



# WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



P.O. Box 301  
Whitewater, WI 53190

## NEWSLETTER – MAY 2002

### FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

I begin this newsletter on a sad note because it is high on my list of what to include in this letter. In early March Boris Marohnich died of a massive heart attack. Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District lost a good friend and former board member. The "Ridge" lost its Mayor and I lost a good friend. It is ironic that at a luncheon at the WAL convention on March 9, attended by 500 members, Boris was recognized for 15 years of volunteer service. I quote this recognition:

"Boris Marohnich has been a Self-Help volunteer since 1986...Boris has been dedicated to tracking the water quality conditions on Whitewater Lake. In 1994, Boris received the Self-Help Century Club Award for taking over 100 secchi readings, which measure the water clarity. As of the end of 2001, he has earned the title of one of the most dedicated volunteers in Wisconsin, having taken an extremely impressive 421 secchi readings since he started."

Presently Tom Ganfield is doing the secchi disc readings on Whitewater Lake and Mark Muschinski has taken on this responsibility for Rice Lake.

### WELCOME BACK

The summer of 2002 is fast approaching; who knows what it will bring. The winter of 2000-01s' heavy snow was attributed in part to light weeds in the summer of 2001. What will the light snow and mild winter do for the weeds this year? We will see and hope to be prepared for whatever nature brings us.

### WINTER BOARD ACTIVITIES

Several things occurred over the winter. The old 10-foot harvester and its trailer were sold. The sale was arranged through Inland Harvesting. Sale price was \$27,500 (less \$500 to Inland as their sales commission). You may remember at the 2000 annual meeting we estimated a sale to be between \$15 and \$30,00 for the harvester only (not including the trailer). We also sold the 2-ton truck for \$4,000 (again Inland assisted with \$100 commission). These monies went into the equipment reserve fund.

Purchase of a second trailer and pickup truck for \$39,500 was approved at the 2001 annual meeting. Due to modifications to the trailer and availability of used pickup trucks, the Board exercised its authority to exceed this by \$1,500. We purchased a 1999 Dodge truck for \$20,500 (cost after retrofitting to our needs) and the trailer for \$21,500. We were successful in obtaining a grant for 50% of the trailer cost (\$10,750) from the Wisconsin Waterways (DNR). Thus the final cost to the Lake Management District for the trailer and truck is \$31,250.

**Chemical Treatment:** Gary Marvin, chairman, has published legal notices and obtained permits for chemical treatment in 2002.

**Harvesting and Equipment:** Art Schmitz, chairman - Announces the **SATURDAY WEED PICK UP – All weeds have to be on the LAKE END of pier by 10 am.** Pick up will be the Saturdays between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend.

We are happy to have Bob McCracken returning as crew chief. He is in the process of readying the equipment for the season and organizing his crew.

**Bog:** Gordon Philip, chairman - The District received a permit to remove 10,000-sq. ft. of a "test plot" of the main bog. We removed approximately 3,000-surface sq. ft. by the end of 2001. In 2002 our plan is to remove the bog as both time away from weed harvesting and the condition of the bog, permit. We will then move into Phase II which will be determined by what we learn from completing the present Phase. We did use our own equipment to remove what has been done and hope to continue in this manner. This will take longer but will be

much more economical. Upon conclusion of the fall harvesting season we will review the efficiency and practicality of continuing this method. Alternate methods of removal are continually being researched. We work very closely with Art Schmitz and his harvesting crew.

**Finance:** Gordon Philip, chairman – is handling our record keeping, payroll and all the other accounting tasks we need performed.

In 2001 the District received \$81,100 from tax revenues and other sources into the general fund and incurred operating expenses of \$91,100 resulting in an operating deficit of \$10,000. This deficit was funded from our contingency fund established for just this purpose, leaving a balance in the contingency fund of \$4,500. The “excess” spending was attributed to three principal factors:

- catch-up on deferred maintenance on the equipment
- restoring the harvester and truck to a “saleable” condition
- “one-time” expenses associated with mooring the harvesting equipment

The equipment fund earned interest income of \$5,800 and in October we were awarded a grant from the DNR (50% of the cost of a second trailer that was approved last year).

In 2002, following the purchase of the second trailer and truck, we will have a residual of \$63,000 in the equipment fund, along with a balance of \$4,500 in the contingency fund.

**Chemical Treatment:** Gary Marvin, chairman. As noted in the winter project, Gary has us ready to go on chemicals. He has the applicator and permits. Scheduled dates for application are June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Fish Stocking:** Tom Ponyicsanyi, chairman - Rice Lake – Both northern and bass are to be stocked in 2002 according to Doug Welch, DNR Fish Manager. Amounts at the present time are unknown. Whitewater Lake – the survey that was to be done this spring wasn’t completed because of weather and the DNR had too many lakes scheduled. The good news is that Whitewater is on the top of the list for 2003. 2,000 northern are scheduled to be stocked in 2002.

#### **New Committee**

**Boundary Lines:** Bernie Tangney, chairman - The Board is considering expanding the boundaries of the Lake Management District. It is our opinion some properties near the lake do benefit from the efforts and expenses of the District. We feel it is only right that these people/properties join the District and share the cost of Lake Management. The Board will make the final decision as to which properties are to be included in the near future.

The present and future operations of the District will not change – but more people will share the cost. We do need to go through legal channels for this to occur. As follows:

State Statute 33.33 (2) ATTACHMENT. Contiguous territory may be attached to a district upon petition by the owner or motion of the commissioners.

State Statute 33.33 (b) Motion. If the commissioners by motion initiate attachment proceedings, they shall notify the owners of the territory contemplated for attachment and the county board. The county board shall schedule a hearing on the motion, using the procedure of s.33.26 as far as is applicable. Following the hearing, the board shall make a finding on the necessity of attachment of territory, using the standards of s.33.26 (3), and shall declare the territory to be either attached or not. Appeals of the board’s decision shall be taken under s.33.26 (7).

As chairman I want to thank our Board members and clerk Rose Marie Berg for their dedication and sacrifice of time and talent for the good of our lakes. These people spend countless hours, that probably only God and their spouses know about, doing the work of Lake Management. I thank them and encourage you – our members to do the same.

Have a great summer and enjoy our beautiful lakes!  
Bernie Tangney, Chairman

**ICE AGE HIKE, BIKE & PADDLE RALLY!!! SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 8:30 AM** – The Walworth/Jefferson County Chapter of the Ice Age Park & Trail Foundations' mission is to maintain 14 miles of existing trails in the adjoining counties and establish new trails in the Ice Age Corridor as opportunities arise. In addition to workdays, hikes and social events are held throughout the year. This event is a 5-mi. hike, 6-mi. bike ride and 2 mi. paddle on Rice Lake. Meet at RICE LAKE NATURE TRAIL parking lot. **ALL ARE INVITED:** Further information: Gordon Philip 606/883-6882

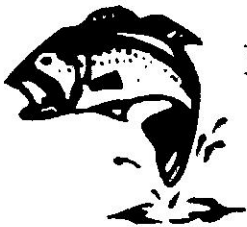
**WHITEWATER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** is selling custom-designed tapestry throws that feature favorite historic sites in and around Whitewater. They include a view from Rice Lake and will make a wonderful memento/gift. The cost is \$50. Contact the Chamber at 262/473-4005 for more information.

**CLEAN SWEEP:** Walworth County will again be sponsoring a Clean Sweep hazardous waste chemical collection on Friday, May 31. All hazardous material may be dropped off at the City of Whitewater Public Works Garage between the hours of 3 and 6 pm only. This will be the only chemical collection program held this year.

**Web Site:** Bernie Tangney and Rose Marie Berg have been working with students from UW-Whitewater on a web site for the District. This page is provided to us free – so we will have pop up screens and advertising. It is under construction and modifications are being made so be patient as we develop this communication tool. To sign on:

- Enter [www.wrlmd.netfirms.com](http://www.wrlmd.netfirms.com) in address box (top of screen) not the search area. You should be in the WRLMD (Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District) home page.
- If annoying flashing ads pop up, press “refresh” to get rid of it temporarily
- To send a brief note (25 words or less) to the Board -
  - From home page – select news or opinion. You can read opinions previously sent or send your message by selecting “please add your opinion.” If you enter your email address in its box a response can be sent by a Board member
  - “Submit your opinion” – This can be read by anyone going into the site

## **WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**



**Please direct any concerns you may have  
over Lake Management issues  
to the appropriate person(s)**



**ART SCHMITZ, Weed Harvesting, 262-473-0777**

**GARY MARVIN, Chemical Treatment, 262-473-3771**

**TOM GANFIELD, Environmental Issues, 262-472-0631**

**GORDON PHILIP, Bog Chairman, 608-883-6882**

Bernie Tangney, Chairman 262-473-8525

Rose Marie Berg, Clerk 262-473-7968

May 2002

**WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES**



**Management District**

**P.O. Box # 301**

**Whitewater WI, 53190**



**PRSRTD STD  
U.S. Postage Pd.  
Permit # 212  
Whitewater WI**