



SPREAD EAGLE CHAIN O'LAKES ASSOCIATION, INC.



Photo submitted by Vicki Faust

It's Back!

Thanks to the Poisson family we can all find our way around the lakes once again!

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Message from our President

I am putting the final touches on my message the day after the final Spread Eagle Chain O'Lakes Association (SECOLA) dinner of the year. SECOLA members, Don and Rachel Egelseer, hosted the event providing both a beautiful, historical venue and the wonderful cakes. Dean and Betty Premo of White Waters Associates gave us an incredible concert with all proceeds going to the SECOLA Invasive Species Fund. The event raised \$1,000! Special thanks to Jane Patrick, Catherine Curran, Deb Cini, and Cindy Weber from the social committee for putting it all together.

With the first hints of fall color and the birch trees dropping a few leaves, it's a good time to reflect on the impact SECOLA committees and volunteers have on our quality of life living on the chain of lakes. Thank you to all for pulling milfoil, helping with the fireworks, taking care of the island and all the great social events we had throughout the summer!

SECOLA continues to support the Clean Boats/ Clean Waters program and has once again committed funding the Florence County Land Conservation staff at the North Lake landing for the 2020 season. SECOLA members also provide hands-on assistance to Whitewater Associates, who help with the monitoring and removal of invasive aquatic plants. We continue to maintain our affiliation with other associations including, Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition (WRISC), Wisconsin Lakes Association, Florence County Lakes and Rivers Association (FLCARA), as well as working closely with the Florence County Land Conservation Department and Wisconsin DNR.

Fund raising for Invasive species has gone well this year. We exceeded our goal of \$13,000 which we set for May 2019. Katie Reynold's marketing plan utilizing YETI tumblers with a Spread Eagle Logo, was a success. Thank you to those members who contributed \$250 or more to the fund and thank you to Katie for organizing this successful campaign. Our continued efforts to combat the spread of invasive species cannot be overstated.

This summer, a SECOLA Boat Wake and Safety Committee was established after concerns were raised over the increase in wakes and shoreline erosion. Chaired by Scott Reynolds, the committee developed "Boat and Wake Safety Best Practices". This will be published on our website (www.spreadeaglechain.org), on Facebook, and featured in this issue of the newsletter. We encourage everyone to read these recommendations and share them with friends and family around the lakes. Please continue to be considerate of kayakers, swimmers, other boaters, and property owner's shorelines.

Improvements to Bass Island continue with trimming and mowing, opening of views, more work on the butterfly garden, and interpretive signage. Keep an eye out for a new basketball goal next spring! Thank you to all the volunteers and contributors who have helped with improving this beautiful island.

As my term winds down and ends in July 2020, I want to thank SECOLA for the opportunity to serve and get to know this great community. Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable fall and winter season!

Gary Weber

Boat and Wake Safety Committee Best Practices

Members of lake association formed the Boat and Wake Safety Committee. The SECOLA Board charged the committee to develop educational, informational, and operational programs, including "Best Practices" covering wake safety and other identified areas where the increased popularity of overall boating on the Chain can create safety and operational conflicts among the many recreational lake users and property owners.

To that end the Committee developed and submitted and the board approved the following Wake Boat and General Operations Best Practices. These suggestions are not intended to replace Wisconsin State Law or the responsibility of operators to know those laws and rules. Operators should always make situational decisions while on the water, even if counter to these best practices, to maintain safety.

Please read and periodically review both the Wisconsin Boaters Guide as well as these Best Practices. Also, please be sure guests are aware of the special situations on our Chain of Lakes, even if they are experienced boaters. If you have any questions or concerns the Committee welcomes your input.

Wake Boat Best Practices

1. Operate Wake Boats at least 150' from shore and docks when going faster than "slow/No Wake".
2. Do not operate Wake Boats at transition speed through channels.
3. When operating with ballast for wake-boarding, use the appropriate amount of ballast for the skill level of the rider. It is much less than you think.
4. Empty ballast tanks when tubing or joyriding.
Wake surfing is the most controversial activity done by Wake Boats and therefore carries its own enumerated list of guidelines:
 - a. Use the minimal amount of ballast to create a surf wave. Bigger boats will need little to none. Consider wake devises to enhance the shape of the wake before resorting to increased ballast (disregarding this will continue to make wake surfing a divisive sport on the Chain).
 - b. When possible, extend the operational distance from shore to 200'.
 - c. Do not encircle smaller watercraft. Particularly those that are immobilized (i.e. Fishing, floating, or disabled).
 - d. Give wide birth to smaller crafts that may be damaged or have difficulty navigating large wakes (i.e. canoes, kayaks, electric boats, small fishing boats). If conditions don't allow for this, consider stopping the surf session (if safe to do so) and continuing when it is safe.
 - e. Do not wake surf through channels.
 - f. Be considerate of boaters and property owners. Keep sessions to a reasonable length and consider switching lakes between riders (particularly when taking longer sessions).
6. Please keep music at a reasonable level. If you are playing music so that your riders can hear it, the entire lake can hear it (please don't do this). When going slow, the music behind your boat carries much farther than you think. This is important as it is one of, if not the largest complaint about Wake Boats and portrays a lack of consideration for other lake users.

General Boating Best Practices

1. All boats need to be mindful of their wakes.
 - a. Avoid long stretches at "transition speed". That is the speed between "No-Wake" and the "Planing out" of your boat. For most boats on our lakes that would be from 7 to 15 MPH.
 - b. If traveling at any speed that creates a wake remain at least 100 feet from shore, docks, and rafts. Even if you are just "Out Cruising"!
2. Understand the definition of "No Wake". It is the slowest speed at which your boat can maintain the ability to be steered. Remember this is different from craft and under varying conditions, such as wind. Refer to your Wisconsin Boaters guide for exact requirements.
3. Understand the areas that are No Wake by law. They are not required to be, and on our lakes are not, marked. There is a map at the Public Landing indicating which channels are EXEMPT from the No Wake rules. All other channels are No Wake.
4. Railroad Lakes channel markers indicate the limits in which boat moving faster than No Wake can operate. Boaters moving at No Wake speed can be either inside or outside these markers.
5. Be more considerate of other watercraft and people in our "exempt" channels where conditions are more congested.
 - a. Stay as far to the RIGHT of the channel as is operationally safe.
 - b. Try not to cut across the entrance of any channel.
 - c. Do not block the channel unnecessarily. If you need to stop or reduce speed do so safely and with situational awareness to the other boats in and entering the channel.

(continued on page 3)

General Boating Best Practices (*continued from page 2*)

6. Docking lights, bright lights on the bows of some boats, are just that. Lights to assist with docking a boat at night. They are not intended to be used while under operation and can create unsafe conditions on the water by "Blinding" oncoming watercraft. Please refer to your Wisconsin Boating Regulations for nighttime operation lighting requirements.
7. Music should not be loud enough to hear onshore. Please be courteous of fellow Boaters and Lake Residents. Remember, sound (like music, voices, etc.) travels farther over water. Music with vulgar/obscene lyrics should be reserved for your private listening pleasure at home.

Thank you for enjoying our wonderful little resource, the Spread Eagle Chain of Lakes.

Enjoy yourselves and Boat Responsibly!

The Boat and Wake Safety Committee

SECOLA Book Club Schedule for 2020

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>LEAD</u>
June 17	The Nickel Boys	Coleson Whitehead	Marion Anderson-Peat
July 8	Born a Crime	Trevor Noah	Dee DalSanto
July 22	Educated	Tara Westover	Martha Nagel
August 12	City of Girls	Elizabeth Gilbert	Ruth Patrick & Jane Patrick
August 26	Tattooist of Auschwitz	Heather Morris	Maria Caviani
September 9	Where the Crawdads Sing	Delia Owens	Marcia McGregor

The SECOLA Book Club welcomes all SECOLA members to join. All meetings take place at the Florence County Library (11am). If you have any questions please contact Jane Patrick (785) 478-1814.



Basic Boating Rules

Unlawful Operations:

Operating a boat with a person riding on the bow, deck or gun whale, this includes allowing a person to ride or sit on the gun whales, tops of seat backs or sides, or on the decking over the bow while underway.

The Handbook of Wisconsin Boating Laws and Responsibilities.

Invasive Species Campaign

The SECOLA board members would like to extend their gratitude to the many of you who give of your time and treasures to assure important lake projects continue to have a positive impact on our little slice of paradise. While our dues cover most of our activities; social gatherings, boat parades and of course the spectacular fire-works celebration of our nation's birth, the ever increasing challenges of keeping our lakes healthy requires constant vigilance and funds.

Thanks to the hard work of many lake residents and the SECOLA grant committee we have applied for and received grants which help fund the boat wash, diving and removing invasive species, boat wash and boat inspections. Grants require matching contributions from the lake association and the competition for lake grants has increased as grant funding has decreased.

This fiscal year (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019) total donations to the Invasive Species Funds were \$15,765. Financial donations along with grant monies and volunteer hours allows us to continue this work. It is important to note that it takes approximately \$25,000 per year to meet this on-going challenge of keeping our lakes healthy.

This year SECOLA offered a special, limited edition Spread Eagle Yeti insulated cup to keep your coffee hot or your afternoon libation cold, with all profit going to the Invasive Species Fund. A total of 68 Yeti's were given out. For those of you who are looking for an early Christmas present there are four Yeti's left! Please contact Katie Reynolds at kbt.reynolds@gmail.com to confirm your donation.

Scott Reynolds

SECOLA Vice-President



Thank you Kathy & Glen Johnson for hosting the June Golf Outing. at Pine Grove Country Club.

Next year's golf outing will be held in September please sign up early so we can make this the best event ever!

Left to right: Gary Weber & Ed Hebert-Longest Putts

Guest golfer, Todd Colenso, Gary Weber, Sue Ellen Hosking, Britt Reynolds, Glen Johnson, Ray Cameron, Brian Lucas, Ed Hebert and Kathy Hebert



Bette & Dean Premo greeted SECOLA members as they entered the Encore.



Sailor Gary, August's Dinner



"Come Sail Away with Us"
Chippewa Club Style



Food, Fun & Fiddles

The last SECOLA dinner of the season was held at the historic Encore building in Florence. It was a night we will long remember.

Bette & Dean Premo donated their time and talent, and the generous support of our lake members allowed us to raise \$1,000 for the Invasive Species Fund.

SECOLA BOARD MEMBERS

President	Gary Weber	630-251-8424
Vice President	Scott Reynolds	815-474-2636
Treasurer	Dana Colenso	715-696-6026
Secretary	Joan Will	630-561-1964

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Natural Resources	Carl Sundberg	715-696-3442
Publications	Deb Cini	715-696-3653
Water Safety	Jay Weber	414-791-2974
Building/Zoning	Grant Erickson	715-696-3287
Grants	Glen Johnson	312-218-2545
Membership	Jennifer Kellstrom	715-696-3667
	Martie Muzzy	484-364-6615
Nominations	Catherine Curran	715-889-9313
Public Relations	Marion Anderson-Peat	715-696-6356
Social Events	Cindy Weber	630-337-5736

**SAILS AT HALF-MAST****LARRY DABB— EAST LAKE****MIDGE RYAN— BASS LAKE****JIM KLUNGESS-TALL PINES RD***You are missed!***Attitude of Gratitude**

The SECOLA Board would like to recognize and thank the many people who have helped make living on the Chain so special! Joe Flourde, Nine Lakes Marina for everything he does for the Chain; maintaining and storing the barge and water station.

Spring Clean Up on Bass Island: Dan Cecconi, Nick Cecconi, Mark Capra, Mary & Tim Edelman, Scott & Maureen Howard, Chuck Hjerpe, Terry & Jeanine LaVaille, Jay Brown, Gary Weber and Deb Cini.

New Garden post on the island: Bruce & Marla Peterson

Mowing the Island: Chuck Hjerpe, Garrett Veale & Rudy Isburg

Tim Bomberg, Florence County Town Chairmen, for filling the boat wash station.

Jim D'Agostino and the Florence Fire Department for keeping us safe during the fireworks!

Caring for the Butterfly Garden— Jay and Amy Weber

MEMBERSHIP

THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 354 PROPERTY OWNERS ON THE CHAIN OF LAKES. AS OF JULY 2019, THE ASSOCIATION HAS 213 MEMBERS (60%).

MONEY FROM MEMBERSHIP DUES ALONG WITH ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS HELP PAY FOR MONITORING & PULLING INVASIVE SPECIES, THE 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS, STOCKING FISH AND SOCIAL EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE ASSOCIATION. PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING THIS WONDERFUL GROUP!

YOU CAN FIND A MEMBERSHIP FORM IN THIS NEWSLETTER (SEE INSERT) OR ON OUR WEBSITE :

WWW.SPREADEAGLECHAIN.ORG, OR YOU CAN CONTACT BARB ROOK, LAKE REPS CHAIRPERSON, (717)-404-3345 OR BARBARAROOK@COMCAST.NET . BARB WILL GET YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LAKE'S REPRESENTATIVE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT OUR ASSOCIATION. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SECOLA, WE ALSO OFFER PAYPAL.

If you would like to submit an article, share birth announcements, names for Half-Mast or pictures of interest for consideration in the newsletter, please contact Deb Cini at 715-696-3653 or e-mail: debcini7@gmail.com



2019 4th of July Boat Parade Theme: "Your Favorite State"



Host: Dick Melin



Fun times on July 4th!

Thank you Dick & Joyce Melin and Cathy & John Curran for hosting the Ice Cream Social and organizing another great boat parade.

The tradition continues!

Thank you Page Poisson & Ed Patrick for all the wonderful photography.



Host: Joyce Melin with grandson



Timeless- Wooden Boats!



Ski Boats!!



Whalers!!!

2020 Boat Parade Theme:
"Your Favorite Holiday".... Get ready summer is just around the corner!

Twenty-five Years in a Nutshell

Dr. Seuss – “The places we have been and the things we have done.”

An overview of the SECOLA Grant Program

Things were different 25 years ago: cottages were small and most of the lake residents were here for the sunny months only. There were eagles, loons, bear, raccoons, deer, lots of fish, frogs, and yes, cute smelly skunks. People went to Bacco's Island to picnic or to play tennis. Taken for granted was the serene, calm atmosphere on the Spread Eagle Chain of Lakes: swimming, a canoe ride, a little fishing from a rowboat, a picnic on the island, walks and bike rides along paths and narrow roads.

As years passed, things changed. New and bigger homes with bigger lawns requiring frequent fertilization replaced the small cottages. More residents meant a greater need for septic system standards and garbage collection. Outside lights and sound systems were added. Decaying docks and boat houses were torn down, repaired or replaced. Electronic lifts were installed requiring additional power sources. Watercraft changed dramatically. Canoes, kayaks, row boats, pedal boats, fishing boats, and ski boats now share the lakes with jet skis, and high-powered motorboats. Over time invasive species were introduced and our shorelines eroded – a real threat to lake quality and its wildlife population.

In 1994 the SECOLA Grant Program was established. The Grant committee was comprised of a chairperson and three members. For the past 25 years, all four positions have been filled by the same individuals; me, Jack Fortier, Carl Sundberg and Ray Burges. Guidelines for the Grant Committee call for a maximum of four standing members. The SECOLA President and an ad hoc member from the lake on which grant focuses can be included as non-voting members.

SECOLA recognized the value of the DNR grant program. The process was to submit a proposal documenting the need for study. We needed to identify how to address it, take responsibility to meet established goals, and address the financial implications of the tasks involved. DNR grant funding provided two options: \$10,000 or \$25,000 grants of which the DNR paid 75% and SECOLA \$25% in either cash or “in kind” (volunteer hours). Lab work was paid for by the state.

To be considered for any DNR grant, SECOLA had to establish a resolution identifying SECOLA's commitment, amend the association's bylaws to address dues restriction and voting rights, establish a separate bank account restricted to grant funding and related expenses, and to obtain a tax ID number and W9 tax-exempt status.

One of the greatest challenges was to get the DNR to rule that each lake was a separate entity. This allowed SECOLA to apply for separate grants for each lake in any given year.

The second challenge was to obtain start-up funds for SECOLA's matching funds needed in the event that volunteer hours were not met. Funding was needed to pay for expenses incurred prior to receiving reimbursement provided by the grant. A fund-raising effort included designing a brochure apprising lake residents of the value in applying for grants. From 1995 to 2000, donations reached \$17,964. It was promised that these donations, along with all other monies donated to the Grant fund, would be used exclusively for grant purposes – no exceptions.

From 1994 to 2011 the Chairperson wrote the grant proposals (provided “boilerplate”), proof-read the final grants and met all requirements for administering the grants. Steve Friberg, resident engineer at MMA Inc., oversaw the technical work and provided documentation in the final grant report both in print and on disk. SECOLA volunteers were involved in implementing the grants.

The first five grants included North Lake Phases 1 and 2, West Lake, and South Lake Phases 1 and 2. The focus was on water quality, aquatic plants, watershed, lake usage impact, public landing, sediment impact, fish management, and education on use of equipment. One much-needed item was Lake mapping: a point intercept process was implemented to enable quick identification of locations on the lakes. Boating safety education and skier down flags were made available. To address shoreline conditions and potential restoration, shoreline photographs were taken and included in the grant project. Anglers' fishing journals identifying species, quantity and size of fish were used for the purpose of tracking changes and locations in the fish population. A frog and toad study were carried out to determine the environmental quality as reflected by the frog population. Lake depth and shoreline surveys were conducted. A canoe classroom held on South Lake added a focus on the loon population.

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Twenty-five years in a Nutshell (*continued from page 8*)

Together the Grant Committee and SECOLA board investigated the ownership, condition, and responsibility for maintenance of Bass Island and repairs to the South Lake Dam. In lieu of grant funding, the board assumed responsibility for maintaining the island and repairs to the South Lake Dam.

By 2011 invasive species became a genuine concern. There was the need for expertise from a biologist. White Water Associates, headed by Dr. Dean Premo, filled this role. To date he has identified grant opportunities that address Spread Eagle Chain of Lake's needs. Added to the grants was scientific context, project descriptions and implementation procedures. Additionally, Whitewater Associates have provided donated labor in support of SECOLA's grant implementation.

2012 four were funded: North Lake Stewardship Program "Phase 1" followed by "Phase 2", Rapid Response to 2012 Discovery of EWM and Zebra Mussels in North Lake, and the Aquatic Invasive Species grant. Four grants at one time were a daunting task, but with the guidance of Dr. Premo and his crew and the efforts of SECOLA's dedicated lake residents, all requirements were met.

In 2015 a Middle Lake EWM Rapid Response Project was implemented. Equipment, literature and signage at the boat launch/public landing on North Lake were covered by grants.

In 2017 the Spread Eagle Chain of Lake Eurasian Watermilfoil response grant included the purchase of a portable boat washer. This became a major obstacle – only permanent boat wash stations and washers were approved. An appeal to a DNR representative and action on her part led to a revision to the ruling and SECOLA was able to include the expense in its grant.

Education and resourcefulness have always been SECOLA's strong points. When rain threatened to force the cancellation of a pontoon workshop on identification and impact of invasive species, the entire group went in cars from the public landing to a local resident's home where the workshop was held inside.

It would be a great oversight to not mention that divers from the chain provided the majority of the "in-kind hours" diving for invasives – thus saving SECOLA thousands of dollars.

Currently, SECOLA has two commitments. The first is to complete the diving hours for a grant addressing invasives in North Lake by December 31, 2019. The second is the implementation of a newly awarded grant addressing invasive species throughout the entire chain. This has only just begun.

It might be noted that other than those paid under contract and the committee members, no persons have been identified by name in this article. The number of individuals providing support and volunteer work over the last 25 years has been extensive. It would be impossible to identify them all by name, so collectively I would say to each of them:

"Thanks, we couldn't have done it without you."

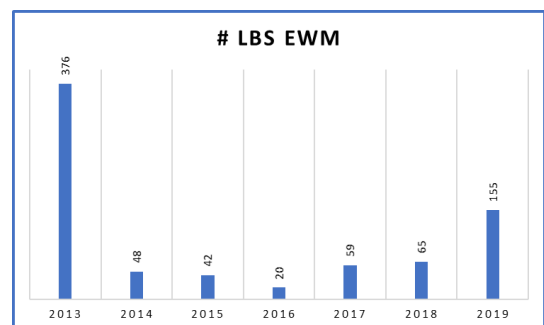
Respectfully submitted,

Darlin Verley

Don't be a Zebra Mussel....

Join SECOLA today!

Remember SECOLA is a 501c3 organization



As of August 2019 Eurasian Water Milfoil has been found in 13 spots in North Lake and 1 spot in Middle Lake.

Please contribute to the Invasive Species Fund!



Bass Island Party July 2019



Thank you to Captains Gary Weber, Mark Cini, Dennis Santini, Terry LaVaille, Richard Rook & Ed Patrick for getting us to the island and back. Thank you Janie Santini & Cindy Weber for keeping us all organized!



2020 SOCIAL CALENDAR

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DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
Friday, June 5	SECOLA Board Meeting (12pm) Chippewa Club	Gary Weber 630-251-8424
Wednesday, June 10	Ladies of the Lake (5:30-7:30) 4893 Carpenter Rd (Middle Lake)	Barb Rook 717-404-3345
Monday, June 22	SECOLA Dinner (Cocktails 5:30-Dinner 6:30) El Cap	Jane Patrick 785-478-1814
Friday, July 3	Fireworks at Dusk	Gary Weber 630-251-8424
Saturday, July 4	Ice Cream Social (11:30) Boat Parade (1pm) Middle Lake (entrance to North Lake) Theme: Your Favorite Holiday	Dick & Joyce Melin 715-629-9300 Cathy Curran 715-889-9313 Jennifer McGregor (wooden boats) 312-310-1744
Friday, July 10	SECOLA Board Meeting (12pm) Chippewa Club	Gary Weber 830-251-8424
Wednesday, July 15	Ladies of the Lake (5:30-7:30) 1557 North Lake Road (North Lake)	Hostess: Marla Peterson 815-742-2425
Saturday, July 18	SECOLA Annual Meeting (10am) Svecia Club	Gary Weber 830-251-8424
Monday, July 20	Bass Island Party (5:30-7:30 pm) BYOB & an appetizer Boat Captains will pick you up & bring you home	Janie Santini 906-282-0446
Wednesday, August 12	Ladies of the Lake (5:30-7:30) 1393 North Lake Rd	Kristina Andes 906-396-1017 or 715-696-3368 andeskristina@gmail.com
Tuesday, August 18	SECOLA Dinner –Cocktails (5:30) Dinner (6:30) The Chippewa Club	Marcia McGregor 906-396-2299
Friday, August 21	SECOLA Board Meeting (12pm) Chippewa Club	Gary Weber 830-251-8424
Wednesday, Sept 9	Ladies of the Lake (5:30-7:30) 1406 Long Lake Rd (Long Lake)	Shelby Merckx 715-889-4528
Monday, September 14	SECOLA Golf –Cocktails (5:30) Dinner (6:30) Pine Grove Country Club * look for golf info in the spring	Deb Reynolds 815-258-7664
WEEKLY		
Tuesdays	Bridge (Party and Duplicate (1pm) Call Roberta for details	Roberta Anderson 847-254-8669
Tuesdays	Men's Breakfast– Holiday Kitchen (9am)	Ed Patrick 785-224-1078
Wednesdays	Women's Breakfast– Barb's Café (10am)	Jane Patrick 785-478-1814

Spread Eagle Chain O'Lakes Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 413
Florence, Wisconsin 54121

Forwarding Services Requested

In an effort to keep our membership records accurate, we are asking you to convey any changes in property owner information to the board.

**Check out our SECOLA website for news events,
and updates to the Calendar:
www.spreadeaglechain.org**



Photo by Ed Patrick