member in good standing and all fisherpersons registered for the contest with paid entrance fee no later than Friday, June 16, 2017. So, be sure to check the Spring Rag for finalized details on the contest and mark your calendar for **June 17, 2017!** RAG Staff

*Tom Brogelman*

2346 Black Forest Road  
Winchester, WI 54557  
715-696-7770  
[cty22530@centurytel.net](mailto:cty22530@centurytel.net)

*Archie Clark*

2350 Black Forest Road  
Winchester, WI 54557  
920-851-2066

## Picture Tales from the Chain



*Whopper Musky*



*Remember to Duck*



*New Swimming Hole  
Klotz Family Album, Rock Lake*



## **TLCA MERCHANDISE**

### **SHOP NOW FOR THE HOLIDAYS!!**

- **NEW MUSKY Embroidered:  
Denim Shirts \$32**  
  
**Hooded Jacket-fleece lined  
\$38**  
  
**Long sleeved T-Shirts \$18**  
  
**Windshirts \$26**
- **Embroidered Sweatshirts (in  
adult sizes-\$30 and youth  
sizes-\$25)multiple colors**
- **Embroidered Canvas Shopping  
Bags with front pocket and  
zippered main compartment:  
ONLY \$25 (compare to  
“thirty-one” bags)**
- **Embroidered Fleece Jackets-  
very warm \$33-\$48**

**Call or email Julie Rued: 715-686-  
2547 or [julierued@yahoo.com](mailto:julierued@yahoo.com)**





## Did You Know?

- Only 11% of people are left handed
- August has the highest percentage of births
- Unless food is mixed with saliva you can't taste it
- The average person falls asleep in 7 minutes
- A bear has 42 teeth
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain
- 8% of people have an extra rib
- 85% of plant life is found in the ocean
- Ralph Lauren's original name was Ralph Lifshitz
- Rabbits like licorice
- The Hawaiian alphabet is 13 letters
- Lobsters blood is colorless but when exposed to oxygen it turns blue
- Armadillos have 4 babies at a time and are all the same sex
- Reindeer like bananas
- The longest recorded flight of a chicken was 13 seconds
- Birds need gravity to swallow
- The most commonly used letter in the alphabet is E
- The 3 most common languages in the world are Mandarin Chinese, Spanish and English

## TLCA Board of Directors

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our lakes or the TLCA, please contact any of the following Directors:

PRESIDENT...Mike Bantz

SECRETARY...Laura Giffin

TREASURER...Gee Esslinger

ROCK LAKE REPRESENTATIVES

Curt Quass

Steve Budnik

NORTH TURTLE REPRESENTATIVES

Susan Esslinger

Monty Giffin

SOUTH TURTLE REPRESENTATIVE

Tom Rued