



# **CARIBOU LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2020**

## **A BEAUTIFUL, UNUSUAL SUMMER**

Summer 2020 was the second warmest summer on record for Duluth. It seemed that every day was lovely with clear blue skies, the rains came during the nights, and there were no major storms.

We needed that, considering that other worrisome events are happening, including the corona virus pandemic, which has changed almost every aspect of our lives.

Thank you to all of you who joined CLA this year, so far there are 80 members out of 160 properties on the lake. Because of problems caused by the pandemic, we did not charge dues. However many people sent in contributions, so we are still in good shape financially. The spring meeting was on June 13 via Zoom. We could not have the annual CLA picnic.

## **CELESTIAL EVENTS**

Besides lovely warm days, there were many clear, starry nights. Many of us were able to see the Comet Neowise in the northwestern sky during July, and in early September we could see the full moon with three planets nearby, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. Besides the stars, we could watch meteorites and many satellites, the International Space Station, and see the Milky Way. It has been a great year for night time photographers. Thank you to Bob Foucault on Sunny Lane for sharing these photos of the comet Neowise and the Andromeda Galaxy.

See the article on page 2, "Celebrate the Night Sky 2020 Online Events". A presentation on October 1 will include photographs by Caribou Lake residents Bob Foucault and Dennis O'Hara.



## **CLA OFFICERS**

Three of the four people on the CLA Board have held those positions for 10 years. Tom Marchand is retiring this fall from being the President and Weed Harvester Manager. Thank you, thank you Tom for all your guidance, your work with the original weed cutter and the new weed harvester. You have accomplished a great deal, and the members of CLA and others around the lake appreciate everything that you have done.

The other three people on the board, Jowain Wallin, Vice President; Yulia Mader, Treasurer; and Mary Manns, Secretary are willing to stay on the board a while longer. However, if others would like to take over those positions, they would gladly turn them over to new people.

Please consider serving on the CLA Board. Lake associations are the most powerful organizations in Minnesota that work at the legislature to protect and preserve our lakes. Caribou Lake is a beautiful, clean, AIS free (except for banded snails) lake. We believe that working to preserve our lake for future generations is worth all our efforts. If you are interested and willing to serve on one of the board positions, please notify one of the board members.

Because Tom has a great deal of mechanical ability, he has served as both President and Weed Harvester Manager. However, the President doesn't have to do both those jobs. We will need a new Weed Harvester Manager, a person with some mechanical ability who can coordinate the operators and weed haulers, and is usually available if the operators need help. Tom said he is willing to help a new person, but he doesn't want to have all the responsibility.

***We hope you all enjoyed the summer and you are heading into fall healthy and strong. Please take good care of yourselves and those you love.***

**VOTE - NOVEMBER 3, 2020**

## **WEED HARVESTING**

Thank you to Jon Marshall who logged 170.5 hours on the weed harvester over the summer. He followed the same DNR harvester map as we had last year. We were interested to see if last year's harvesting made a difference in weed growth and water clarity. Boats didn't have to stop to clear props and the long stringy native stonewort weeds were not a major problem this summer. Last year over 100 loads of weeds were taken out. This year the lake water is a lot clearer and there were no large algae blooms, due primarily to a reduction in phosphates from so many weeds, and the sewer system on Birch Point Road.

We had an issue with the harvester where a rock cracked the hydraulic tank and caused water to fill the tank. We patched the tank and flushed the water out and were able to get several more days of use. However the tank was taking on water again so we had to shut down early for the season. A company that does welding and hydraulic work will check out the machine and make necessary repairs, flush and fill the hydraulic system, so we will be ready for next season.

Most of the lake is in good shape, weed wise, but we would like to have made one more pass around the lake before the season ended, but with an oil leak we don't want to jeopardize the machine or the lake.

## **AIS INSPECTIONS**

About 1,500 boats were inspected for aquatic invasive species at the Birch Point landing. Inspections are a vital part of keeping Caribou free of invasives.

## **CELEBRATE THE NIGHT SKY ONLINE EVENTS**

Celebrate the Night Sky 2020 is a month long series of online interactive events organized by Starry Skies Lake Superior, the local chapter of the non-profit International Dark-Sky Association, along with many community partners.

There will be a special presentation geared toward lake property owners and resorts October 1 at 7pm.

Have you noticed the stars looking dimmer, more or brighter lights shining across the lake, or the glow in the sky at night from the nearest town getting brighter? These are all signs of an increase in light pollution. This affects humans and wildlife such as our beloved Loons.

Join us for a presentation, discussion, and Q&A with lighting experts about what light pollution is and how we can all assist in reducing it. Learn about how light pollution impacts people and the environment, good outdoor lighting practices, and tips on educating community members and visitors. This event will give you tools to reduce light pollution, and will be tailored to issues of lake associations and resorts.

The presentation will be through Zoom and Facebook. A link will be available several days prior to the event and will be posted to the Caribou Lake Association website and Facebook page. To receive a reminder send an email to Bob at [bcfoucault@gmail.com](mailto:bcfoucault@gmail.com). Bob will send the link by email as soon as it is available.

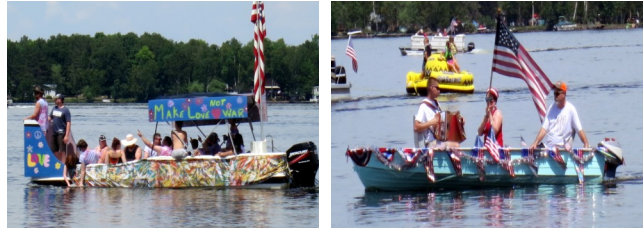
## **CLA OFFICERS**

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## **A CARIBOU 4th OF JULY!**

Thank you Les and Rosie Adolphson for organizing the 4th of July Boat Parade. Photos of the boats are on the CLA website and CLA facebook pages. The winner was Herman's "VW Make Love Not War". There was even accordion music played by Brett Borg!



Thank you to all the people who had fabulous fireworks displays. There were at least ten places all around the lake, plus a pontoon boat in the middle of lake, that had spectacular fireworks!

## **GEESE**

There has been a large flock of geese on Caribou this summer. Their droppings make major messes in yards, and the droppings contain parasites that cause swimmers itch.

**PLEASE DO NOT FEED DUCKS OR GEESE**

## **MINNESOTA AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES RESEARCH CENTER**

Showcase Agenda—September 22-24. Learn about new research and management tools.



Caribou on the web:  
[cariboulake.org](http://cariboulake.org)  
Facebook/CaribouLakeAssociation