

Big Wood Lake Association
Fall 2022

Wood Chips



Photo by Sue Segelstrom

President's Corner

By Mike Strub

Greetings to all from Big Wood Lake! Looking back on the last few editions of this newsletter it occurred to me that we may want to look at re-naming the lake "Beaver Dam Lake." Just kidding, however....

The spring thaw brought high water early, then drought conditions should have lowered the lake level. But Wood Lake's level stayed constant thanks to (surprise, surprise!) some busy beavers who created and maintained a dam on the Wood River just under the bridge on CTH Y. The dam is being addressed and we're looking to remove the beavers. If you are or know a trapper, drop us a line.

Welcome to new property owners around the lake! Besides these new neighbors, there are some beautiful building and remodeling projects happening.

We're in the process of putting together our 2023 Membership Directory. We update our directory every three years. Keith and Lynn Anderson are coordinating the project, and if you have any information related to how your property/listing appears in the directory please email info@bigwoodlake.com. Thank you to the Andersons for taking on the project!

2023 is looking to be even better. In addition to campers at both Luther Point Bible Camp and Wood Lake Camp and Retreat, your lake association will be holding our annual social events at the camps along with the spring and fall meetings. As always, you're welcome and encouraged to share your talents, ideas and lake stories with us. Oh, and please share your photos on our Facebook page @BigWoodLakeWI

The Grantsburg American Legion annual ice fishing contest on the lake takes place February 11, 2023.

Christmas blessings to you and yours, along with greetings in the spirit of whatever holiday you observe. Happy New Year, too.

See you at the lake!

Mark Your Calendar for 2023's Events

- May 20: Spring Membership Meeting at Luther Point
8:30am Free Continental Breakfast; 9am Meeting
- June 24: Clothing & Flare Sale at Thoreson Park - 9am - Noon
- July 3: Flare Display - 9:30pm
- July 4: Flotilla & Boat Decorating Contest - 2pm Parade
- July 22: Picnic on Big Wood at Thoreson Park - 4pm (social with food). All are welcome!
Kids under 12 free; all kids get a prize, flotilla awards, merch sales, raffle
- Aug 26: Fall Membership Meeting at Wood Lake Camp & Retreat
8:30am Free Continental Breakfast; 9am Meeting



Crex Meadows: Grantsburg's Hidden Gem

by Cris Peterson

If you're a resident of Grantsburg you are familiar with the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area just north of town. Most people don't realize what a treasure this 30,000-acre refuge is.

According to their website www.crexmeadows.org, Crex is "intensively managed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources-Bureau of Wildlife Management. This unique area is home to thousands of acres of restored wetland and brush prairie. Originally part of the Wisconsin Pine Barrens, Crex Meadows is now the state's largest remaining portion of this globally endangered ecosystem. Because of this habitat, Crex Meadows is home to over 280 species of birds, 720 species of plants, over 96 species of butterfly and a wide variety of reptiles, amphibians, and insects. With over 100,000 visitors year-round, Crex Meadows is your wildlife destination for hunting, trapping, education and recreation."

Pretty amazing. But better yet is the little museum at the Crex Visitor Center. It's the perfect place to bring your family on a rainy day. The Center is open daily and is free to visitors. You can rent binoculars and snowshoes here. It is truly worth the time. The Visitor Center is located at 102 E Crex Avenue, Grantsburg.



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Association Email

info@bigwoodlake.com

Wood Chips Writer

Cris Peterson

Area Contacts

Visit our website for county zoning, conservation, warden, and township contact information.

There is also a business directory for local service providers who are participating in our advertising program.

Water Hyacinth in Memory Lake

By Cris Peterson



This past spring, a highly invasive plant was discovered in Memory Lake right in Grantsburg. Although Memory Lake is downstream from Wood Lake, it's worth noting that non-native plants can show up anywhere and usually arrive when an individual with a water garden dumps the contents during fall cleanup.

The Water Hyacinth is native to South American and was brought to the U.S. as an ornamental plant in 1884. It is a floating perennial with thick waxy leaves that are buoyant allowing the plant to freely float. If left unmanaged, the plant spreads rapidly and can make boating, fishing and other recreational activities almost impossible.

The plant was discovered in one of the ponds of Memory Lake by Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Coordinator from Wild Rivers Conservancy. The AIS team was able to completely remove the water hyacinth from the area.

Winter Fun in Burnett County

by Cris Peterson



Although some Wood Lake people close their cabins up for the winter, many brave the ice and snow and enjoy the lake right through the sub-zero temps. Our county lake association newsletter Lakelines recently featured a list of great activities to enjoy through the winter.

ICE FISHING: Any lake with a public access works for ice fishing. You can buy the bait and equipment at most local sport shops. Wood Lake looks like a small city during the ice fishing season.

SNOWMOBILING: There are 300 miles of snowmobiling trails in Burnett County and many hundreds more in the surrounding

counties. We've had friends from Baldwin sixty miles away buzz up on their snowmobiles for a quick visit. Trail maps can be found in stores and restaurants throughout the area.

WINTER ATV/UTV: Burnett County has over 130 miles of Winter ATV/UTV trails. The four-wheelers aren't allowed on the Gandy Dancer Trail except from December 1st through March 31st. For trail conditions visit www.burnettcounty.com/135/ATV-Trails.

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING: Grantsburg has some great cross country skiing trails and so does the rest of the county. Trail maps and information can be found at www.burnettcounty.com/283/Cross-Country-Skiing.

WINTER MOUNTAIN BIKING: The northern part of Burnett County has several mountain bike trails. The Lake Country Pedalers maintains a trail system that consists of a combination of constructed single-track mountain bike trails in addition to several miles of existing logging road connector trails in the Town of Jackson. Timberland Hills offers a 4.4 mile trail for fat bikes, hiking, snowshoeing and skijoring. The Dogtown Cluster and Big Bear Trails are located in the Town of Webb Lake.

Big Wood Lake Merch

We have a great selection of Big Wood Lake gear! Contact Mike Strub at info@bigwoodlake.com to find out what we have in stock and to order! We will also have new and exciting items this spring so stay tuned!



Did You Know?

By Cris Peterson

In her memories of Wood Lake, Lucille Danielson (mother of historian Sue Segelstrom) related her experiences about Jacobson's Island that her family purchased decades before. "We had sheep there," she remembered. "They were taken across the water in the spring (to graze) and brought back to the mainland in a wooden homemade row boat. Try keeping a sheep in your row boat!"

Flotilla Winners

First place in Most Patriotic went to the Luke & Jessica Thoreson family.

First place in Most Original went to the Bruce and Debbie Hanson family who also won Overall Best of Show and remain keepers of the traveling trophy! Their theme was "We Are the World."





Big Wood Lake Association
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Find us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/BigWoodLakeWI

Photo Contest: Photographs (hard copy only) depicting “Nature Scenes”, “Life on the Lake” and “Big Wood Lake Fish” for 2023 will be accepted up to the start of the Fall Membership Meeting. Only 1 photograph for each category will be accepted per contestant. To enter the contest, you need to get your photo(s) to the meeting. You can bring the photo(s) with you to the meeting or have someone else bring it with them. If someone else brings them, please write the category you are competing for, your name and telephone number on the back of each photo. All contestants are also asked to send an electronic copy, if available, to info@bigwoodlake.com. By submitting a photo, contestants are authorizing the Association to display the photo on the Association website and/or newsletter. Winners are determined by polling those present at the Fall Meeting on the best photograph depicting each category. Prizes will be awarded to winners and the winning photographs will be displayed on Association website. See website for more information.

Congratulations to our 2022 Photo Contest Winners!

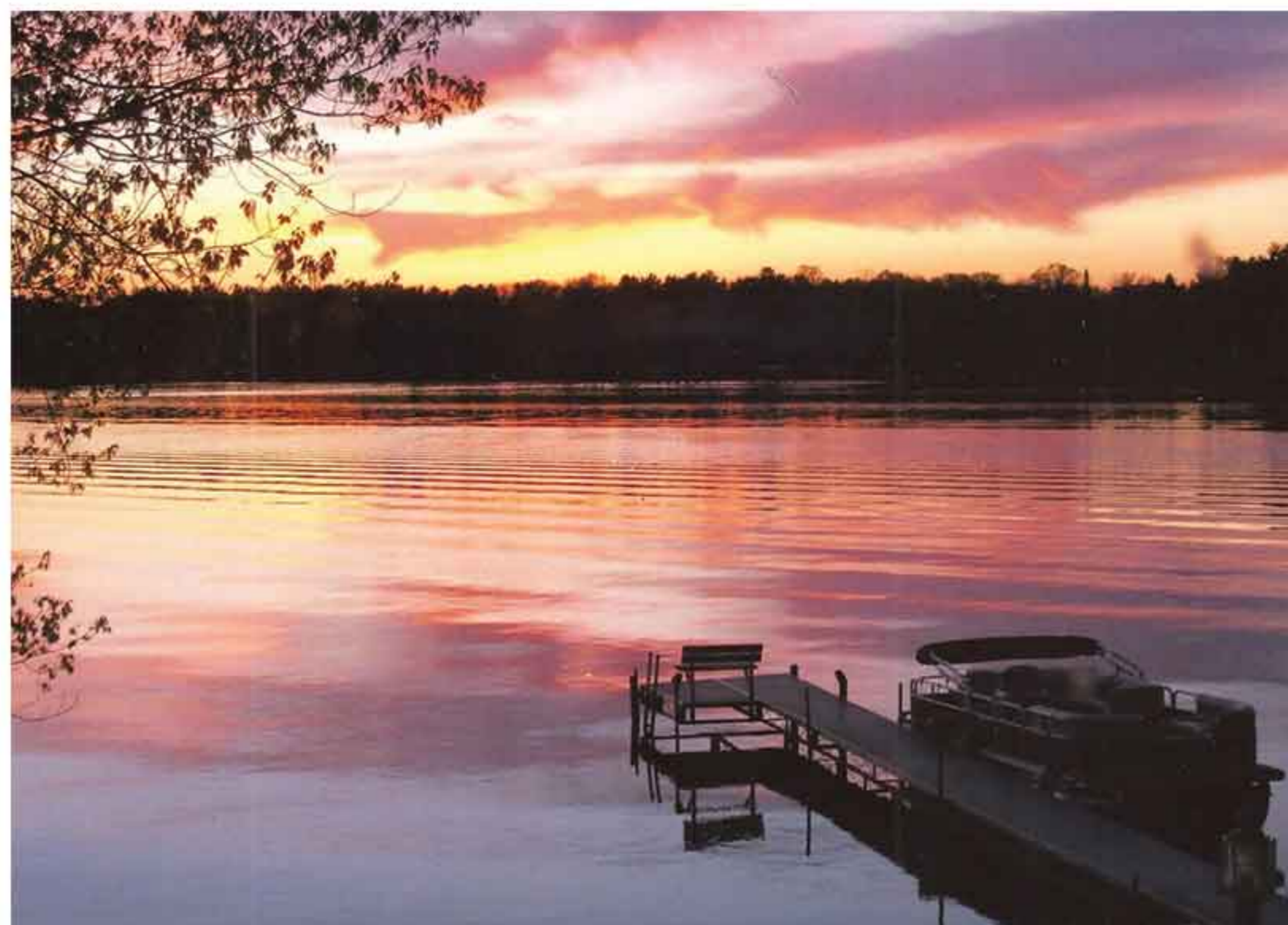
Nature Scene

2022 Winner: Kelsey Anderson



Life on the Lake

2022 Winner: Sue Segelstrom



Big Wood Lake Fish

2022 Winner: Kelsey Anderson

