



CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Established 1983

F A L L 2 0 1 1 N E W S L E T T E R

FROM DOUG KURTZWEIL, CHAIR

Green and golden greetings from the shore of our Chippewa Flowage. For another year, summer seems to have lingered. Although the growing season has pretty much ended and we've had several brisk, frosty mornings, this past week has been sunny and flirting with 80 degrees. I have a tomato plant and a pepper plant in buckets by the house that are still producing, and last evening I donated blood to several mosquitoes who visited me in the boat. I haven't even run the furnace yet — and it's the 10th of October! But it's not 'global warming'...or...is...it?

I am awed at how rapidly the years are passing by. I have begun my 9th year as Chair of your CFAPOA. I'll be eligible to apply for Social Security in less than 2 years. Everything I set out to do seems to take much longer than it used to. Over a decade ago I noticed that I had seemed to 'slow down' a bit — either that, or the clocks had sped up. I mentioned to a wise friend that I had 'lost a step', that it was taking me 2 days to get a day's work done. Lee laughed. "Just wait a few years," he said, "and it will take you three." Yup. And with the interference of the 'day job' I spent less time on the water this year than I have in any this century. So...how's fishing? I did safely release a walleye last weekend, about a 12 incher. That was my third one since opening day. I hope you all did better.

The fall electro-fishing survey work is done but I haven't heard the final tally yet. Some areas on the east side looked OK, west side not so good. I helped one night near the end of September. We were working very poor areas for young walleyes' survival — Crystal and Crane. We counted 4 young-of-the-year walleyes in the 4 miles we surveyed. Lots of small bluegills, crappies, and largemouth bass though. I believe our efforts to restore a more balanced fishery — sensible bass regulations and temporary walleye stocking — will be necessary well into the future. As always, your input and comments are appreciated every bit as much as your other continued support.

It feels kind of strange (the sun is shining, 77 degrees and resembles August) but I want to take this opportunity to wish all a safe and successful hunt, a Happy Thanksgiving, and a Merry Christmas. By the way, we do intend to have the Christmas party 'on time' this year.

Again, my heartfelt thanks to all for your kindness, your comments, and your concern. And may the goodness of the Creator and the Chippewa Flowage community continue to be with you and yours!

2011-2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Doug Kurtzweil, Chair	715-462-9679
John Kaiser, Vice Chair	715-462-3450
Jackie Eckerly, Secretary	715-945-2358
Patti Jeffords, Treasurer	715-945-3085
Dennis Clagett	715-462-4814
Donna Gilbertson	715-945-2817
Chris Jeffords	715-945-3085
Steve Kelsey	715-634-9604
Rick Marks	715-462-3072
Terry Moe	715-462-3033
Jim Montag	715-266-2990
Kris Treland-Neuman	715-945-2148
Mike Whetstone	715-945-2625

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? CONTACT US AT:

CFAPOA, PO Box 555, Hayward, WI 54843-0555 OR
cfapoa@yahoo.com OR www.cfapoa.org

NOTICE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It is impossible to respond to any communication that does not have a name and an address or phone number.

ATTENTION MEMBERS

If you have received a card thanking you for your \$25. dues/donation for the 2011/12 year, that amount may be used as a tax deduction depending on your tax status. It is considered a donation because the CFAPOA is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization.

2011 ANNUAL MEETING/PICNIC

by Donna Gilbertson

Over 130 members and guests attended the CFAPOA 28th Annual Meeting/Picnic at Deer Run Resort. Registration began at 10:15 and at noon, Doug Kurtzweil (chair) welcomed the group, starting the annual meeting. The business meeting opened with a review and approval of last year's minutes and treasurer's report and proceeded to new business with an explanation of the proposed bylaw changes, including the four membership levels that are determined by donation amount (Individual, Contributor, Steward and Life-time Conservationist). The by-law changes were approved. Elections for CFAPOA Board were held. Returning to the Board for three year terms are; Chris Jeffords, Terry Moe and Doug Kurtzweil. Newly elected Board Member, Mike Whetstone, will also serve a three year term.

Dennis Clagett reviewed invasive species materials and Loosestrife Patrol directions. John Kaiser and Rick Marks reported on the success of the Big Chip Fish Fest and the future stocking of extended growth walleyes.

After our picnic dinner the cash raffle prizes and Eagle Print were awarded. The Cash raffle went to Claude Sime (\$250), Dorrie McCastland (\$125) and Patti Jeffords (\$125, returned to the CFAPOA). The framed photo print of an Eagle pair went to Rick Marks. Twenty dollars in cash was collected for both the Hayward Community Food Shelf (HCFS) and Northwoods' Humane Society (NHS). HCFS also received 35 pounds of food and NHS was given bleach, paper towels, dog and cat food and treats. Wholehearted thanks were sent from those organizations for the continued generosity of our members.

Many thanks to our hosts Denny and Ruth Aaron for providing us such a nice facility and organizing the food and beverages. Below please find the lists of the raffle donors, set-up workers, grill masters, and sweetest of all, the dessert team. If we accidentally omitted anyone, our apologies; and sincere thanks to all who helped make this event a success.

DESSERT CONTRIBUTORS: Ron Bergman, Barb Clagett, Donna Gilbertson, Mary Haas, Delores Hixon, Nancy Johnson, Marlen Kaiser, Larry Kirby, Suzanne Lang, Donna Lessard, Nan McElroy, Nancy Martinka, Marl Reeder, Carmen Sipes, Joan Schieffer, Ellie Siedel, Karen Terry, Jean Weihart, Loraine Wenman, & Dianna Whetstone

CAR PARKERS: Whitey Gilbertson, Jack Reeder, & George Sipes

COOKS: George Griesmer & Jim Naylor

SERVERS: Marl Reeder, Sue Naylor, Donna Gilbertson &

AUCTION DONOR: Ron Bergman, photo of Eagle pair

A HUGE "Thank You!" to Dick and Jan Donner, Barb and Dennis Clagett, Whitey Gilbertson, Marlen and John Kaiser, Rick Marks, Terry Moe, Kris and Randy Neumann, Jack Reeder, George Sipes and to all who took the time and effort to set up and clean the site after all was done— while you remain largely unknown, you are not unappreciated!!



NEW PIER LAW REMINDER

by Chris Jeffords

Remember the new pier law effective April 2011, then extended until April 2012? Don't forget to re-view the regulations at <http://dnr.wi.gov/waterways/recreation/piers.html> or visit any DNR Service Center and register your pier if needed. Most piers will not need to be registered, and most of those needing registration are being "grandfathered". It is easy to register and may prevent further headaches later.

SAWYER COUNTY LAKES FORUM

by Chris Jeffords

The forum has been active in the revisions to the existing shoreline regulation ordinance required by the new state shoreline regulation (NR115). While the changes are few look for updates at the newly revised Sawyer County Lakes Form website <http://sawyercountylakesforum.org/> or in the Sawyer County Record. Do check out the website for other local information of lake interest.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

BYLAWS & POLICY by Chris Jeffords

At the CFAPOA annual meeting Aug. 7, 2011 held at Deer Run Resort, a by-law change to add membership levels recommended by the board of directors was adopted. It was a simple change to the bylaws as only one sentence was added, and the change had been communicated in the previous 2 newsletters. But this change has had a very favorable impact to our association. While the regular individual membership dues have been potentially tax deductible for the past 2 years, this new opportunity allows for increased tax deductible contributions of our membership that will help us fund the mission of the CFAPOA. With the new Conservation Trust Fund and the Conservation Project Fund also communicated in previous newsletters, many members have elected to increase their membership level and take advantage of the potential tax advantage our 501 (c) 3 tax status provides. Thanks to everyone for supporting this change.



CLEAN BOATS, CLEAN WATERS (CBCW)

by Jim Montag

We have concluded our 2nd season of boat inspections at our landings. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those people that made our program a success.



CBCW Inspector Coordinator – Jane Montag. Boat landing inspectors: Winter Dam – Brody O'Mara. Hay Creek – Brady O'Mara. CC South – Jim & Donna Paddock. CC North – Axel Adams. Chief Lake – Kari Miklya.

All of the landings were staffed as scheduled with the exception of Chief Lake. We have been unsuccessful in finding anyone to work the Chief Lake landing as scheduled on a regular basis.

In my last report to you, I talked about conducting herbicide treatments for Eurasian Water Milfoil in May 2011. We contracted with a licensed herbicide treatment company and scheduled treatment for the end of June 2011. Kristy Maki (Sawyer County AIS) and Dennis Clagett conducted a pre-treatment survey of the sites that were identified as test plots. Their survey returned an unexpected result. The EWM was scarce if not absent in the test plot areas.

The areas that were full of EWM last fall were somehow now mostly absent of EWM. Based on the pre-treatment survey, we decided not to conduct the herbicide treatments. We will be filing an extension of this part of our grant in order to save this money for future herbicide test treatments.

I will be finishing up the work on objectives 2 (Boat Landing Survey) and 3 (Resort Education and Signage) of the grant this October and November. We have new CFAPOA CBCW signs to post at the landings. I have a sand colored Lund boat with "Hayward Outfitters" on it. If you see me lurking around your landing, I am working on the grant objectives.

Our current grant is a 2 year grant and is ending at the end of this year. We will be applying for a new 3 year DNR Aquatic Invasive Species grant. The application deadline is in February 2012 and should have a DNR decision/approval before May 2012. If you have idea's, comments or questions about the grant, please feel free to contact me.

Please join us in our Clean Boats Clean Waters Program. Our CBCW inspectors are now paid. The CBCW program offers free training on how to identify Aquatic Invasive Species and how to inspect boats and equipment.

Jim Montag, CFAPOA Director and Clean Boats Clean Waters Coordinator 715-266-2990 or e-mail me at Jim@haywardoutfitters.com

INVASIVE SPECIES by Dennis Clagett

Fall greetings to you all. Barb and I released another 30,000 beetles in fourteen locations this summer that will feast on our number one invasive species, Purple Loosestrife. The majority of the beetles were released on the east side, as many of the red zone (or should I say purple?) areas on the west side are under control.



In the summer newsletter, I noted two locations of concern, Kavanaugh's Bay and Cranberry Narrows. This is no longer the case. Our beetles, in concert with Adopt-A-Shoreline volunteers, have removed these from my red list.

There are several sections of shoreline yet to be adopted, and new volunteers are always needed. If you are not comfortable adopting an entire section, how about taking care of a smaller area? There are

COMMITTEE REPORTS

INVASIVE SPECIES (continued) may of these: the corner of Hell's 1/2 Acre, Moss Creek Bottoms (also known as Totem Pole Island), the entrance to Moonshine Lake, the shoreline and bays between Pine Point and Cletcher's Bar, Sibley Bay, the shoreline south of Baumgarten's Bar, the south shoreline of Kindergarten Bay, and Sibley Bay shoreline. Totem Pole Island is a big trouble spot this year, and it is the gateway to the whole Moss Creek Bottoms Bay. Barb and I see these spots, but usually we don't have the time or the energy to stop.

Our volunteers are the life blood of our organization, especially in maintaining the character of the lake we love. Thank you to you all!

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MEMBERSHIP by Carolyn Fritsch

To all members who have paid their dues/donations for the 2011-12 year - THANK YOU! And to all members who completed the membership application, we thank you again. The information you provided will be used for the next Membership Directory.

Members who have not paid their dues for the 2011-12 year, which were due on August 1st, will find a membership form on page 7 in this newsletter. Please send your dues/donations and completed form promptly. By doing so, you will continue to receive quarterly newsletters, which announce CFAPOA social events, such as the Spring Fling, Holiday Party, and Annual Meeting/Picnic. As members you continue to support and are involved (either voting or working) with the preservation and conservation projects of walleye restoration, purple loosestrife control, and Eurasian Water Milfoil watch. As property owners, committee members are also trying hard to keep you informed of any changes in statewide laws that affect fishing, shoreline and pier/dock regulations.

If you do not remember whether or not you have paid your dues, please refer to the address label on this newsletter for member information.

This report is continued on page 10.

W E L C O M E

SOCIAL by Donna Gilbertson

Please see page 2 for information about the 2011 Annual Meeting & Picnic.



The 19th Annual CFAPOA Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 10th at Ray Jay's Restaurant, near the corner of Co Roads B and CC. Make your reservation now. The invitation and information for this year's party are located on page 8. We encourage you to submit your RSVP right away to give Santa's Helpers an idea of how many guests to expect.

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SHORELINE PROTECTION

by Donna Gilbertson

The latest issue (Sept 30 2011) of Wisconsin Lakes e-Lake Letter contained this breaking news article:



Governor Walker just announced he is calling the Legislature into a "Back to Work Wisconsin" Special Session. Legislation to be considered during this session includes provisions for "regulatory streamlining." Exactly what shape this legislation will take is unclear at the moment, but it will likely include:

- Changes to wetland water quality certifications to streamline permitting
- Changes to DNR programs "which will allow them to operate more efficiently"
- A requirement that DNR make ordinary high water mark and navigability determinations publicly accessible through electronic means
- Grandfathering of all existing piers and setting of a max platform size at 200 sq ft
- Permitting time limits and an electronic notification system.

Wetland and Habitat Restoration – Sen. Kedzie and Rep. Mursau

Changes to wetland water quality certifications which will help streamline the permitting process while maintaining protections for our most valuable wetland resources. Summary:

- Makes it easier to do business in Wisconsin and maintains wetland protections through clear simple regulatory process.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SHORELINE PROTECTION (continued)

- Improved and simplified wetland permitting process with clear application requirements and predictable review.
- Achieve an overall increase in wetland acreage through restoration fees, banking and mitigation.
- Improve the overall quality of wetlands in Wisconsin.
- Increase access to lands for outdoor recreational activities by requiring they be open to hunting, fishing, and trapping.
- Provide more consistency with the Army Corp of Engineers by mirroring federal guidelines and regulations.

LRB 1446 – Sen. Kedzie and Rep. Mursau

Relating to: information required to be published on the Department of Natural Resources Internet Web site; identification of areas of significant scientific value for purposes of regulating the placement of deposits and structures on the beds of navigable waters and the removal of materials from the beds of navigable waters; requirements for the placement of certain piers and wharves; repair and maintenance of boat houses and fixed houseboats; permit exemptions for land grading activities and for persons who place piers and wharves in navigable waters; placement of fill or structures within a bulkhead line; procedures for issuing individual permits, contracts, and general permits and contracts for structures, deposits, and other activities in or near navigable waters; expedited procedures for plan approvals for dams and for water and sewerage systems; and granting rule-making authority. Summary:

- Makes a number of reforms in various DNR programs which will allow them to operate more efficiently
- Requires DNR to create publicly accessible electronic data system for ordinary high water marks and navigability determinations
- Grandfathers all existing piers and sets maximum allowable platform size placed after the bill at 200 square ft
- Incorporates timelines for DNR to make determinations during the permitting

Wisconsin Lakes helps secure compromise on

law that would allow lawn fertilizer containing phosphorus to be displayed on store shelves.

A law went in effect in April of 2010 that banned the use and sale of lawn fertilizer containing phosphorus, except under certain very specific conditions. In addition, the law prohibited retail outlets from displaying such fertilizer, forcing stores to keep any stock in the back room for the relatively few instances when it would be sold.

A new bill speeding its way through the legislature, however, would alter the ban on display. The measure would allow fertilizer with phosphorus to be on store shelves, so long as a sign is displayed in a prominent location that indicates the limited instances in which application of this sort of fertilizer is allowed: when establishing a new lawn, or for lawns found by laboratory testing to be deficient in phosphorus in the last three years. The bill does not change the general ban on application of lawn fertilizer containing phosphorus, nor does it change the limited exceptions.

Wisconsin Lakes registered in opposition to AB165 because we believe that by putting the phosphorus fertilizer on the sales floor it will sometimes be purchased and applied, intentionally or unwittingly, in instances outside the narrow exceptions of the law, thereby increasing phosphorus runoff to our lakes and streams. The bill, however, received broad support and was likely to pass.

Instead of applying hardline opposition, therefore, we worked behind the scenes and were able to help craft an amendment that still allows the fertilizer with phosphorus to be displayed, but requires it to be placed next to grass seed on the shelf, and also requires a sign with specific language stating, in part, that “phosphorus run-off poses a threat to water quality,” and “the application of fertilizer containing phosphorus to turf is prohibited by state law except for the following purposes.” The amendment was introduced by Rep. Knilans, one of the original bill’s sponsors.

While not a perfect solution, under the circumstances Wisconsin Lakes was able, through a modest compromise, to improve a less than ideal situation. We expect the bill will be passed by the Assembly in the coming weeks.

The voices of citizens are always important, but more so in situations where compromises must be

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SHORELINE PROTECTION (continued) - made. While it is important for Wisconsin Lakes to be "at the table", it isn't enough. Keeping up with issues and contacting your representatives is very important as we pursue sound lake protection through public policy.

2011 CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE LOON COUNT

by Jerry and Nancy Johnson

Our first CFAPOA Loon Count was a success. 188 loons were counted (163 adults and 25 chicks). Eight teams of volunteers left their docks on an overcast morning, July 16, 2011. Each team spent 2 to 3 hours observing and counting loons on their assigned section of the flowage. A hearty thank you and well done to the following volunteers: Sam Donatell, Mark and Joni Zich, Ken Kadinger, Al Fish, Dennis and Barb Clagett, Jim and Linda Isaacson, Rick Marks, Barb Salomon, Connie Peterson, Betz Latsch, Karen Griese, Lisa and Mike Kemp. Additional thanks go out to the staff at the Hayward DNR office for access to their wildlife survey records, and to Loon Watch at Northland College for their advice and assistance.

The Upper Midwest Environmental Science Center in LaCrosse, WI, has tagged several loons with satellite transmitters and will be tracking them as they migrate this fall. You can check out this web site to follow their migration: http://www.umesc.usgs.gov/terrestrial/migratory_birds/loons/migrations.html

Loon Watch, a program of the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute at Northland College, also has a great website with lots of information about loons: <http://www.northland.edu/sigurd-olson-environmental-institute-loonwatch-about-loons.html>



REMINDER:

**If you haven't paid your
2011-12 CFAPOA dues yet, this will be your
last CFAPOA newsletter.**

Please don't let that happen!

WISCONSIN LAKES

by Chris Jeffords

In early May 2011 the Northwest Regional Leadership Team of Wisconsin Lakes was formed. It was a result of many months planning and the 2nd team formed in the state after the North Central (Vilas County area). Consisting of 2 members from each of our 9 counties in the area and a key contact for timely communication, the teams have had a great impact on statewide legislation affecting our lakes. It has been proven that contacting legislators prior to legislative voting approvals can influence the outcomes. When the new phosphorous standards were in jeopardy this summer, the teams were mobilized to contact legislators to uphold the phosphorous rules. It worked and they were upheld. Recently the NR 115 revisions were in jeopardy also. Teams were mobilized again and instead of eliminating the new revisions, a recommendation to extend the implementation date is being considered. A major impact if upheld. In the past few weeks, there are proposed rules for the new permitting process that may not include time for environmental evaluation or public hearings where currently they are required. The regional teams may be mobilized to insure that our lakes are protected. Anyone who would like to become active in being current on issues affecting lakes locally, regionally, and on a statewide basis and having an influence in protecting our resource by becoming a team member can contact me or any Wisconsin Lakes Director. The future of our lakes for our children and grandchildren is our responsibility. (Chris Jeffords, 715 945-3085)



TOWN OF HUNTER NEW DUMP HOURS

[<http://home.centurytel.net/huntertownship>]

WINTER HOURS Beginning October 1, 2011

Saturdays only
8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Garbage Stickers can be purchased at Hillman's Grocery Store located on County Hwy B
(Please cut on dashed lines and post for future reference.)

2011-2012 CFAPOA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual Dues Payable 8/1/11

Membership Levels	
Individual/Property	\$25
Contributor	\$26 —\$99
Steward	\$100 —\$999
Lifetime Conservationist	\$1,000 and up

Note: Contributor levels receive a thank you and newsletter recognition. Steward and Lifetime Conservationist levels receive a thank you, newsletter recognition and a gift from the organization. Members contributing more than \$25 may designate how their donation (above \$25) will be used. Each paid membership receives one vote and one quarterly newsletter. Shared property owners requesting an additional newsletter shall pay an additional membership fee.

Yes, I/we want to be a member of the CFAPOA for the year 2011-2012; i.e., fiscal year 8/1/11-7/31/12. I/We understand CFAPOA is a 501(c)3 organization, our dues **may** be tax deductible, and the first \$25 (dues) will go to the general fund. **Enclosed is a check for \$_____** in accordance with the above membership opportunities. **If sending a donation; i.e., more than \$25, please indicate below where to apply your donation:**

- \$ _____ General Fund (annual operating costs)
- \$ _____ Conservation Project Fund (current projects)
- \$ _____ Conservation Trust Fund (long term endowment for future projects)

Please check one: Returning Member(s) New Member(s)

Are you interested in volunteering? Yes No

Please print the following requested information:

NAMES: *(for Membership Directory)* _____

MAILING ADDRESS

FLOWAGE AREA ADDRESS

Street/Box: _____

Street/Box: _____

City: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Note: If your check is for \$100 or more, please complete reverse side of this form. Send your check and completed membership form to:

CFAPOA
Box 555
Hayward, WI 54843-0555

CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

A 501(c)3 Organization

9/4/11



***You are cordially invited to attend the
19th Annual CFAPOA Holiday Party
Saturday, December 10th
at Ray Jay's on County B***



6:00 pm cocktails (cash bar) ~ 7:00 hot & cold appetizers

Party Buffet

<i>Jumbo chicken wings</i>	<i>Pizza</i>
<i>BBQ pulled pork sandwiches</i>	<i>Coleslaw & potato salad</i>
<i>Riblets</i>	<i>Assorted veggie tray</i>
<i>Nachos</i>	

\$13.75 per person charge includes tax & tip

Advance reservation, Please!!!

Reservation deadline — December 1st

*Non-perishable donations for the Hayward Community Food Shelf and the Northwoods Humane Society will again be accepted at this event.
In advance, thank you.*

This is a non-smoking party.

19th Annual CFAPOA Holiday Party Reservation Form

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

YES, I'm bringing a door prize!

Please return this form and your check for \$13.75/person made payable to CFAPOA by December 1st to:

*CFAPOA
PO Box 555
Hayward, WI 54843-0555*



MEMBERSHIP REPORT (continued)

by Carolyn Fritsch

CFAPOA welcomes the following new members:

Robert Anderson, Big Musky Road
Kurt & Jodi Effertz, Reed Lake Road

Mike & Judy Barfknecht, Deer Run
Steve & Chris Frankewicz, Buckley Lane

The CFAPOA 2011-12 membership year introduced new membership levels and an opportunity for members to donate additional monies to our organization. Members donating (above \$25 annual dues) were asked to direct these monies to: (1) the General Fund, (2) Conservation Project Fund, or (3) Conservation Trust Fund. THANK YOU to all who donated as shown below:

LIFETIME CONSERVATIONISTS (\$1000 and up)

Chris & Patti Jeffords John & Marlen Kaiser Brian & Sibley Pauling

STEWARDS (\$100-\$999)

Bill & Nancy Althoff	David Carland	Harrison & Marie Farley
John & Evelyn Grothendick	William & Maureen Grezlak	Sharyn Gunderson
Daniel & Marcia Hardy	Al & Delores Hixson	Rick Marks
Ted & Paulette Mathews	Al & Pauline Mau	David & Kathie Moss
Robert & Rebecca Nesse	Lance Paulson /Angela Schneider	William Pokorny Family
Leo & Jeanie Schueller	Ed & Lynn Sennett	Michael & Shirley Singer
Jack & Rose Mary Sweeney		

CONTRIBUTORS (\$26-\$99)

Larry & Karen Anderson	Eric & Susan Berg	Gerry & Judith Brodsky
Douglas & Marie Brown	Stephan & Sandra Brubaker	Thomas Bruseth
Tom & Tia Clark	Daniel & Florence Crans	Danny Daggett
Patrick Duffy	Norman & Patricia Erickson	Jeff & Carrie Farley
Fishing Has No Boundaries	Bob & Carolyn Fritsch	Jeff & Nancy Gros
Dan & Martha Hall	Mark & Peggy Haumersen	Don & Lois Hensiak
Randy & Diane Hulke	Jim & Linda Isaacson	Jerry & Nancy Johnson
Dennis & June Kucia	Ron & Shari Leibly	Norman & Carol Linnell
Michael & Kris Maly	Rick & Vicky Mauer	Michael & Dori McCastland
Al & Nancy McElroy	Jim & Shirley Novak	Bill & Judy O'Connell
Clifford & Nancy Podgorski	Robert & Janice Predotzer	Regiro Family
Chuck & Carol Radke	Jack & Marlene Reeder	Nancy Ruhlow/Barb Schweg
Anthony & Laurie Schubert	Duane Schueller	Erwin & Kristine Steiner
David & Julie Stietz	James Strouss	James & Marcia Suchy, Jr.
Linda Ellwein/Pamela Tibbets	Douglas & Lynne Tripamer	Walt & Pat Wyczawski

Note: All members will receive a thank you/acknowledgement of your dues/donation. This is also your receipt for tax records.

Historical Vignette — “Before The Big Chip” by Ernie Swift

This article was written by the late Ernie Swift and published in the Visitor on July 1, 1965. Swift was a former Director of the Wisconsin Conservation Department and retired Executive Director of the National Wildlife Federation. He grew up in Sawyer County where, as a youth, he developed an interest in its early history. At the time this article was written, he lived in Rice Lake, where he continued writing for national publications and as Advisor to the National Wildlife Federation and filled many speaking engagements in the interest of Conservation. This article gives a vivid picture of the area covered by the Chippewa Flowage in the days before it was flooded, as well as a taste for what the flowage was like in its first half-century.

Over forty years ago a dam was built at the junction of the East and West Fork of the Chippewa River to store water for hydroelectric power. When the reservoir is full the water floods the West Fork, a little of the East Fork, the North and South Fork of the Chief, Crane and Blueberry creeks and several small lakes. Some twenty thousand acres of land are under water. It makes a good sized pond.

When I first fished the Flowage in the fall of 1924, much of it was a forest of dead rampikes and acres of floating bog. The surrounding country had been scarred by numerous fires. However, fishing was out of this world.

Since then time and nature have cooperated to hide these raw scars. There are almost an endless number of bays to explore; there are many islands, and the Flowage has taken on an illusion of wilderness and a beauty all its own. It is one of the few water areas not overrun by cottages and roads; there are still a few others, but they are diminishing. The Flowage now has a national reputation for its musky fishing—I know a couple from Yakima, Washington who come to fish it. Periodically some sports writer rediscovers it and tries to talk like an old-timer.

The tourist fisherman of today hasn't the vaguest notion of what the country was like before the dam was built. At that time it also had an enchantment all its own ... it seemed timeless, as if in suspended animation—slow, pleasant and dreamy.

The Old Chippewa Road (two sand ruts) wandered east from Hayward through the jackpine, through the folds of the Namakagon hills, south of Round Lake to the sandy plain beyond Crane Creek. Some was fire-scarred, growing up to sweet fern and popple, with stretches of pine that had escaped the logger's ax. Then you came to Johnny Kavanagh's stopping place on the South Fork of the Chief. There was a house, barn and saloon, all built of enormous pine logs bleached gray with age. That was a long trip with a horse and buggy or a tote team. One was always welcomed with the greatest of hospitality. After twenty miles of dusty road a formidable thirst could be built up.

Just beyond in a pine grove was the Worman School and then Fred Worman's place. There were more crooked sand ruts to the bridge across the South Fork of the Chief. There was a little clearing with an old log house where Joe LaBoube had lived, a Cree Indian from Canada. It is called Herman's Landing today.

Across the South Fork was the Reservation, the road zigzagging through a majestic stand of Norway pine—the last big stand on the Reservation. The road led to the West Fork of the Chippewa, to a wide-spread green with wild rice, and a romantic old landmark, Old Post. Tight little cabins could be glimpsed through the big trees, there were bark wigwams, a dancing ground where ponies fed. Old Indians with gray braids would be sitting in the sun, and there would be the sweet smell of kinnikinic. And there was a Catholic Mission, white and prim, boasting a steeple and bell. The road forded Po-Ke-Gama Creek where river boats and birch canoes awaited the nightly jack-lighting forays; then on into the timber.

A few miles farther on and now drowned out by the reservoir was another famous stopping place, Paul Lessard's. A thirst could be quenched there also, and a fine meal would be served here by Mrs. Paul Lessard—God Bless Her! Then the road kept on to Bishops Bridge and to Winter, or to Al Raynor's place at Crooked Rapids (now Objibwa).

The timber in and around Old Post was cut in the winter of 1916 and '17 to make way for the Flowage; and the romantic Old Post was left in a raw slashing of pine tops. The logs went down river that spring—the last drive on the Chippewa. I saw it, and from then on there were many changes.

Chief Lake was the source of the South Fork where the river widened in Tyner Lake. Here there were acres of wild rice, all drowned out by the flooding. It was one of the finest duck areas in Sawyer County. The South Fork was noted for its Small Mouth Bass fishing at that time. Billy DeBrot had a resort at Old Post on the wide spread, and John Berger had a resort on Chief Lake. John Raish lived on Chief Lake for many years, and Charlie Miles had a homestead there.

Long before this era the West Fork had been used as an ancient highway for the fur trade. One route was down the Namakagon to Reserve; the other was up the Bad River and the Brusnieller, a portage to the West Fork, down the West Fork and up the South Fork of the Chief to Chief Lake, then a long portage into Court Oreilles. Cadotte used this route for his trade goods on occasion.

The Chippewa Flowage drowned a lot of ancient and interesting history that goes back well over two hundred years and most of it is now lost. I am glad that I was able to catch a glimpse of it before it was too late.

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CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 555
HAYWARD, WI 54843-0555

FORWARD SERVICE REQUESTED



Please mark your calendar

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 11/3/11 | CFAPOA Board Meeting — 7 pm at Town of Hunter Hall |
| 12/1/11 | CFAPOA Board Meeting — 6 pm at Town of Hunter Hall |
| 12/10/11 | 19th Annual Holiday Party at Ray Jay's |
| 1/5/12 | CFAPOA Board Meeting — 6 pm at Town of Hunter Hall |

Newsletter Editor
Barb Schweig

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CFAPOA Board Members

Newsletter Contributors
CFAPOA Board Members & Committee Chairs