



CARIBOU LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER JUNE 2018

JUNE MEETING ~JUNE 23~ 10 AM

Summer, beautiful summer at last!

The annual June meeting will be Saturday, June 23 at the Old Caribou Lake School at the intersection of Industrial Road and Munger Shaw Road. 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 77 members out of a total of 160 owners on the lake. We need to work together to protect and preserve our lake's ecosystem, advocate for responsible recreational activities, and enhance the relationships among lakeshore owners.

Items on the agenda for our business meeting will include election of officers, weed harvesting, CLA Sale, AIS inspection and prevention for Caribou, and

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ENCLOSED

Attached to this letter is the 2018 membership renewal form. Please send the form along with 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, mailings, picnic supplies, and communication with members.

CLA is an IRS approved non-profit under IRS Code 501©(3). Tax laws for 2018 are changing, check with your tax preparer to see if your contribution is deductible.

2018 CLA signs will be available at the June 23 meeting.

***YOUR SUPPORT IS GREATLY
APPRECIATED***

AIS INSPECTIONS

Thank you to Grand Lake Township, Canosia Township, Tom Marchand and Jeff and Mary Charnes for attending meetings and working together on the applications to St. Louis County for aquatic invasive species inspection and education funding for Caribou and Pike Lakes. Grand Lake Township will receive \$14,900 for inspections at the Birch Point Landing and Canosia Township will get \$22,500 for Pike Lake and the Holly Lane landing on Caribou.

Each year through the AIS Prevention Aid Program, the state legislature gives funding to counties to allocate to organizations that will participate in AIS research, control, prevention, and education activities. The amount of funding is based on a formula that factors each county's share of watercraft trailer launches and watercraft parking spaces.

As far as we know, Caribou does not have zebra mussels, Eurasian water milfoil, spiny water fleas, or other invasive species. Pike Lake is infested with zebra mussels, so it is vitally important that boats coming from Pike be thoroughly decontaminated when leaving the lake, and inspected before entering another lake. 150 lakes in Minnesota have zebra mussels, one third of Minnesota waters are considered unfishable and unswimmable.

We must take care to protect Caribou. Zebra mussels can cause problems for lakeshore owners, swimmers and boaters. Once a lake is infected, zebra mussels are almost impossible to eradicate. They are carried from infested lakes on boats, trailers, motors, in bait buckets, in live wells and bilges. Invasive species negatively affect lake ecology. There are many types of AIS in the Great Lakes, in the state, and in bordering states that have not made it to Caribou. If the spread is not stopped, our lakes and property values will be affected.

If you take your boat to an infested lake, it is the law that boats and trailers be decontaminated before entering another lake.

***CARIBOU LAKE ASSOCIATION SALE ~ JULY 13-14
GRAND LAKE TOWN HALL, TWIG
See enclosed flyer for information***



MINNESOTA LAKES AND RIVERS

If you are a member of the Caribou Lake Association you are part of a much larger network of 500 lake associations across Minnesota.

A study recently completed by Concordia College and Minnesota Lakes and Rivers (MLR) found that lake associations members annually contribute over \$6.25 million and about 1.2 million volunteer hours toward managing Minnesota's lakes. Almost all the money raised is used for activities like improving water quality and aquatic invasive species control and to keep property owners informed and educated on lake issues,

Another study, funded by MLR, found lake association members make up the largest angling group in the state, responsible for purchasing nearly 550,000 fishing licenses and spending money for fish stocking.

Lake association members are part of one of the largest volunteer bodies in Minnesota and are powerful allies to help government organizations charged with the protection of our water bodies. No other group of people is better positioned to advocate for water protection and the local economic and lifestyle benefits our waters provide to our communities and our state than lake home and cabin owners.

By organizing this large grassroots constituency, legislation and funding will be advanced to ensure a healthy lake legacy for generations to come. This year, legislators heard from members and responded. MLR members sent over 5,000 emails, letters and phone calls to the Legislature and Governor Dayton on behalf of lakes and rivers. Many legislators recognize the important contributions lake associations make in protecting the public waters, and understand the issues that lake home and cabin owners face.

To learn more, and to join MLR, go to

CARIBOU FREEZE AND THAW DATES

Caribou froze on November 8, 2017 and opened on May 4, 2018. Congratulations to the four people who won gift certificates for the Red Goose Coffee Shop for guessing the closest dates on the CLA Facebook site. We have records going back to 1968, we would like to locate older freeze and thaw records. The earliest ice out date we have on record is March 24-25, 2012. The latest on record is May 14, 2013. Last November the ice froze like a sheet of glass, great for skating all over the lake.

Caribou on the Web - Cariboulake.org
Facebook - CaribouLakeAssociation, Duluth, Minnesota

Please send and post photos, current and old photos are welcome. People do like pictures!

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

All office positions are open. The present officers have served for a number of years and would be glad to have others take over!

We would like to have representation from all

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The large painting on the Caribou Lake sign at Midway and Industrial needs restoration.

Please consider hosting the annual Caribou Lake Association picnic in August. Last year about 60 people attended, thank you Judy Gordon for hosting.

Lake weed identification. We know that the weeds on the lake are becoming more and more dense. Using a new, comprehensive weed identification book from the U of M, determine if the weeds on the lake are native or invasive.

CLA SALE

The semi-annual CLA Sale will be July 13 and 14 at the Grand Lake Town Hall in Twig.

Donations are needed of good, usable household items, furniture, collectibles, tools, antiques, children's clothes, books, CDs, DVDs, kitchen equipment, yard and garden tools. Please, no mattresses, no adult clothes, no TVs, no large appliances.

We need people to help on Thursday for set-up and pricing, and on Friday and Saturday for the sale. It's a lot of work, but also a lot of fun to spend time with other Caribou friends!

WEEDS

Again this summer, weeds will be a major nuisance on Caribou. We realize that cutting weeds simply provides "recreational lanes" for boaters. Cutting the weeds does not solve the underlying problem of why there are so many 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.

Remember, if you fertilize your lawn, you are also fertilizing the lake. Inspect and maintain your septic system and reduce hard surfaces to minimize run off.

CLA OFFICERS

President - Tom Marchand, 218-728-4549

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Vice President - Open

Secretary - Mary Manns, 218-729-0281

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Treasurer - Julia Mader, themaders07@msn.com

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