

Turtle Rock Rag

Turtle Lakes Chain Association

Spring 2019



An eagle and its reflection search the water and sky together for lunch near the bridge on the Divide. Pic: Maya Discianno

Winchester Lake Management Plan- Update

As we shared at the 2018 membership meeting, the full results of our lake study were successfully completed. We will have a very brief reminder of the primary results followed by an outline for the follow-on monitoring and maintenance plan to share with

everyone at this year's meeting on July 6th.

Mike Bantz

Our Share Well-Shouldered

Our volunteer hours coming into 2018, for AIS monitoring and Clean Boat Clean Water (CBCW) remaining on our monitored time to mitigate the cost on the study looked like this:

- CBCW Total: 74.5 of 200 completed. *We need certified*

CBCW Inspection volunteers.

- AIS Monitoring Total Hours: 504.5 of required 411 hours completed. WOW!!

Rip Roarin' Results: The Chain completed 229 hours of CBCW. We were extremely involved – AIS monitoring was also completed by over 100 hours more than the required amount.

Thank You

Know More About AIS

As we focus more on protecting our wonderful lake chain, an understanding of aquatic invasive species is central to our mutual goal of keeping them out. Visit thetlca.org for pictures and tutorials of:

- * *Eurasian Water-milfoil ID card*
- * *Purple Loosestrife glossy fold-out*
- * *Regulated Aquatic Invasive Plants in WI fact sheet*
- * *Help stop aquatic hitchhikers 4 x 9 glossy fold-out*
- * *Clean Boats, clean waters watercraft inspection program fold-out*

Lake Hazard Buoys

Our lake association places buoys in hazardous areas each spring and try to do our best to make our waterways safe as we can. To help insure your safety please note the following points:

1) The buoys off of islands and points mark the approximate ends of rock bars. Do not navigate near these buoys or between them and the shore or island points.

2) The two buoys on the north end of North Turtle mark the two ends of a very

shallow rock bar. Do not navigate in between them. You can navigate around the buoys on either end, but note there is a single large rock off of shore to the north of the northern most buoy.

3) The buoy on the south end of South Turtle marks the approximate middle of a large rock hump. There are 4 high spots around this buoy that are possible to hit with your motor. It would take 4-5 buoys to mark all of these spots but they are within 75 feet of this marker. Please do not navigate anywhere near this buoy until you have totally learned this area with your boat electronics. Thank you and get out and enjoy our beautiful chain this Spring!!

Tom Rued – South Turtle Lake Rep

Turtle Lakes Chain Water Level

Water levels on the chain are important to all of us for a variety of reasons. They can affect our enjoyment of the chain, property values and our safety while boating. The water levels are controlled by the Town Board and it is their policy that water levels be maintained at or as close to 97' as possible during the boating season. You may call Town Chairman Joe Discianno at 715-686-2123 with your questions or concerns.
Mike Bantz – President, TLCA

Of Interest...

The Township of Winchester recently held elections for open positions to serve on the Board. Results included:

Town Chairman

Joe Discianno



Newly Elected Town Chairman Joe Discianno

Town Supervisors

Galen Brownwell
Sulo Wainio

Town Treasurer

Geri Sell

Town Clerk

Joan Wainio

*****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

The Turtle Lakes in April

There is thunder on the lake; first the crackle and then the deep rolling sound of a train's roar.

There are patterns on the lake; not the gentle piles of wind upon the water, but endless stitches of a crazy quilt where

once the cold expanse held court with snow.

There is caution on the lake; the parade of deer has dwindled to those brave few who edge carefully along the frozen water, close to the land should the crackle and the thunder reach up and pull the icy floor away.

Susan Esslinger

TLCA Membership

Thank you everyone for your continued membership and support of our beautiful Turtle-Rock Lake chain. We enjoy representation at the meeting of around 30 to 40 households and about 50 (multiple family members) attending our annual meeting. *Have you been to the meeting lately?* Come by and meet your neighbors at the July 6th meeting- - we will get updates on our Association and review the results on the **Winchester Lakes Management Plan.**
Mike Bantz, President TLCA

Fun Day 2019

Fun Day was established shortly after the creation of the TLCA in 1990. It is a great way for people to meet their neighbors on the lakes and help to provide a basis for establishing a social network. The "Day" is always set for the **fourth Saturday in July (27th this year).** Participants can choose between golfing and kayaking during the day followed by a picnic in the late afternoon at the Park. The picnic features barbecued pork, perhaps a libation or two and plenty of summer-time food and fun follows, with tons of awarded prizes. Stay tuned for details at the **July membership meeting.** *Mike Bantz*

**Road CLEAN-UP – Saturday May 25th
WE NEED HELPERS- -a couple hours**

Help keep our County Highway clean! Our association has adopted a section of County O from Old O to Star Lake Road. **We meet at the intersection of Old O and County O at 10:30 am.** Wear boots if you have them, and gloves. Many hands make for quick work and more fun! Questions? Contact Laura Giffin: ml.giffin.1984@gmail.com.

Call for Bridge Flower Caregivers!!!



I hope to have the boxes up for Memorial Day weekend and already have a volunteer for June 17-30! If

you are willing to water and perhaps fertilize (if needed) a week or more this summer, please email me OR see me at the Annual Meeting, and I'll put you on the calendar! You can bring a bucket on a rope or jugs of water from home. We all love to see those flower boxes flourishing well into October, so please consider signing up!

Laura Giffin: ml.giffin.1984@gmail.com

2018 TLCA Golf Tournament 🏌️



Saturday July 27, 2019 at Lake Gogebic Country Club \$40.00 each includes lunch.

9:00 AM Shotgun Start

ONLY 36 GOLFERS

Complete Foursomes or Individuals Welcome! For Reservations contact at Darryl Osikowicz after May 15th, 2019

at Darryl@pmisports.com or call 715-686-2956.

Musky Contest 2019

The day/date of the 2019 contest is the **Saturday before Fathers' Day – June 15, 2019.**



You will be able to register via phone, mail, email or in person to either of us as indicated below. To be eligible to participate and win, you must be a member in good standing or a guest of a member in good standing as well as be registered for the contest and have paid your \$25 entrance fee per person no later than Friday, June 14, 2019. Be sure to mark your calendar for June 15, 2019!

Tom Rued

Archie Clark

2364 Black Forest Rd
Winchester, WI 54557
715-686-2547

2346 Black Forest Rd
Winchester, WI 54557
920-851-2066

muskydoctom@gmail.com



2018 First Place Musky Tourney winner Aaron Andreshak, right and second place winner Alex Yde left.

Alex with his toothy critter- -still out there and hungry this year!



Getting Your Watercraft Ready for Spring

There are several important things that need to be done before you launch your watercraft. First, the battery needs to be charged. Do NOT hook up the charger and turn it on until you check

to see that there is distilled water at the bottom of each cell. There was a fire on a snowmobile this past winter on our lakes due to improper battery/charger hook up.

Second, you need to put in a new spark plug(s). Next, fill the tank with fresh gasoline. Gasoline is a lot less expensive now than last fall when you put your watercraft for storage so it must be better gasoline, right? If you said “yes” I have swamp land to sell you. The next thing (if you did not do this in the fall) is to grease all fittings and change the lower unit oil. If the oil comes out “milky” you had water in your lower unit. If there was a lot of water it could have frozen during the winter months and possibly cracked the lower unit housing. This is why it is recommended to change the lower unit oil in the fall.

The next thing to do is to hook up a hose to the engine and start it up. It may take a few cranks and it may be a little smoky due to fogging the engine. By doing this now will assure you the engine will start when you take your watercraft to the boat landing to launch.

Now it is time to clean your watercraft. Even if it was covered or in a garage it did acquire dirt/dust and maybe a critter spent the winter in it. Don't forget to wash off the engine. Many people wax the bottom to prevent grease, oil and grime to build up, which will slow your overall speed. Wax the bottom you say? Not YOU, this is why you have son-in-laws and grandchildren.

Probably the most over looked maintenance on your watercraft is the trailer. It goes in the water a minimum of twice a year so you need to at least inspect the wheel bearings. Packing the bearings (remember: there are two bearings per side) is a little messy but it is worth the effort to keep the water (rust) out. Hook up the trailer to your vehicle and check the lights. You are now ready for launch.

The last thing to do is to *review the laws* pertaining to operating a watercraft on Wisconsin waterways. Be mindful of that fisherman fishing and slow down and keep the minimum of 200 feet from him. Don't get too close to that water skier or in the path of the boat that is ready to pull the skier. If we all respect the rights of everyone using the waterways it will be another safe and great boating season on the Turtle Lake Chain.

Tom Bawulski - Rock Lake

-TLCA MERCHANDISE- ORDER NOW FOR PICK-UP AT THE JULY MEETING.

- **NEW MUSKY Embroidered:
Denim Shirts \$32**
**Hooded Jacket-fleece lined
\$38**
Long sleeved T-Shirts \$18
Wind Shirts \$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**





TLCA Board of Directors

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

Directors:

PRESIDENT...Mike Bantz

SECRETARY...Laura Giffin

TREASURER...Gee Esslinger

ROCK LAKE REPRESENTATIVES

- Gary Engstrom
- Steve Budnik

NORTH TURTLE REPRESENTATIVES

- Susan Esslinger
- Monty Giffin

SOUTH TURTLE REPRESENTATIVE

- Tom Rued
- Emil Bertalot

Hayden Potts with his NT Walleye





Denise Herzberg mobilizes help to clear the roof on Solitude Lane



Gee Esslinger's picture captures some seriously waterlogged ice - - not your normal 'Black Ice' - shortly before ice out on NT



Maya Discianno catches the return of Trumpeter Swans on ST from the bridge on the divide



Brent Speechley with a nice Rock Lake Northern