

The Ripples

We have a new name!

*The Eagle Lake
Improvement Association*

Spring Issue 2017



Calendar of Events

Saturday May 27 th	Annual Meeting of ELMD 9:00 a.m. Dover Town Hall
Sunday July 2 nd	Annual Boat Tie Up in the middle of Eagle Lake
July 26-30	Racine County Fair Union Grove, WI
Saturday August 12	NEW! Eagle Lake Regatta and Lake Social @ Michael's
Saturday August 26	Annual ELIA meeting 9:00 Dover Town Hall; Annual Photo Contest
Sept 2 nd (Sept 3 rd - rain date)	Annual Fireworks Display



Executive Board members (from left) MARIE FREDERICK - Vice-Pres, BRIAN YOUNGER - President, JUDY AMUNDSEN - Secretary and CHUCK GLOVER - Treasurer met recently to discuss implementing the new Association name change. Historically, The Eagle Lake Property Owners Improvement Association (ELPOIA) was founded and named during the 1950's and has sought to improve Eagle Lake and to make the Eagle Lake community a better place to live.

Why did we change the name after all these years?

- The old name was outdated, and technically not accurate. You do not have to be a property owner living directly on the lake to belong to the Improvement Association.
- The new name is more focused—we are all about improving Eagle Lake. That is the bottom line!
- The new name is shorter, less confusing and - frankly - easier to say. Pronounce the name by just saying the individual letters or saying "The Improvement Association." Won't you join us in our efforts to improve Eagle Lake?

CLEAN BOATS ~ CLEAN WATERS staff member Julie Kantor and staff supervisor Anna Sommers (right) worked the opening day of fishing season on May 6th at the Racine County Park site. Staff was also present at the Zinnen Boat Launch, which will be staffed only on Opening Week and holidays. Last year, staff had contact with 765 boats and 1569 boaters while working 39 days (8 days had double coverage at the County Park and Zinnen Launch). The majority had not been contacted before, were willing to listen to information presented and were determined to have a good understanding of the program after contact.



OPENING DAY OF FISHING

Opening day of fishing on Eagle Lake brought out a good number of people fishing both on the shore and in boats. The center picture shows a fisherman fishing to the east of the County Boat Launch area. Notice the new buoys between the boat ramp and the East Shore. There are seven new rock buoys immediately EAST of the launch channel buoys (picture on right) that mark a dangerous shallow area of sand and gravel with only 1-2 inches of water above. Boaters need to avoid that area so they don't damage their boat and props.

WATERSHED TASK FORCE UPATE

The Eagle Lake Watershed Task Force is making great progress! In order to improve the water quality and aquatic plant situation in Eagle Lake, it is imperative that we reduce the amount of phosphorus and undesirable sediment coming into the lake from the watershed. If we do not accomplish this, we will be cutting undesirable aquatic plants and weeds – the symptom of the problem – forever.

To this end, the Watershed Task Force (WTF) met several times over the winter and has accomplished two major goals:

1) *Reinstating phosphorus and other water testing in the lake.* Just like your doctor does lab tests to measure your

current physical health, we need to take periodic measurements of key lake indicators to understand the Lake's health, and hopefully measure progress. We have contracted with the US Geological Service (USGS) in Madison to take four samples over the course of the year to provide us with current data. The cost of this testing is being shared by the Eagle Lake Improvement Association and the Eagle Lake Management District.

2) *Updating the Eagle Lake WTF Planning Project document.* Originally done 10 years ago; the update is just now being completed. Chad Sampson of Racine County Land Conservation is the lead author. We look forward to receiving his recommendations on specific projects that will help the WTF reach our goal to having a healthier lake.

Submitted by Brian Younger, WTF Chair

WANTED: GREAT LAKE PICTURES

Back by popular demand – the annual Eagle Lake Photo Contest! Area residents are encouraged to submit their own photos of *Eagle Lake nature* (animals/plants/birds found around the lake), *Eagle Lake people/water activities* and *Eagle Lake water scenes*. Any child or adult living in the Town of Dover can enter. More information will follow. Contest winners will be announced at the ELIA Annual Meeting, August 26th.



Please keep ELIA updated if you move from the lake, if there is a change in your home address, email address or phone number. Notify Secretary Judy Amundsen at jwamundsen@aol.com or 262 878-2195.

New Town Chairman is a Life Long Terrace Resident



Mario Lena, pictured here with family members at last year's Terrace Hot Dog Day, has lived in Eagle Lake Terrace his entire life. "It's a beautiful place to raise a family and to fish," says Lena. "Now I'm watching my children and grandchildren enjoy the same qualities and activities as I did."

His fondest memories of Eagle Lake include swimming as a kid at Mohican Beach in the Terrace, catching all kinds of fish, using the diving board on the pier at Uncle Joe Stonek's (now Eugene Bower's place), and waterskiing. "My mother used to take us to McNamara's beach to swim and we bought candy at McNamara's Resort. We enjoyed the hamburgers at Cabin Lanes and all the lake activities there," he remembers.

As the new Town of Dover Chairman, Lena looks forward to working with the two lake organizations, ELIA and ELMD. In a recent interview, Lena answered the following:

Q: *What do you like most about Eagle Lake?* **A:** "At this time, I like the interest in the lake and the volunteers who make the lake better for everyone. Like Judy Amndsen...the time she spends...she is not selfish. Don Hermes is a great contributor. A lot of hard work there.

Q: *What do you like least about Eagle Lake?* **A:** No one has control over when it's low on water. I have ideas on how to put more water into the lake.

Q: *What is your opinion of ELIA and ELMD?* The highest taxed people are on the lake. These groups protect the investment by making the lake better for the taxpayers but also for everyone else. The groups are important voices for the lake in a community where historically the lake was not a priority.

Q: *As the Town Chairman, what will be your relationship with Eagle Lake?* **A:** More input from the town board in keeping the lake a beautiful place. It's an asset to the community...and the tax dollars on the shore...we'd be lost without them. Also, I don't like the idea that the lake is filling in with agri-chemicals and silt. That has to be changed. As a Town Chairman, I think the town should have more interest in the betterment of the lake.

Q: *What does Eagle Lake Mean to the Town of Dover?* **A:** I can't speak for the other people, but for myself - It takes a village to raise a child. Eagle Lake is an important part of the community, it contributes a lot of tax dollars to the community and it fits beautifully with Kansasville. Thank you to the people who pay so much so that everyone may enjoy the lake.

You can contact Chairman Lena by calling the Dover Town Hall at 262 878-2200 and leaving a message.

CARDBOARD BOAT RACES COME TO LAKE

New to Eagle Lake this summer will be a competitive regatta using cardboard boats. Only duct tape and cardboard can be used to construct your racing boat. Andy Usher, The Island, will be heading this event, sponsored by ELIA. Instructions will be coming out in early summer. The race will be held on Saturday, August 12th. There will also be a race for kayaks.



(The above photo was taken in 2011 at the University of Cambridge.)

A social event with a band is scheduled immediately following the boat races and will be held at Michael's on the Lake Restaurant. Plan to get in on the fun!!!



ZINNEN NATIVE PLANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN volunteers (from Left) Chuck Glover –the Manor, and Juanita and Mike Yost – East Shore - pause while volunteering at the site.

Have you ever visited the Zinnen Boat Launch and noticed our shoreline restoration project? It started in 2004 and has developed every year since.

A group of ELIA members maintain the property throughout the year – weeding, planting, mulching and identifying the native plants. This year, considerable ice heave on the lake bank needs our attention. We welcome any volunteers who would like to become involved in preserving this important shoreline restoration.

We plan to schedule a weekend in May/June to weed and mulch. If interesting in helping, please contact Mike Yost at (262) 864-4284. In the meantime, please stop over to the Zinnen Boat Launch and check out the prairie smoke plantings that are already in bloom. Also, take the opportunity to read our educational signs that illustrate the benefits of using native plants on lake shorelines to filter out pollutants running into our lake.

NOTE: If you have a high school student who is in need of Community Service hours for graduation, please contact Mike. We welcome persons of all ages and for any amount of time. Come volunteer, meet new people and learn something in the process. ☺

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING EAGLE LAKE?

Here is one way: join the Eagle Lake Improvement Association Board. We are looking for new board members who care about Eagle Lake, are interested in taking actions to make the lake better, and want to promote a sense of community around the lake.

We are a voluntary board with representation from all surrounding neighborhoods (The North/East Shore, The Regency Condos, The Island, Eagle Bay, The Manor, The Terrace and Pan Yack Park). A few of the projects ELIA coordinates are:

- Protect the lake from invasive species (like Clean Boats ~ Clean Waters);
- Reduce phosphorus run-off into the Lake, which is the driving factor behind undesirable weed growth;
- Make the Eagle Lake area a nicer place to live with the annual fireworks program, the annual Boat Tie-Up just before July 4 and other community social events.

It does take some time, on average between 4-6 hours per month, especially during the spring and summer months. But it gives you a seat at the table for the dialogue about improving Eagle Lake and its community.

If you are interested, please contact Brian Younger, ELIA President by phone or email: brian@youngersolutions.com (262) 672-0733

Current Board members include:

The North/East Shore: Marie Frederick, Don Hermes, two open positions
 The Regency Condos: Vin Pagliaro
 The Island: Chuck Usher, Manreen Lavin, one open position
 The Manor: Chuck Glover, Brian Young, Kevin Fitzpatrick
 The Terrace: Brian Younger
 Pan Yack Park: Judy Amundsen, Clay Marquardt, Bob Miller

NEW RULE CHANGE FOR EAGLE LAKE

Officer Chris Utect, head of the Dover Water Patrol, announced a new rule change affecting Eagle Lake. Boaters will now have to operate at or below slow-no-wake speed within 100 feet of a Water Patrol boat operating with its blue lights on. Please keep everyone safe by following this rule.

2017 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BEGINS: We have good news! We have qualified as a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, which means your donations are tax deductible. It also means that some of our residents may be able to utilize the "donation matching" program, if offered by their employer. This is a great way to double your contribution. Copies of the IRS Letter of Determination can be obtained from our Treasurer, if your company requires it before releasing matching funds. For a copy, send an email to: Chuck Glover at treasurer@eaglelake-ia.org. Members who prefer to pay electronically may do so through PayPal. Transfer funds from your PayPal balance or a bank account, to avoid the fees that PayPal charges when using credit or debit cards. Use the "Send Money" link, and specify the following as the email address: treasurer@eaglelake-ia.org. The basic membership dues will remain \$15 for 2017. Additional contributions are gladly accepted. We have set a goal to attract 200 members this year. This will only be possible with your continued support. Your membership form is enclosed with this edition of the RIPPLES.

Please fill out and return the attached form, whether you pay by check or electronically. All information provided will be treated confidentially. Your email address is important! Also, please let us know if you'd prefer to receive our association materials electronically, as this saves on our postage expenses.





2017 Membership Form

Eagle Lake Improvement Association
P.O. Box 655
Kansasville, WI 53139

Thank you for your interest in the Eagle Lake Improvement Association, the new name adopted by the board to more clearly align with the mission for our organization. With an expanded agenda of projects and initiatives designed to benefit all lake community residents, 2017 will offer many challenges and volunteer opportunities. Although we face higher projected expenses this year, **the basic membership dues for 2017 will remain \$15**, unchanged from last year. Additional contributions are gladly accepted and will allow us to more thoroughly serve residents in the Eagle Lake community.

Name(s):			
Lake Property:	Street:		
	City:	Kansasville	
	State:	WI	Zip Code: 53139
	Street:		
Mailing Address: <i>(if different from lake property)</i>	City:		
	State:		Zip Code:
Phone Number: <input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Cell			
Email Address: <input type="checkbox"/> Email only <i>Check if you prefer to receive all correspondence via email, including the Ripples newsletter</i>			

- Check here if you would be willing to assist as a volunteer. Many of our projects require only a small commitment of your time, and hours are often flexible. For a list of potential volunteer opportunities, please feel free to send an email inquiry to: info@eaglelake-ia.org

To pay by check payable to ELIA, send your payment along with this form to:
Eagle Lake Improvement Association
Attn: Treasurer
P.O. Box 655
Kansasville, WI 53139

We now accept PayPal.
Login to your PayPal account.



Use the "Send Money" link.
Use email: treasurer@eaglelake-ia.org

Eagle Lake Improvement Association has qualified as a tax-exempt, non-profit organization under IRC Section 501(c)(3), making your donation tax deductible. For any contribution \$50 or higher, we will provide a written acknowledgement, stating that no goods or services were provided in exchange for your donation/gift. For members with access to a "donation matching" program at work, please contact our treasurer if your company requires a copy of the IRS Letter of determination.