



Message from the Board

Jim Bartlett, Chairperson; Gordon Phillip, Treasurer and Bog Committee; Tammy Steinke, Weed Harvesting; Mark Skidmore, Chemical Treatment & Boundaries; Jim Felland, Equipment

It is a little strange to be preparing this newsletter and the budget for 2006 when we are only half way through the summer. While we know we have made some progress this year, we are still hoping to address some problem areas before the end of the season. As a result, this newsletter will highlight some of the progress made this year, and refer to some of the areas that we hope to improve before the end of the year.

Over the winter, nature provided us with some assistance. We had reasonable snow and ice coverage and the water level was back up to the spillover level. Both items help reduce the weed levels. We started our chemical treatment earlier this year and covered more area than ever before. The DNR approved spraying along the shore of the south lobe, allowing us to treat about 30 acres of the lake core. I believe the result of these treatments was less shoreline weeds early and overall less floaters.

As the season progressed, the weeds recovered in many areas. The extra funding provided in our budget allowed us to do a second treatment in late July that we feel will keep the weeds under control during the remainder of the summer. We are also planning to do a fall treatment targeted primarily at the milfoil that has a longer growing season than native plants. We are hopeful that a late season treatment will keep the winter growth to a minimum, reducing the level of weeds in the spring and summer. The early and later treatments were both suggestions developed in last year's conference on milfoil.

As discussed at last years meeting, we applied for grants from the DNR to purchase an 11- ft. weed cutter and to convert the weed transport to diesel. The DNR approved our request for the weed cutter, but declined on the transport. The transport was declined primarily due to a policy that the DNR would not replace a piece of equipment until 10 years after the original purchase. Since they funded the purchase of an outboard in 1996, it was not eligible at this point for replacement. The 11-

footer was purchased in December and delivered in mid-May. It has worked very well, operating with no problems for the entire season. The transport continues to operate using the outboard purchased last year and is still very functional. We will review its upgrade or replacement in the future.

Using the new equipment, the harvest crew is able to harvest more weeds, keeping the traffic lanes cleaner than previous years. Unfortunately, more cutting seems to create more floaters. The board is aware of this problem and is trying to address it. One solution carried over from last year is to focus on picking up floaters on Thursday and Friday – that will help. In addition, we are contacting all of the neighboring districts seeking advise and spending personal time on the machines looking for a solution. Floaters have been a problem for several years, but we are focused on finding a solution.

As discussed at last year's Annual Meeting, the DNR did not approve our grant request for the bog removal. We worked from Labor Day into October removing the bog in the approved channel. The bog area is getting smaller and we will continue our efforts this year.

Nominees for the Board

One position on the District's board of directors will be open and needs to be filled at our Annual Meeting on August 27th. The membership will decide which of the two candidates will serve for the next three years. The candidates are:

Gordon Philip and wife Jeri have been property owners on Whitewater Lake since 1982. They became full time residents in 1996. They have two grown children, who live in Northern Illinois and the Quad Cities area. He is currently Controller/CPA with Plastronics Plus Inc. in East Troy and has held this position since April 1997.

Gordon has served on the Lake Management Board as treasurer since August 2000. He has provided the on

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District with bookkeeping service, thus eliminating the need to pay an outside service. This has resulted in substantial savings to the District. He also has been chairman of the Bog Removal committee and has worked closely with the DNR for the past three years.

Gordon has a deep interest in Whitewater Lake and lake management issues and expands his knowledge by attending seminars and conferences. During his term the Board, he has stressed the need to reduce the floaters while keeping expenses under control.

In 2004 he was invited to attend the WI Association of Lakes Leadership Institute- Crew V and had the opportunity to participate with 26 other lake volunteers from throughout the state in three 2-day workshops which focused on maintaining and improving the lakes and waterways with the state. This is a bi-annual program conducted by WALs, the DNR and the University of Wisconsin Extension at Stevens Point.

Other activities include involvement with the Walworth Chapter of the Ice Age Trail Foundation and he is currently chair of the finance committee at their congregation in Whitewater.

Donald Wickersheimer and wife Shirley recently became full time residents on Whitewater Lake after spending much of their life in Shorewood WI. He currently is employed as a Sales Representative for J.H. Fagan Company/Key Electronics located in New Berlin WI, although he expects to retire in 2006.

Don was first introduced to the Whitewater Lake area in 1955 which his aunt and uncle purchased a lot. At that time, there were three cottages on Ridge Road.

As a member of the Lake Management Board, Don would focus his efforts on keeping the lake clean and safe with better weed control. One major concern would be reducing the level of floaters that invade some of the bays and make water sports difficult. Don feels that this process can be improved by providing better direction to the staff. Don loves the lakes and neighbors and looks forward to the challenge of working on the management team.

Special Thanks

Special thanks to members Mark and Lynne Muschinski who operate Marlin Printing and Graphics. Mark and Lynne designed and print the newsletter at no charge to the district. Please remember Marlin Printing and Graphics if you need any printing or graphics work.

Thanks also to the volunteers that have supported the District during the year. Including the Boundary committee members Greg Marvin, Don Meyer, Tom Ponyicsanyi and Andy Wojdula. Also to the Audit Committee- Robert Sturgis and Donald Cullen- for their time and effort.

Whitewater/Rice Lake Management District Proposed 2006 Budget

Summary	Actual 2002	Actual 2003	Actual 2004	Budget 2005	Budget 2006	%
Harvesting	59,287	57,823	78,023	79,700	80,000	0%
Chemical Treatment and Other	13,604	18,117	17,308	46,400	46,000	-1%
Bog Removal	16,567	1,474	6,519	15,000	9,000	-40%
Equipment Fund	-	10,000	Deferred	10,000	18,000	80%
Administration	5,851	6,180	4,167	7,000	5,000	-29%
Total	\$95,309	\$93,594	\$106,017	\$158,100	\$158,000	0%

