

The Christmas Lake Home Owner's Association Newsletter

Spring 2001

by Harley Feldman

From the President

Although we have not lived here as long as many others, we have enjoyed this lake and its residents as much as anyone in the past six years.

With the warmer weather comes a more intense use of the lake. We should recognize that the lake means something different to each of us. Some like to look at it quietly while others must ski everyday . . .

As the lake gets busier, let's try to make an effort to keep a safe boating distance from others and wait for our turn at skiing, wakeboarding, or tubing when we can.

Have a great summer,
Steve Midthun

Annual Meeting

The Christmas Lake Homeowners Association Annual Meeting was held on May 1 at the Excelsior Elementary School. About 30 residents attended.

A presentation on water safety was given by Officer Chris Mathisen. He told the attendees that there are only five officers that patrol all of the lakes in Hennepin County, including Lake Minnetonka. If the patrol is called, it could be a long time before someone might arrive to address the problem. Officer Mathisen stressed the safety concerns associated with boating, especially where children are involved in piloting boats. Changes in state law now require a Coast Guard approved life saver in

each boat, either a large ring or floating cushion.

Marleane Callaghan, Fortin Consulting and a Carver County Master Landscaper, talked about natural landscaping to improve the filtering of water runoff so as to minimize the impact on lakes. She also talked about how to discourage geese on lake shores, how to limit phosphorus fertilizers and how to eradicate difficult plants. An excellent book on this subject is "Landscaping for Wildlife and Water Quality", by Carol Henderson.

Ed Szalapski reminded the attendees that we had lost the battle to Eurasian Milfoil. It is now well known that treating Minnesota lakes is worse than leaving them alone. Eurasian Milfoil reaches a growth peak in seven years and tends to stabilize or retreat somewhat. All residents are reminded that treating your lakeshore with chemicals to kill plants is counter-productive, and that the Association recommends no treatment.

Last year's Run/Walk, the July 4th post-parade party and the mid-winter get-together were great successes. Plans are in the works for all three events again this year. The theme for the 4th will be announced soon.

The new President of the Association, Steve Midthun, was introduced by retiring President, Ed Szalapski. Our thanks to Ed for all of his time and efforts on behalf of the Association, especially the long fight against Eurasian Milfoil.

3rd Annual Bill Newhouse Walk/Run

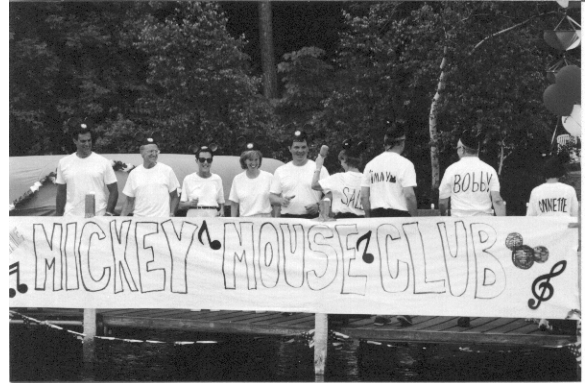
The run/walk will be held on Memorial Day, May 28 at 9:00. Everyone had a great time last year enjoying the outdoors, getting some exercise and spending time with Christmas Lake neighbors. The application forms are included. Please send them in by May 23.

Annual Dues

It was decided that due to having over \$20,000 in the Association treasury and very little in the way of forecasted expenditures that there will be no dues for the Association members this year.

July 4th Activities

Last year's theme for the parade and dock contest was "Music That Changed the World". There were many outstanding entries. Attached is the poem summarizing the entrants and the results.



Mickey Mouse Club



Anthems of the World



Zulu's Fifth Symphony



Margaritaville (actual dock censored)