



## **CARIBOU LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER JUNE 2016**

### **ANNUAL JUNE MEETING JUNE 25, 10 AM**

Summer, glorious summer at last!

The annual June meeting will be Saturday, June 25 at the Old Caribou Lake School at the intersection of Industrial Road and Munger Shaw Road. Please come for coffee, juice and pastries at 9:30 am, the meeting will start at 10:00.

Please join the Caribou Lake Association. Last year we had 76 members out of a total of 160 owners on the lake. We need to cooperate together to protect and preserve our lake's ecosystem, advocate for responsible recreational activities, and enhance the relationships among lakeshore owners.

We all have a shared responsibility to protect our lake, to use only what we need, make smarter choices, and pass on to future generations the beauty, wildlife, water and natural resources we enjoy today.

Items on the agenda for our business meeting will include election of officers, Birch Point sewer project update, weed harvesting, CLA sale, and program plans for summer.

### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ENCLOSED**

Attached to this letter is your 2016 membership renewal form. Please send the form along with your dues of \$35 to the address on page 2, or bring them to the June meeting. Dues have not increased for many years, we would rather increase revenue by increasing our membership numbers. Dues help support program planning, weed harvesting and AIS inspection training and materials.

Remember that CLA is an IRS approved non-profit under IRS Code 501©(3). Any donations made to the association ABOVE the membership dues are fully tax deductible. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Your 2016 CLA signs will be available at the June 25 meeting.

### **NO INSPECTIONS FOR AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES ON CARIBOU THIS SUMMER**

This year funding for AIS education and inspections is coming through a St. Louis County grant program. The Pike Lake Association wrote a grant for AIS inspections. On March 8, 2016 \$10,000 was allocated to Canosia Township to provide an AIS education/inspection program at Pike Lake **AND** Caribou Lake.

At the April 6 meeting of the Canosia Town Board the decision was made to use the entire \$10,000 on Pike Lake, rather than allocating some funds for Caribou.

This is unfortunate for Caribou. In the past the inspectors have turned away many boats because they had been to an infested lake and had not been decontaminated. As far as we know, Caribou does not have Eurasian water milfoil, zebra mussels or spiny water fleas at this time, but Pike Lake is infested with zebra mussels. When boaters learn that Caribou does not have inspection, some people who are not allowed on Pike will come to Caribou.

We must take care to protect Caribou. Zebra mussels can cause problems for lakeshore owners, swimmers and boaters. Once a lake is infested, zebra mussels are almost impossible to eradicate. They are carried from infested lakes to clean lakes on boats, trailers, motors, in bait buckets, in live wells and bilges. If you take your boat to an infested lake, it is the law that boats and trailers must be decontaminated before entering another lake.

It is vitally important that Caribou Lake property owners, especially those who live here and vote here, attend the town board meetings in order to represent the interests of Caribou Lake and its property owners.

### **A FISHING TRIP CAN LAST FOR A DAY, BUT ZEBRA MUSSELS CAN LAST FOREVER.**

**CARIBOU LAKE ASSOCIATION SALE ~ JULY 8-9  
GRAND LAKE TOWN HALL, TWIG  
See enclosed flyer for information**



## **ZEBRA MUSSEL MONITORING**

Jeffrey Flory, invasive species technician at the 1854 Treaty Authority has been given permission to monitor Caribou Lake for zebra mussels. He will be putting five cinder blocks attached to a rope and buoy for retrieval on rocky substrate in 5-19 feet of water for four months.

They have asked that we let lakeshore owners know about their efforts so the cinder blocks and buoys are not tampered with or removed. They will be placed on June 7 or 8.

## **FISH STOCKING**

The DNR stocked 10,000 walleye fingerlings in Caribou last fall.

## **WEED HARVESTING**

Running the weed harvester last summer was a frustrating challenge. The cutter works well, but finding people to run it regularly was very difficult. We hire through a temp agency, they take care of liability insurance, workmen's comp and all the withholding. We are hoping to find a reliable person soon for this summer. Lake residents are allowed to take it, but we need someone to run it full time during the time allowed by the DNR. The Caribou Lake Association pays for the weed cutting operation and salary for the operators.

We realize that cutting the weeds simply provides "recreation lanes" for boaters. Cutting the weeds does not solve the underlying problem of why there are so many more weeds in the lake. Too many phosphates and nitrates are flowing into the lake and fertilizing the weeds. It all comes from non-compliant septic systems and lawn fertilizers that flow into the lake.

The Canosia Township Comprehensive Plan dated 2014 states as one of their goals: "Undertake a collaborative assessment on the need for and approach to providing wastewater collection and treatment for property around and near Caribou Lake." It is important for Caribou property owners to attend Canosia Township and Grand Lake Township meetings, bring up this issue for discussion, and contact the supervisors to see what they are doing to help Caribou Lake.

## **CLA OFFICERS**

President— Tom Marchand, 218-728-4549  
tmarcha@msn.com

Vice President— Seth Heikila, sah714@gmail.com

Secretary— Mary Manns, 218-729-0281  
mmanms@cariboulake.org

Treasurer— Julia Mader, 218-729-7010  
themaders07@msn.com

**Caribou Lake Association**  
**P.O. Box 18097**  
**Duluth, MN 55811**

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

All officer positions are open. Treasurer, Julia Mader has asked to be replaced.

We would like to have representation from all sections of Caribou Lake.

## **CLA PICNIC**

Thank you to Paul and Mary Manns, Jeff and Mary Charnes, Janice Battersby and Bob Kubicki on Sunny Lane for hosting the picnic last August. About 60 people came. We had a lovely time visiting with friends, meeting new people, and eating delicious food.

We are looking for someone to host the picnic on Sunny Lane, Shady Lane, or on the west side of the lake this summer. If you are interested, please contact one of the officers.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

We are looking for people to help with program planning. It would be fun for some of the "old-timers" to speak about their early days on Caribou.

The Caribou Lake sale will be July 8-9. People will be needed to help organize, set up, work at the sale and help with clean up. The sale is a major fund raiser for the lake association.

A person interested in computers and web pages is needed to help with the CLA website and Facebook page.

## **ICE ON AND OFF DATES**

Caribou froze November 22, 2015 and opened on April 18, 2016.

## **MINNESOTA LAKES AND RIVERS ADVOCATES**

Caribou Lake Association is a member of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates, a statewide grassroots organization that works at the Capitol to protect Minnesota's lake and river heritage for current and future generations by forging powerful links between lakes, lake advocates and policy makers. See the MLR website: <http://www.mnlakesandrivers.org>.

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**June 25**— Spring meeting, 9:30 for coffee and treats, meeting at 10, the Old Caribou Lake School, intersection of Industrial and Munger Shaw Roads.

**July 4**— Annual Boat Parade

Caribou on the web:

Cariboulake.org

Facebook/CaribouLakeAssociation