

Summer 2015 Newsletter

Long Lake Link

Long Lake Property Owners Association

www.minnesotawaters.org/longlakepropertyowners

Long Lake Link
PO Box 292
Longville, MN 56655
Lake ID: 11-0142-00

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REMINDER: 4th of July Boat Parade

The annual Long Lake boat parade will be held on Saturday, July 4th. As always, boaters will meet at the Narrows - and this year, the parade will head *SOUTH*. At last year's annual meeting, the Board heard from some members that starting the parade at 2:00 pm cuts into many of the 4th of July activities going on in town. **So we thought that this year we would try something different and start the parade at 4:00 pm.** That way, members can enjoy some of the action in town and still have time to get back to the lake for the parade. Also, for the past two summers, it seems as though the wind was trying to blow boats right out of the water, so maybe it will help to start the parade a couple of hours later in the afternoon when the wind tends to die down. We would appreciate your feedback on the 4:00 start time so we can decide whether we should stay with that in the future, or if we should just stick with the 2:00 start.

So, decorate your pontoon, boat or canoe in red, white and blue and join in on the fun. If the weather cooperates, and you have time, it would be great if boaters in the parade could make the entire loop around the lake so all the lakeside spectators can enjoy your efforts.

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

Every Wednesday: June - August
June 27

July 4

July 16 - 8

July 18

August 2

September 5 - 6

September 17 - October 3

September 19

October 4

Turtle Races: Downtown Longville (1 - 3:30pm)

Turtle Town Art Fair (rain or shine): Salem Lutheran Church (9am - 4pm)

Classic Car Show: next to Longville Bait (9am - 2pm)

Celebrate Independence Day in downtown Longville!

All day fun including parade, food & games; fireworks over Girl Lake at dusk
(No Turtle Races on the 4th)

Moondance Jam: Hwy. 200, east of Walker

Summerfest & "Taste of Longville": Food, garage sale, games & art for kids

Planes, Trains & Automobiles Pancake breakfast: Longville Airport (8am - 12pm)

8th Annual Arts off 84 Art Crawl: Hwy 84 between Pine River & Longville

"Fall Has It All" - Longville, Remer, Hackensack & Walker celebrate autumn

Oktoberfest in Longville: Arts/Crafts/Music Outdoor Show (10am - 2pm), Fall

Festival at Salem (10am - 3pm), German beer garden (11am - 2pm), Dinner

dance at the fire hall (5 - 11pm)

2nd Annual Harvest Moon Festival: Moondance grounds, Hwy 200, east of Walker

LLPOA MISSION

The purpose of this Association shall be to maintain and improve lake water quality and lake bed health, maintain and continue fish propagation and protect wildlife and its habitat.

It shall also provide education about many issues affecting lake property owners and users through the dissemination of information to Long Lake property owners and their families.

Greetings from Your President!

Long Lake is looking beautiful with the water at more normal levels this year. Water temperatures, as of mid-June, were in the low 70s. The buoys went in without a hitch in all areas of the lake. My thanks to those of you who assisted in putting out the buoys, your help is sincerely appreciated. As a seasonal reminder, the round red and green buoys mark safe boating channels where you can navigate without the fear of hitting submerged logs or rocks. Remember "Red and green...stay between." The white buoys you see on the lake are marking submerged rocks, so it is a good idea to stay clear of those unless you wish to make a contribution to the "prop gods."

The Board of Directors met on June 13th to discuss our priority projects for 2015. These include lake water sampling and reporting, publishing the membership directory every other year with addendums in the odd years, purchasing, installing and maintaining buoys and "No Wake" signs on the lake to improve boater safety, developing boater education signs and materials to educate us all on AIS, publishing this newsletter to keep property owners informed on pertinent issues impacting them or the lake, providing guest speakers at our annual meeting, planning and applying for grants to assist us in protecting Long Lake from AIS, updating and maintaining the website, working with the DNR on fish stocking programs, and more. After more than 25 years without an increase, we have finally reached a point where we need to increase our dues in order to carry out the work of the Association. In response, the board approved a \$10 increase in dues - so starting with 2016, membership dues will be \$25 per year. We're hoping that our membership understands the importance of the work we are doing to protect and improve Long Lake, and will understand the need for an increase.

One year ago, there were just over 400 AIS-infected lakes in Minnesota. As of March 2015, there are over 600 infected lakes and waters, a 50% increase in one year! In support of our AIS prevention efforts, we applied for a grant from the DNR to provide trained inspectors at the boat landing on our busiest weekends, including fishing opener, Memorial Day, 4th of July, and Labor Day. Apparently, the number of applicants far exceeded the funding available so we were turned down on our request. We also applied for a grant from the DNR to assist us in putting up permanent AIS awareness signs on the road to the boat landing, and at the boat ramps at Deer Trail Resort and Campground and Camp O' My Dreams. I also asked for assistance in the preparation of educational materials we can distribute to property owners, boaters and fisherman addressing the subject of AIS and what each of us can do to prevent it. Each of these grants require that the Association pay 50% of the cost and the state matches our dollars. I am happy to report that the DNR granted us \$866.00 to support this effort.

The 4th of July weekend always comes with higher boating and personal watercraft traffic on the lake. If you have family or guests coming up for the weekend who might have recently had their watercraft on an infected lake, we ask that you make sure they clean any visible plants, zebra mussels, or other foreign objects off of their watercraft and trailers before launching. All water-related equipment including boats, ballast tanks, bait containers, and motors should be drained with plugs left out before entering the lake. Personal watercraft should be run for a few seconds away from the lake to discharge any water that may still be in the engine. If you know your visitors have been on an infected lake in the last five days, ask them to stop at the Musky House to have their watercraft decontaminated before entering the lake. The cost averages around \$50, but provides the comfort of knowing that they will not be the cause of a lake infestation.

We are continuing our membership drive in 2015. We need everyone's help to keep our lake clean and safe. By joining the Association, your dues help us fund important projects that benefit every property owner on the lake. Together, we are a stronger organization with a fighting chance to preserve the health, beauty and serenity of Long Lake.

If you have specific things you would like the LLPOA Board to discuss, please feel free to e-mail me at wayne@msireresults.com. The Board is here to represent your interests. Thank you for your continued support. Have a great 4th of July!

ANNUAL MEETING ~ MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

*The LLPOA Annual Meeting is on Saturday, August 8th at 9:30 am, at Salem Lutheran Church in Longville.
Doors open at 9:00 a.m. for registration, coffee, juice & Woman Lake Lodge's famous donuts!*

Our speakers are Carl Pedersen, Fisheries Specialist for the DNR, who will talk about their stocking program, the beneficial impact of catch and release on crappies and other species, and recommendations for improving the size and quantity of fish in the lake.

Also speaking will be Lindsey Ketchel, Executive Director of the Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation. Lindsey will be speaking on the status and impact of the Sandpiper Pipeline which is slated to stretch across the North Country watershed with a potentially devastating environmental impact.

All members & property owners are invited to attend. We hope to see you there!

Ranger Rick's Early Summer 2015 Fishing Report

The weather started out a little rough this spring with water temperatures remaining quite cold. This slowed the crappie bite quite a bit in early spring. As the water warmed up, they began biting again, resulting in some pretty good fishing. We used crappie minnows for bait early on, going to artificial bait as the water warmed up. Sunfish have been biting on both worms and jigs. We primarily practice catch and release when fishing crappie and sunfish and we've been impressed with the number of larger fish caught this year. Most of the crappies we caught have been in 10 to 12 feet of water, while sunfish have mainly been in the shallows.



Bass fishing has been excellent! We caught largemouth bass, ranging from a pound to over five pounds, using artificial baits including spinner baits and artificial worms. It's hard to beat the excitement one gets when casting into the shallows and watching the water explode as a bass grabs your bait. We are fortunate to have a lot of bass on Long Lake, so everyone that wants to experience this kind of excitement has a chance to do so.

Walleye and perch fishing continue to be challenging. While there are large walleyes in the lake, they tend to be deep and difficult to catch. We have caught more perch than usual this season, which is a good sign of a healthy fish population. Most of the northern pike we've caught have been in the one to two pound range. While they are all fun to catch, it's the big ones that give us the true adrenalin rush when they're on our line. They're out there and

well-worth the time and effort.

If you have not tried "catch and release" fishing, I invite you to give it a shot. When the pressure of bringing home lunch is removed, fishing is a lot more fun. Just remember to bring your camera so you can back up your wild fish stories.

DANGEROUS!!

We installed a new larger "No Wake" sign at the Narrows last summer and we immediately noticed that boaters were more attentive about slowing down when going through that area. This is important considering the number of boaters who park and swim near the Narrows on busy weekends. Unfortunately, vandals used the sign as a target for their high-powered rifle. Obviously, the sign is ruined and we now have to replace it, which costs the Association money. But more importantly, these vandals recklessly endangered the lives of residents on the lake based on the trajectory of their bullets.



The incident has been reported to the Sheriff. If anyone has any information on the vandals, or saw something suspicious, please contact the Sheriff, the DNR, me or any one of our Board members.

"Backers-and-brakers" Risk Broken Boats

State Farm recently put together a checklist for boat owners to be aware of the most common causes of boat damage and the ways to avoid them. Claims data indicate the most common cause of identifiable boat damage is striking a submerged or floating object; this represented 31% of all losses submitted to State Farm in 2014. Wind and hail damage is the second most common cause of claims, accounting for 13% of State Farm boat claims last year. Collision with a fixed object, such as a dock, was third, around 8% of claims. Thankfully, collisions with other watercraft represented only a small percentage of losses.



This guy's doing it right. Insurance companies receive many claims from the "backers-and-brakers" - those people who don't want to get out of the car to untrail their boats. They detach the boat, back down the ramp, hit the brakes and then hope the boat slides off the trailer into the water. Unfortunately, sometimes the boat slides off onto the cement ramp instead.

REMEMBERING...

Dr. Gregory Oestreich, 63, died peacefully at his home on Long Lake on April 28, 2015. Greg graduated from Iowa State University in 1978 with a PhD in Analytical Chemistry. After completing his education, he and his wife, Barb, moved to Kingsport, TN where he worked for Eastman Chemical Company until his retirement in 2011 after 33 years of exemplary service.

He was an avid golfer, accomplished pilot and enjoyed the outdoors, fishing, gardening and brewing his own beer.

Greg is survived by his wife, Barbara; his son, Dr. Kenneth Oestreich, and his wife, Dr. Jennifer Vaughn; his daughter, Dr. Emily Oestreich, and her husband, Chris Bowdish; his mother-in-law, Mary Dellwo; his sister and her husband, Lynn and Jeff Nolan; brother-in-laws and sister-in-laws; several nieces and nephews; and his beloved cat, Pippin.

A memorial service was held on May 2, 2015 with a gathering of family and friends at St. Ambrose Catholic Church in Woodbury, MN.

A glimpse into the life of Levi LaVallee...**professional snowmobile racer, athlete, husband, father and Long Lake resident.**

If you are a Longville resident, you probably know the name LaVallee well. Larry and Debbie LaVallee owned and operated LaVallee Sanitation, serving the local area with sanitation services until 2005, when it was sold to a sanitation company in Walker, Minnesota. The LaVallees had two children, Lori and Levi, who they raised in the Longville area. The kids attended Longville Elementary School and later Northland High School in Remer. This story focuses on one of their kids who was destined from the beginning to stand out as a high achiever throughout his life.

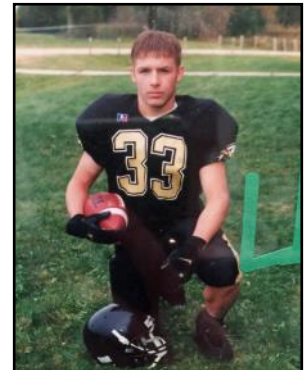
Levi was born in 1982 in Park Rapids, Minnesota. Although he was smaller physically than many of the children his age, size never deterred him from digging deeper and trying harder to attain whatever goal he pursued. According to Levi, his dad bought him a 70cc 4-wheeler at the age of four, and a larger bike for himself. When asked what mom thought about him getting into biking at such a young age, Levi said, "Dad figured by buying himself, and me, bikes at the same time, mom could get mad at one time and then it would all blow over." And apparently, he was right. Living in the North Country, the LaVallee family enjoyed snowmobiling, taking the kids with them wherever they went. Levi immediately demonstrated a special interest and skills on a snowmobile, and was rewarded with his first adult-size snowmobile at the age of seven.



4 year old Levi on his first 4-wheeler

Levi's quest for breaking barriers was ignited somewhere around that age of seven. Levi's dad, Larry, had an old car hood propped up on blocks and Levi would jump it over and over again with his four-wheeler to see how far he could go. When trail riding with his family on a snowmobile, Levi would ride the ditches and jump every drift he could find. Who could have known that, one day, he would hold the world's record for distance jumping on a snowmobile...412 feet?

As mentioned earlier, Levi may have been smaller than some of his classmates, but he never allowed it to be an obstacle to his success. Rather, it inspired him to work harder to be the best that he could be. Levi demonstrated athletic prowess in basketball, baseball and football. In his senior year in high school, Levi achieved All Conference as a receiver and wing-back in football. When asked how he accomplished this in a game as tough and physically demanding as football, he said, "I overcame size with speed, strength and agility. They had to catch me to tackle me. If they did catch me, they had to wrap me up or I would break free and just keep on going."



All Conference Football @ Northland High School - 2000

At 12 years old, Levi began racing snowmobiles. He fondly remembers his first race in Pine River which required that he race against adults. When asked about it, Levi said, "When dad went to register me the race officials said I was too small to race. Dad told them not to judge me based on size. He asked the officials to let me do one race and if I did not give everyone there a challenge, he would pack me up and go home." To make a long story short, Levi did not pack up that day – rather, he placed second in his event, winning the respect of the officials and racers alike. That was just the beginning. In 9th grade, Levi began snocross racing where he won both the 14-15 year old class plus the 16-17 year old class. He then registered for the grueling sport class and won that as well - and that pushed him over the edge. At 16 years of age, Levi went semi-pro, competing in national races in places like Deadwood, SD, Yellowstone, New York, Quebec and Winnipeg. Levi remembers doing school homework in the back seat of the family car on their way to the next race. It was a grueling pace for this young teenager, but his determination never faltered.



Levi & his dad @ the ISRA Buddy Races

Continuing toward his goal of becoming a serious contender in national snowmobile racing, Levi placed second in the semi-pro stock class in 1999, and won the fan-cooled sled division in 2000. 2001 proved to be a real challenge for Levi and a transition year for the family. It was Levi's first year on the open mod sleds in the semi-pro class. While he qualified for the majority of the finals, the highest he finished that year was fifth. It was also the year he experienced some of his first injuries, including a broken nose, torn ACL, torn MCL, plus he developed compartment syndrome in his calves, a very serious condition which put him in the hospital for a week.

Levi's parents had been graciously funding his racing out of their retirement account up to 2001, but came to the conclusion that they could no longer afford to support his racing career. He would have to do it on his own after 2001, or find another occupation. That was all the motivation Levi needed to pull out all the stops. It was either win or walk, and walking was simply not an option. In 2002, Levi won eight out of the ten races he participated in, achieving his personal goal of becoming a national contender. It did not go unnoticed. Polaris selected Levi as a racer they would sponsor in 2002, a relationship that continues to this day. That greatly eased the financial burden associated with racing for Levi, but it was not the end. Levi's notoriety on the racing circuit had become legendary. As a young racer, he had achieved more than most racers achieve in a lifetime. That notoriety attracted additional major sponsors for Levi, including Red Bull, which paved the way for Levi to truly go "professional." Today, Levi has over twenty sponsors supporting his team, a real tribute to his success.

(article continues on page 5)

(Levi LaVallee continued from page 4)

Levi's success winning races as a professional on the national snowmobile circuit has allowed him to retain his sponsors throughout the last thirteen years, which is unprecedented in the professional racing arena. His awards and wins over the years have truly been impressive:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Event</u>
2002	Rising Star Award	National Circuit
2004	Gold	Hillcross (X Games)
2006	Silver	Snocross (X Games)
2007	Fifth Place	National Circuit
2008	Gold	Freestyle and Speed and Style (X Games); plus Male Athlete of the X Games
2009	Rider of the Year	Nationals
2009	Silver	Speed and Style (X Games); successfully attempted first double backflip on a snowmobile
2009	First Place	Nationals
2010	Second Place	Nationals
2010	True Grit Award	National Circuit
2010	Gold	Long jump (X Games)
2013	Gold	Freestyle (X Games)
2013	Gold	Speed and Style (X Games)
2013	19 th out of 50	ESPN's most influential people in action sports
2014	Gold	Long jump (X Games)



Gold medal in the long jump @ the X Games - 2014



Winter X Games long jump - 2014



Levi flipping over the finish line at ISOC National Races - 2014



Levi superflip during Speed & Style
Winter X Games - 2015

In addition to this impressive list of achievements, Levi is the only athlete to medal in all of the disciplines of the X Games which he attributes to hard work and determination. When asked just how hard it is to stay in the "winner's circle" all those years, Levi said, **"Hard...very hard."** During my interview with Levi, it became very clear that he has a total commitment to the sport of snowmobile racing. Nothing demonstrates that more than his relentless practice schedule to find ways to shave time or increase speed or distance in an event. Levi's determination to push through barriers to achieve something greater has become a way of life that he fully embraces. He noted that, "With achievement, there are sacrifices which sometimes include injuries. I'm no stranger to injury, having experienced broken bones, torn ligaments, separated shoulders, broken ribs and blow-outs on both knees." While Levi has bounced back from all of these injuries, they are constant reminders of the importance of doing everything possible to strengthen the body before racing.

To prepare for upcoming races, Levi built a training facility he calls "the compound." It includes a gym, a foam pit (where new freestyle tricks are practiced), a dirt bike track, race track, and more. Levi's day begins with a 3-1/2 hour workout in the gym, working on both strength-training, as well as cardiovascular endurance. Depending on the season, this is followed by either dirt bike motocross races or snowmobile races to sharpen his racing skills. He then hits the office where he is busy purchasing materials and planning races for the upcoming season.

(Article continues on page six)

(Levi LaVallee continued from page 5)

In the fall of 2009, Levi added another level of complexity to his already busy life – he started his own racing team. For the upcoming snocross season, Kyle Pallin (Pro) and Zak Mason (Pro Lite), will be racing under the Team LaVallee name. This team has already begun to accumulate some impressive results. However, the amount of added work this team created was a “tipping point” according to Levi. “I could not concentrate on my racing and still make reservations for races, arrange for food, hotels, travel plans and more for everyone.” To address the problem, Levi hired his girlfriend, Kristen, to assist in managing all the details, which, according to Levi, “was one of the best moves of my career.” Kristen, a graphic designer by education, jumped in with both feet, promoting, coordinating events, and more importantly, allowing Levi to focus on improving his skills, and the skills of his racing team. Two years later, Kristen became Levi’s wife, and they are now the proud parents of an eight month old baby girl, Liv.



Levi, Kristen & Liv ~ Christmas 2014



Levi & Kristen @ the 2014 X Games in Aspen, CO

In concluding my interview with Levi, I asked him what advice he would give to young “wannabe racers” or athletes who are looking for guidance to achieve greatness. After careful thought, Levi said, “The biggest thing you can do when you are young is to practice your trade relentlessly. If you are a baseball player, you play as much as possible. Nothing replaces experience.” He went on to say, “You have to learn to enjoy practicing because it makes you better. If you can figure out how to make all the small details in your program flawless, that will make you great.” Levi’s final comment to my question captured what I now believe is his life philosophy. He said, “I believe anything is possible, it’s just a matter of solving the impossible.”

My thanks to Levi for participating in this interview and sharing very personal thoughts on his life as a professional racer and athlete. I also want to thank Kristen for providing the pictures for this article. If you’d like to read more about Levi and Team LaVallee, you can follow them on their website at www.teamlavallee.com.

Article written by Wayne Voigtschild

Did you know?

Cabin owners in Minnesota are:

- Well-educated (65% have a Bachelor’s or graduate degree)
- 65% are in their 50s and 60s
- 34% have owned their property for more than 20 years
- 31% have owned their property for 11 to 20 years
- Survey respondents reported using their property an average of 93 days per year
- 56% plan on moving to their second home in the future
- Seasonal properties make up 31% of all housing units in the 8-county area of Aitkin, Becker, Cass, Crow Wing, Douglas, Hubbard, Otter Tail and Pope
- Cabin owners spend an average of \$3,252 annually in common household categories in the county where their second home is located

These statistics were taken from “Profile of Second Homeowners in Central and West Central Minnesota.” The study was published by the EDA Center at the University Of Minnesota, Crookston.

The following was NOT published by the U of M, or by any other educational institution.

You know you’re a Minnesotan when...

- Down south to you means Iowa
- 75% of your graduating class went to the U of M
- Your local DQ is closed from December to February
- You know more than one person who has hit a deer
- Nothing gets you madder than seeing a Green Bay sticker on a Minnesota car
- You have worn shorts and a parka at the same time.
- You think that ketchup is a little too spicy
- You know how to say Wayzata, Mahtomedi and Shakopee
- You own an icehouse, snowmobile and a four-wheel drive vehicle
- You go to a high school basketball game, the score is 12-8 at halftime, and you don’t think there’s anything strange about that
- You believe that bitter cold, a slippery surface and speed go together in a sport, and on the interstate
- Everyone you know has a cabin

Getting Hooked on "Catch and Release"

Practicing "Catch and Release" can be an incredible "feel-good" activity that takes the pressure off the fish population of the lake and places a renewed emphasis on just having fun catching larger fish. The objective of practicing catch and release is to return fish back to the lake where they can grow larger, reproduce and be caught again someday. This is especially relevant during the spawning season because it allows fish to spawn and to continue protecting their nests. Fish protecting nests are particularly vulnerable; if they are caught, and not returned to the lake in healthy condition, the care and protection of the eggs is at risk. Without the protector fish, eggs can suffocate under a layer of silt, be subject to fungal infections or be eaten by watchful predators. Make it a point to practice catch and release methods during this year's spawning season.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Spawning period</u>	<u>Where they spawn</u>	<u>Water temperatures</u>
Sunfish	June is peak, but may go into August	In colonies along the shore	80°
Crappies	May to June	In the shallows	61 - 68°
Bass	May to July	In solitary nests	60 - 65°
Northern pike	As soon as the ice breaks up	In shallows near plants in 1 foot of water	
Perch	Late April to early May	On vegetation	44 - 52°

Many of us, myself included, initially thought catch and release meant releasing a few of the smaller fish back into the lake to grow bigger. But as the public became more educated on the subject, we learned that just releasing a fish after catching it does very little to insure its survival if the fish is not played and handled correctly. If your intent is to practice catch and release on your next fishing outing, it makes sense to learn how to catch and release the fish safely. Here are twelve tips to help you take reasonable measures to insure that the fish you release will survive and live on to spawn and be caught another day.

- **Use barbless or circle hooks when possible, or pinch the barb flat with a pliers; barbed hooks can often cause serious damage to the fish.**
- **Always use the heaviest line possible for each species of fish so you can reduce the length of time you spend fighting and exhausting the fish; the more exhausted they are, the more lactic acid they build up and the greater the chance they will not survive.**
- **When fishing in water depths 30 feet or greater, bring the fish up slowly so it can decompress.**
- **When handling fish, wet your hands first; dry hands can easily remove a fish's layer of slime which protects them from fungus, bacteria and parasites.**
- **If you must use a net, use one made of cotton mesh or rubber; it is less harmful to the fish's scales, gills and eyes.**
- **Do not beach a fish or let it flop around on the deck of a boat; a fish's head and eyes are fragile and are the leading cause of fish mortality after release.**
- **Do not hold the fish near the gills or eyes.**
- **If the fish takes your hook deep and it can't be removed easily, just cut the leader as close to the hook as possible and leave the hook in; one study found 66% survival when the hook is left in and only 11% when it is "dug out."**
- **Use a needle-nose pliers to remove hooks if they are not too deep; turning the fish belly up as you remove the hook disorients and quiets the fish.**
- **The 15 second rule – limit the time your fish spends out of water to avoid damaging its gill tissue; if you want to get that Kodak shot, have the camera ready and hold the fish in the water until you are ready to take the picture.**
- **Gently ease the fish back into the water, holding its tail with one hand and your other hand under its belly; keep the fish in an upright position until it recovers. Based on research, fish put in the water upside down experience six times more problems. Be patient while the fish is recovering; do not move it forward and backward in the water during the recovery, only forward.**
- **If your fish is not recovering from the catch, then go ahead and harvest it.**



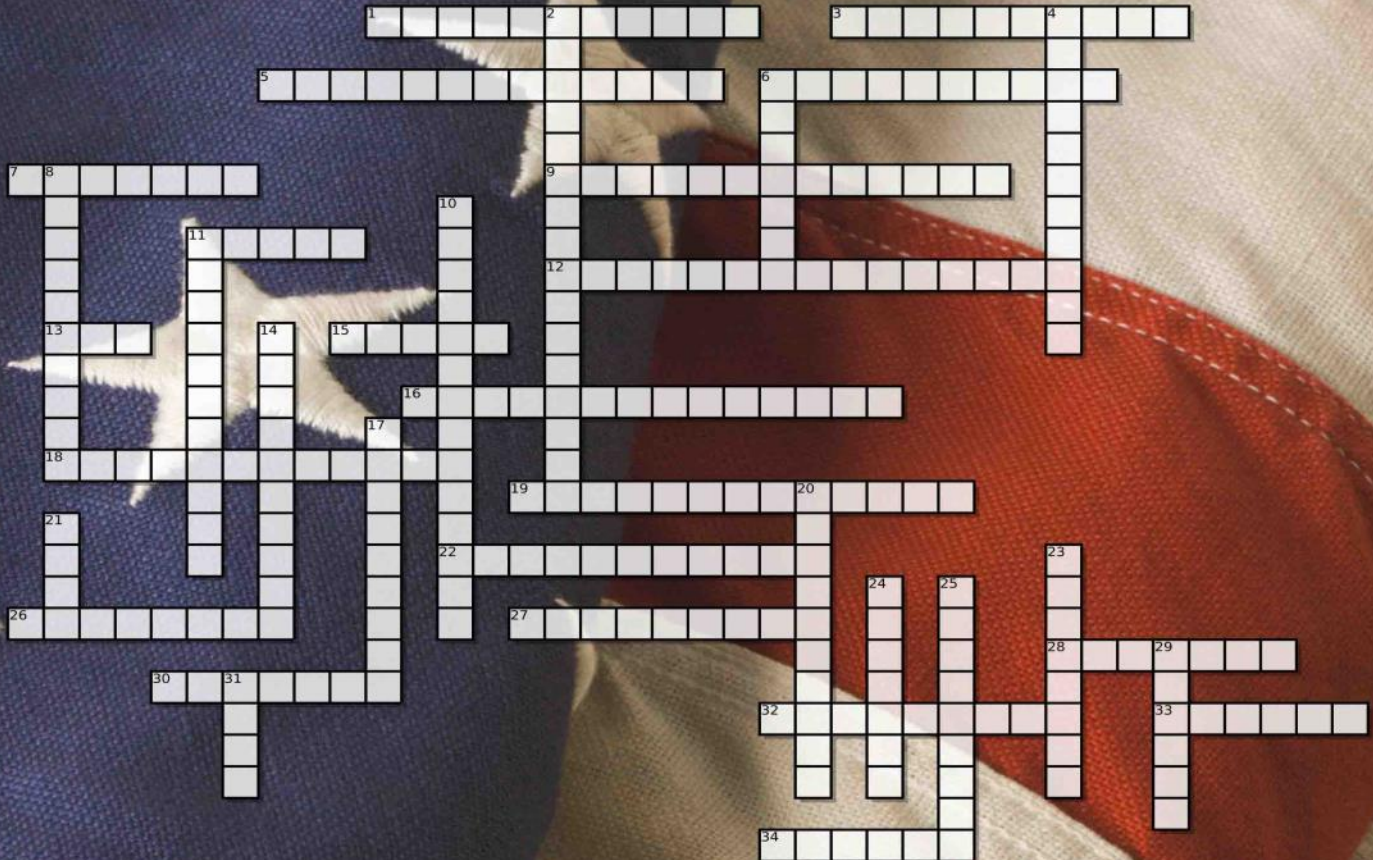
The correct way to hold the fish when returning it to the water.

More than anything, successful catch and release fishing involves preparation before you start fishing to assure that everything you need is at your fingertips. It's all about minimizing the fish's exposure to air and how you handle the fish once caught. It's also a good idea to tell those you are fishing with that you are going to be practicing catch and release fishing. I am reminded of the time that my sister, who loves to fish, but almost never has the opportunity anymore, visited us on the lake. We went out to one of my favorite sunfish spots where good results are almost guaranteed. Within the first minute, she hooked a 10-inch sunnie, proudly proclaiming what a beauty it was and how good it would be in the frying pan. You can imagine her facial expression - and her comments - as I released her prize fish back into the water! Oops...I guess I should have told her my intentions before she caught that fish.

For the sheer thrill of catching exceptionally large fish, or the excitement your grandchildren experience when they hook one of those monsters of the deep, catch and release fishing is a practice worth pursuing. It is good for each of us to remember that we are the caretakers of the lake. Its future, and the future of the fish species that live in it, depend on us.

Test your knowledge of Minnesota trivia! (The answers can be found on page 9...no peeking!)

How well do you know Minnesota?



ACROSS

- 1 This actress, who is married to Justin Timberlake, grew up in Ely.
- 3 The Kensington Rune stone was found on a farm near this city.
- 5 The fictional pool player from the movie "The Hustler."
- 6 What is the state tree?
- 7 Which river is a National Scenic Riverway?
- 9 What is the highest point in the state?
- 11 From which American Indian language did the name Minnesota come from?
- 12 Source of the Mississippi River.
- 13 The television station from "The Mary Tyler Moore Show."
- 15 What is the state gemstone?
- 16 What river joins the Mississippi at Fort Snelling?
- 18 Semi-fictional town written about by Garrison Keillor.
- 19 Minneapolis cartoonist who created Charlie Brown and Snoopy, among others.
- 22 What is the state flower?
- 26 Which famous singer/songwriter grew up in Hibbing?
- 27 What is the name of the only national park in the state?
- 28 What was the original name of St. Paul?
- 30 What is the state fish?
- 32 What medical device did Medtronic founder, Earl Bakken, invent in his garage?
- 33 Which singer/songwriter wrote "Purple Rain?"

- 34 The creator of Spam, the Hormel Company, is located in this city.

DOWN

- 2 Which famous aviator grew up in Little Falls?
- 4 Former Twin Cities auto mogul sentenced to prison for bankruptcy and wire fraud.
- 6 Hiawatha's grandmother's name from Longfellow's poem "The Song of Hiawatha."
- 8 What amusement ride was manufactured in Minnesota?
- 10 The fictional town from the animated TV series "Rocky and Bullwinkle."
- 11 What did the Bloomington-based Toro Company invent?
- 14 The name of the larger than life lumberjack who lives in the north woods?
- 17 The name of the world's first fully-enclosed, climate-controlled shopping mall.
- 20 This actor, now starring in "Jurassic World," grew up in Virginia, MN.
- 21 What famous medical clinic is located in Rochester, MN?
- 23 Which popular Minnesota politician was the Metrodome named after?
- 24 In what city is the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame located?
- 25 The name of our U.S. senator who performed on "Saturday Night Live."
- 29 Where is the state capital located?
- 31 What is the state bird?

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Wayne Voigtschild	wayne@msireresults.com
Vice President	Steve Laraway	stevelaraway@charter.net
Secretary	Paul Reinke	pacreinke@comcast.net
Treasurer/Membership	Meg Voigtschild	meg@msireresults.com

ZONE DIRECTORS

Zone 1	Rebecca Ryan	deertrailresort@hotmail.com
Zone 2	Bob Coulter	joniq@prodigy.net
Zone 3	Barbara McCuskey	mccuskey@arvig.net
Zone 4	Gary Richmond	richmond.gary@centurylink.net
Zone 5	Mark Mueller	mmuellerfl@yahoo.com
Zone 6	Mark Eidenschink	eidensch@yahoo.com
Zone 7	Bob Alley	alleyduo@yahoo.com
Zone 8	Duane Schock	218-363-2211

Webmaster	Tom Sorensen	wave2000@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Meg Voigtschild	meg@msireresults.com

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

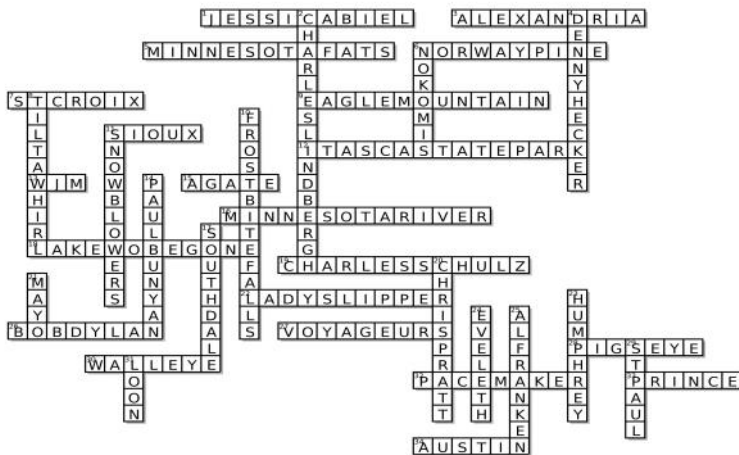
Saturday, May 9th @ 10:00 am
 Saturday, June 13th @ 10:00 am
 Saturday, July 18th @ 10:00 am - *NOTE DATE CHANGE!*
 Saturday, August 8th @ 9:30 am **
 Saturday, September 12th @ 10:00 am

** Annual meeting begins at 9:30 am; doors open at 9:00 am

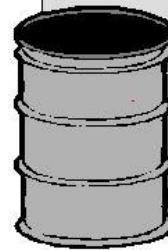
Meetings are held at Salem Lutheran Church in Longville.
 All property owners are always welcome to attend.

Answers to the puzzle on page 8...

How well do you know Minnesota?



Burning Garbage is Illegal in Cass County



However, for some reason many burn barrels remain. If you are aware of someone burning garbage, contact Paul Fairbanks, Solid Waste Administrator for Cass County, at 218-547-7287 paul.fairbanks@co.cass.mn.us.

Here's something you may not have been aware of:

Most cabin "weekenders" will know what we're talking about when we complain about driving back home on Sunday evenings with aroma-filled bags of trash in our vehicles. There is a service offered by City Sanitary Service of Longville that can solve that problem for you. Pick up one of their red trash bags at the One Stop for \$5.49 each. Put your trash in that bag, call the phone number on the attached tag and City Sanitary will tell you where you can leave the bag for their pick-up. And if you find out that you live along one of their regular routes, you don't even have to call, just leave the red bag in the appropriate spot when you leave on Sunday nights.

LLPOA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

We will continue to run the "Join the LLPOA" membership campaign. We want to reach property owners that haven't joined the Association yet, or those who may not even know the LLPOA exists. We are hoping that we can enlist the help of our current LLPOA members in this campaign by asking them to talk to their neighbors and find out if they are members already or not. Share with them what we are doing to keep aquatic invasive species out of the lake, how we are managing the lake's water quality and how we are working to protect local wildlife and its habitat - and then encourage them to join. We need everyone's help!

In order to reach as many owners as we can, we will continue to send out paper copies of the Link to those people who are not on our e-mail list, whether they are members or not.

It saves the Association a lot of printing and postage costs when we send the Link by e-mail, so please consider adding yourselves to our newsletter e-mail list; plus you'll receive the added bonus of getting the Link in color! We never use your e-mail for anything other than Association news. If you would like to begin receiving the Link by e-mail, please send your e-mail address to Meg Voigtschild at meg@msireresults.com.

PLEASE NOTE:

The membership/dues form (for new members or those members who need to update their information) is included in this newsletter. Send the form, along with your 2016 annual dues of \$25.00, to LLPOA, PO Box 292, Longville, MN 56655.

Feel free to contact Meg to check on the status of your dues. Call 612-805-5995 or e-mail meg@msireresults.com.

