

The Shoreline

A Publication of the Portage-Crooked Lakes Improvement Association

October/November 2022



From the President...

As we roll into the winter months, I think it's important to look back at our year and reflect on what has been accomplished along with the various social activities sprinkled throughout the year.

We kicked off the year at "Back to the Lakes" with a visit from the National Loon Center. I think everyone learned something they didn't know about one of our favorite summertime visitors. We also got a sneak peek at the new facility the National Loon Center will be building in Cross Lake.

The PCLIA moved forward and received approval at the annual meeting to revise our by-laws. These significant changes position us to become a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. This is how other lakes associations in our area are structured. We have applied to the IRS for this change and are awaiting their response. If approved, your donations to the association may be tax deductible, depending on your personal tax filing status and IRS guidelines. We will update you as we know more.

This past year also saw us give "The Shoreline" newsletter and our website a new look and additional content. You will find both sources of lake communication at pclia.com. Take a look! We hope you like what we've done, and we look forward to continuing this next year.

A new lake directory was published this year. Many hours were spent pulling all the information together and building the directory.

The members of the board have made this a great year. Their enthusiasm and commitment to making our lake community better is energizing.

I would be remiss if I didn't recognize a few people for their contributions. Thank you to Julie Maghan, Tom Weber, Tom Kaufhold, Marianna Bunkers, and Doug Picken for making the accomplishments listed above possible.

Then there is you, our association members. It's exciting to see that 71% of the property owners on the lake are association members. Your support makes it possible for us to achieve our goals and mission and solve future issues. Thank you!

Scott Maghan

Important

2023 Membership information Included in this newsletter!

Important

TREASURER'S REPORT

	Beginning Balance 1/1/2022	Income	Expense	Ending Balance 9/30/2022
Healthy Lakes/ AIS Fund*	\$9,809.48	\$2,525.00	\$1,630.03	\$10,704.45
Fish Stocking Fund*	\$1,076.30	\$720.00		\$1,796.30
General Fund*				
Donations and Interest		\$462.81		
Dinner Deposits		\$1,440.00	\$1,500.00	
Membership Dues		\$2,550.00		
General Fund			\$5,476.12	
Total General Fund	\$35,655.93	\$4,452.81	\$6,976.12	\$33,132.62
Total Fund Balances	\$46,541.71	\$7,697.81	\$8,606.15	\$45,633.37

*The **Healthy Lakes/Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Fund** contains money specifically donated for monitoring and taking corrective steps to protect the quality of our lakes.

*The **Fish Stocking Fund** contains money specifically donated toward the stocking of fish according to DNR guidelines.

*The **General Fund** contains funds raised through membership dues, accrued interest and donations made without specific fund designation.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Enclosed in this newsletter is the 2023 membership form. Please take a few minutes to complete the form, especially if any information has changed. An email address would be appreciated. There are times we would like to get information out to everyone on the lakes, and an email blast is the most efficient way to communicate.

All emails sent out by PCLIA go out as a blind carbon copy, therefore you will never see other members' email addresses, and they will not see yours. The PCLIA does not give email addresses to any outside sources.

If your mailing label indicates a date less than 2023, the PCLIA would appreciate if you would renew your membership. Thank you!

LAKE COMMUNICATION



Website

www.pclia.com continues to undergo improvements giving it a new look with additional content. It provides a variety of lake association information as well as DNR resources.

Facebook

The PCLIA has a Facebook page for members to join and receive information on the association and its activities. Search PCLIA of MN on your Facebook home page, and you will be directed how to join.

PCLIA Email Address info@pclia.com

Post Office Address PO Box 564 Deerwod, MN 56444

PCLIA Board of Directors

President

Scott Maghan

Vice President

Andy Larson

Treasurer

Diane Lund

Secretary

Joy Larson

Past President

Kris Picken

Directors

Lynn Bremer

Julie Maghan

Kari Bunkers

Jill Mertes

Chuck Lund

Marjorie Safaie

Tom Kaufhold

Mike Stuber

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Held at Bay Lake Town Hall
on Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.

April 1, 2023

May 6, 2023

August 5, 2023

Sept. 30, 2023

* Scheduled meetings are open to members and are subject to change.

Crooked Lake's Glen Echo Haven Resort



EASILY REACHED OVER GOOD ROADS

Paved Highway 169 from the Twin Cities follows the scenic west shore of Mille Lacs Lake. At Garrison turn left on Highway 18; 4 miles further turn right on Highway 6 as shown on the map above. At our sign near Hunters Bay store turn left 1.7 mi. to our resort. Twenty miles to Brainerd on Highway 18; 9 miles to Deerwood on Highway 6 and 4 miles further to Crosby.



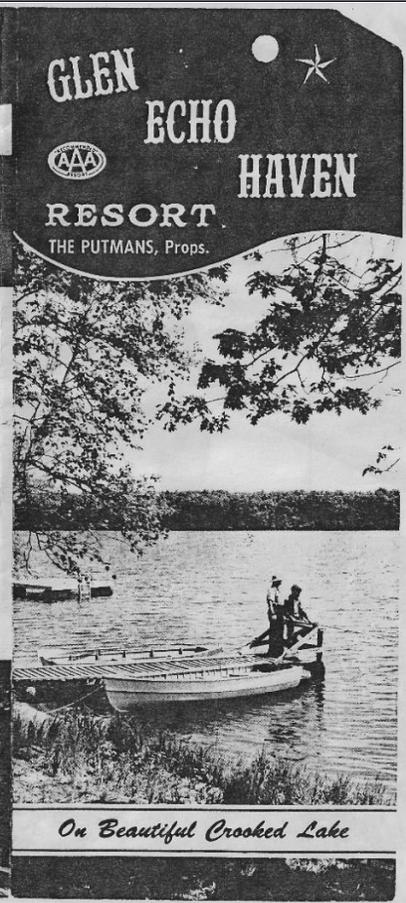
SEVEN NEW MODERN CABINS . . .

These comfortable, attractive cabins have knotty pine finish, living and dining room combinations, well equipped kitchens with all utensils and dishes furnished, electric refrigeration, gas ranges, modern two-piece bathrooms. Central shower. Comfortable beds with innerspring mattresses; all linens furnished.

They are in a variety of sizes and arrangements, accommodating two to six persons, and rates range from \$38 to \$70 per week. A 20 percent deposit is sufficient to assure the reservation.

Newlyweds will enjoy our "Honeymoon Cabin." The porch on this cabin is completely glassed in.

For reservations write
GLEN ECHO HAVEN RESORT
 The Putmans
 DEERWOOD, MINNESOTA

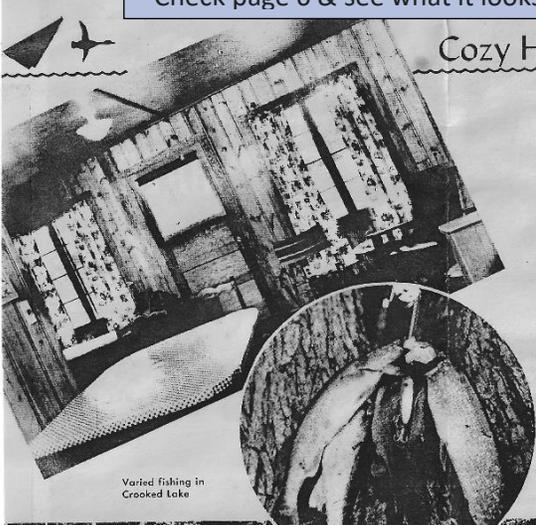


On Beautiful Crooked Lake



Do You Recognize This View?
 Check page 6 & see what it looks like now!

Cozy Housekeeping Cabins amid scenic beauty



Varied fishing in Crooked Lake

GLEN ECHO HAVEN RESORT is located on a point on Crooked Lake, in the Mille Lacs - Bay Lake area, one of Minnesota's finest lakelands. Large pines, shady hardwoods and cool white birch, with all cabins overlooking the lake, in a secluded spot easily reached over a good graded road 1.7 miles from the highway, combine to make this a perfect vacation spot.

THE WELL-BUILT CABINS, painted cream with cool green trim, with knotty pine interior finish, are completely furnished for housekeeping. The cabins are modern and there is an outside fireplace with each one. Electricity, blaugas for cooking, a soft-water system, innerspring mattresses and comfortable furniture make living here a pleasure. A Larson boat for each cabin is included in the rate.

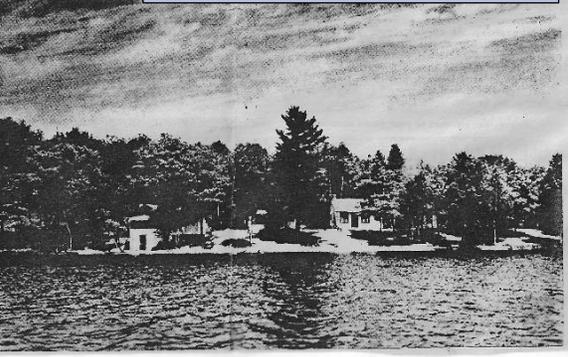
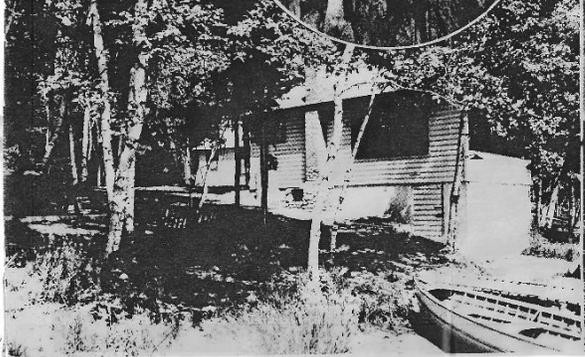
ALWAYS SOMETHING TO DO IF YOU WISH. There's a good sand beach with a swimming dock. Swings for children. A golf course within 3 miles. Excellent, varied fishing in Crooked Lake and many nearby lakes, including Mille Lacs. Churches of all denominations at Deerwood, 8 miles away. Twenty miles to Brainerd. Fourteen miles to Crosby.

FOR CONVENIENCE there's a store at the entrance. Minnows and worms are available. Boats for rent at \$2 a day; motors \$3 a day, \$15 a week. A screened fish cleaning house with electricity and running water.

A CONGENIAL PLACE where all professional men like to gather. Come once . . . we're sure you'll come again.

OPEN May 15 through

Brochures submitted by Barb Linn



A Step Back in Time

In the early 60's Barb and Dick Linn and their family made 2 trips each year to the beautiful Glen Echo Haven Resort on Crooked Lake. Along with 3 other families, they rented 4 cabins on the shore of Sugar Bay. They swam, fished, boated and enjoyed each other's company. The Linn family fell in love with Crooked Lake!

In 1968 the Linns became concerned when they had not received their anticipated reservation confirmation for the upcoming holiday weekend. They learned that the resort had been sold and that the individual cabins would be offered for sale at \$5,000 each.

Barb and Dick were determined to continue with their visits to Crooked Lake so they bought the lot available at the end of the resort. Barb's dad helped to build the cabin. He left a hidden mark in every room. The Linns made this cabin on our beautiful lake their year-round home in 1990.

-Submitted by Diane Lund

Excellent!

Good news from the land of sky-blue water! According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) spokesperson the water clarity of the Crooked Lake chain of lakes is “excellent!”

The DNR started collecting transparency data on our lake chain in the 1970’s. This was followed by a major 2010 study that showed a significant improvement in our clarity, a.k.a. turbidity level. This improvement was attributed to upgraded septic systems and an active lake association. Since then, other than the slight normal seasonal fluctuations, current readings have consistently maintained “excellent” clarity levels.

Current turbidity data shows:

- Crooked Lake at 15 feet clarity
- Sugar Bay at 15 feet clarity
- Hanks Lake at 13 feet clarity
- Portage Lake at 12 feet clarity

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency range for good water quality in lakes is 7.5 - 15 feet. The DNR uses secchi discs to measure the clarity of its 10,000 lakes. Invented in 1899, and named in honor of its inventor, this simple technique involves lowering an eight inch disc, with black and white quadrants, into the water at the end of a rope. Once the disc reaches the disappearance point it’s measured and recorded. This indicates how deep the light can penetrate into the water.

Other than the obvious positive effect on the value of lake property, clear water is also good for recreational lake activities like swimming, boating and fishing. All levels of aquatic life and wildlife habitat benefit from clear water as well.

-Submitted by Tom Weber



Thank you to the group of people who have done this secchi measuring on our chain of lakes.

The Challenge Remains

As “excellent” as things are currently with turbidity levels in our lakes there are still a couple of ongoing challenges.

Soil erosion is one such challenge. It puts particles and sediments into the water that affect clarity. Shoreline erosion is primarily caused by wave action. Natural wind driven waves will always be a factor, but waves created by bigger and faster boats is a growing problem. One solution, as reported in “The Journal of Water Resource and Protection,” to reduce boat related shoreline erosion would be for bigger and faster boats to stay 200 feet from shore and in at least 10 feet of water.

Pollution in the form of lawn fertilizers pose another challenge for our lakes. The excess nutrients in lawn fertilizers, like phosphates and nitrates, run off into our lakes and then fuel the growth of water-clouding algae.

Aside from reducing or eliminating lawn fertilization altogether, the DNR also recommends that lake shore owners closely follow all directions regarding amount and application of fertilizer. According to a new study from the University of Minnesota and published in the journal “Ecosphere” another option is to leave a natural 10 foot strip of lawn next to the lake where no fertilizer is applied to act as a lake buffer.

The Portage Crooked Lakes Improvement Association would like to thank you in advance for boating responsibly and doing what you can to reduce fertilizer run-off.

-Submitted by Tom Weber



Shoreline Restoration at Work on Our Chain of Lakes

Benefits of Lakeshore Buffers

Native Plants Protect Water Quality and Provide Habitat

Is your shore stable or eroding? Are you losing valuable shoreline property? Are waves undercutting the lake bank? Has ice pushed your riprap and destabilized the soil? In recent years fluctuating water levels and temperatures have caused severe damage to shorelines with riprap or lawn to the water's edge.

A shoreline buffer of native plants can minimize erosion, prevent nutrients from impacting water quality, and offer habitat for fish, wildlife, and pollinators. It also offers beauty and diversity. Deep-rooted native plants can bind and strengthen the soil and withstand high water events. They also protect the banks against wave action and boat wakes.



If you are interested in learning more about native plant shoreline restoration, the Minnesota DNR website has wonderful information including an interactive learning tool called "Restore Your Shore" <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/rys/index.html>. Crow Wing SWCD <https://www.cwsxcd.org/> can offer assistance and cost share funding for projects.

Several landowners on our chain of lakes have already successfully restored their shorelines with native plant buffers. The PCLIA would like to thank them for their efforts and encourage all members to consider this environmentally friendly shoreline alternative that benefits our chain of lakes. Please contact the lake association for more helpful information and advice on this important topic

Submitted by Shelley Larson

Editor's note: Shelley Larson/Hayland Woods Shoreline Consulting is a Crooked Lake cabin owner who has performed shoreline restoration projects on our chain of lakes.



2023 PCLIA Calendar of Events

- April 29th Welcome Back to the Lakes
Time and location to be announced
- June 24th Summer Picnic & Get Together
Larson Residence 14265 Maghan Lane
- July 2nd Pontoon & Boat Parade
- July 4th 3rd Annual Family Fun Event
Larson Residence
- September 9th Annual Fall Dinner Meeting
Time and location to be announced

Thank You Weekend Extensions

A big thank you to Kristy and George Jukish, Jr., Weekend Extensions for placing and removing the navigation buoys on our chain of lakes again this year. Keeping our waterways marked for safe passage is greatly appreciated!



Do You Recognize This View? Glen Echo Haven Resort - What It Looks Like Now



Northwest side of Sugar Bay



Do you have any information/photos of our lake from days gone by?
Contact us at www.pclia.com

Association Fall Dinner

The PCLIA Annual Fall Dinner was held Saturday, September 10th at Rocky Bottom Grill at the Y in Garrison. There were 58 members in attendance.

An update was given on milfoil treatment to be performed this fall. There were six director positions open. Existing directors Chuck Lund, Julie Maghan, along with four new nominees, Dean Forches, Christine Lasley, Tim Kensok, and Sue Weber were put forth by the nominating committee to fill these positions. They were approved by unanimous vote by the members in attendance.

The evening was concluded with a drawing for door prizes. The PCLIA wishes to thank the following organizations and individuals for their generous donations.

- Donors include:
- Hansen's Sports
 - Mille Lacs Energy Co-op
 - Timber Building Supply-Ace Hardware
 - Deerwood Bank
 - JJ's Birds Nest
 - Garrison Family Foods
 - Round House Taproom
 - Crosby Super One
 - Farm Island Repair
 - Central Lakes College
 - Tom and Jill Kaufhold
 - Mille Lacs Liquor
 - Holiday Station Deerwood

Please patronize and thank these organizations and individuals for their donations!



CRITTER

ORNER



Woody the Woodpecker

Many of us grew up knowing Woody the Woodpecker as that goofy, mischievous cartoon woodpecker with a contagious laugh. Now we have come to better know him as the pileated woodpecker who pounds on trees, metal buildings and regrettably on some of our houses.

Pileated woodpeckers have a very distinct look (as did Woody). They are best known for their red crested head and chisel-like long bill. The male pileated can be identified by a red stripe on the cheek, not seen on the female. While they are the same size as a crow, their flight differs from a crow. Crows fly in a straight path whereas the pileated flight pattern is in a smooth up-and-down motion.

In the early spring the male pileated crafts a hole in a tree which attracts the female for mating and raising the young. On average they house 4 little ones. Once the little ones are kicked out of the house the hole is abandoned until next year. In the meantime, the hole serves as a home for other birds. Unlike many of our other birds the pileated does not migrate. Rather it stays and defends its territory all year.

While pretty to look at and watch, unfortunately they can be mischievous and even destructive to our homes. In their search for food, they often feast on insects that may reside in the wood structure of houses pecking holes into the siding.

Deterring them is not always an easy task, nor aesthetically pleasing. The best forms of deterrents are windsocks, pinwheels, strips of aluminum foil or reflective tape. If all else fails, you can distract them from your house by offering an alternative meal by installing a suet bird feeder.

Next time a pileated comes to visit, and hopefully it will be a short visit, call out to it with Woody the Woodpecker's classic laughing call!

-Submitted by Doug Picken

The Critter Corner is a new feature of the Shoreline Newsletter updating our membership on critter sightings and encounters. If you have a sighting or encounter, please let us know at info@pcli.com.

PCLIA

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Improvement Association
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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