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The Christmas Lake Home Owner's Association Newsletter  
Spring 2008

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### **From the President**

Over the winter, the Christmas Lake Homeowners Association (CLHA) Board worked on many of the same items it has worked on in the past including: Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM), boat safety, water quality, and lake-wide social gatherings. The CLHA Board also elected new officers, and I would like to personally thank our past president, Harley Feldman, for all he has done for the CLHA including the work he has put into our web site.

Another item the CLHA Board worked on this winter was a EWM Treatment Survey. The board used the information from this survey to develop a Eurasian Milfoil Treatment Plan for this summer. To see the results of this survey and to learn about the Eurasian Milfoil Treatment Plan for this summer please see the minutes of the Christmas Lake Homeowners Association Spring Board meeting and the minutes from the Homeowners' Annual Spring meeting.

In April, I attended the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Citizens' Summit for Water Protection. At the Summit, I became even more aware of how incredibly unique Christmas Lake is. We are one of the only lakes in the region that consistently, year after year, gets "A" ratings for water quality. As we all know, water clarity is one of the main characteristics of Christmas Lake that make it so special. Last year, we had our second best Secchi disk reading (this is a measure of water clarity) ever

recorded on our Lake, with a reading of 29.5 feet. This is great news when one considers most other metropolitan lakes are losing water clarity.

Another key point made at the Watershed District Citizens' Summit was all lakes are different and they need to be managed differently -- Christmas Lake is in a class all by itself. Because of Christmas Lake's uniqueness in comparison to other Metropolitan lakes, the Christmas Lake Homeowners Association Board assembled a group of individuals, all with a scientific backgrounds, to evaluate Eurasian watermilfoil treatment options. This group will report their findings to the Christmas Lake Homeowners Association Board and to the Christmas Lake Homeowners by January 2009.

The Association has a web site at [www.ChristmasLake.org](http://www.ChristmasLake.org). If you would like to be notified by e-mail when there are major updates to the site, please send your e-mail address to [President@ChristmasLake.org](mailto:President@ChristmasLake.org). If anyone has questions or would like to contact me please call me at 952-401-3401. I hope you all have a fun and enjoyable summer on the lake!

*Ron Mason*

### **Annual Meeting**

The Christmas Lake Homeowners Association Annual Meeting was held on

May 5 at the Excelsior Elementary School. About 40 residents attended. The PowerPoint slides used at the meeting are available on the website.

No progress has been made on the runoff from The Curry Creek Farms. We will continue to attempt to contact the property owner for resolution of this issue.

The other big issue that is still with us is EWM. Based on the treatment survey from February, the Board has decided to let each homeowner harvest or pull EWM according to their own needs and interests. The CLHA will schedule a week in late June when the lake harvester will be on the lake. Homeowners who desire to harvest can contact Rick Thompson of Midwest Weed Harvesting at (763) 238-1012. Please do not call Gregg Swirtz for your own harvesting needs – deal directly with Rick. If you would like hand pulling of EWM, contact Tom Suerph at Waterfront Restoration, (888) 381-9746.

The Board appointed a Technical Advisory Committee to do research on the possible treatments, benefits and risks, of EWM treatment. The committee will report its findings to a membership meeting in January 2009 and will recommend any summer 2009 treatment plan at that time.

### **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Lake Run/Walk**

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Lake Fun Run/Walk will be held on Memorial Day, May 26, at 9:00. Last year, we contributed \$2,215 to the Harriett Tubman Center and Special Olympics Minnesota.

This is a great opportunity to see friends and neighbors after the long winter. The proceeds will be sent to a deserving charity chosen by the Association Board members. Suggestions are welcome.

### **Annual Dues**

This year's dues are based on no harvesting being done by the CLHA but continuing to build up the association balance in preparation for the CLHA portion of the Curry Creek Restoration project assuming that it will begin at some time in the future. Please remit your check for \$50 to the Association Treasurer, Harley Feldman, 5635 Christmas Lake Point, Shorewood, MN 55331.

### **Boating Safety Classes**

Dave and Peggy Schultz are sponsoring boating safety classes for children of boating age. The class schedule is as follows:

- May 10 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- May 18 from 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm
- June 14 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- August 3 from 12:30 pm – 4:

Each class will hold ten students. The students should have already completed the DNR written test prior to the class. If you would like to register your child, please email Dave at [dave@tolijama.com](mailto:dave@tolijama.com) or call him at (952) 470-4040.

### **July 4<sup>th</sup> Activities**

Last year's theme for the parade and dock contest was "Inventors and Their Inventions: 1900 - 1930". There were many outstanding entries. Below are pictures of the winning entries and the annual poem. The 2008 theme in the spirit of the Minnesota Sesquicentennial Celebration is "Minnesota Historical Event". The after boat parade and award ceremony will be held at Dan and Joni Fields' house off Christmas Lake Road.



**Eagle Dock – “Speakeasy” (Fields)**



**Shark – “Oscar Meyer” (Szalapskis)**



**Eagle Boat – “Astronauts”  
(Raineys)**



**“Wonder Bread (Fagerlees)**



**Eager Beaver – “Water Ski” (Midthuns)  
[not pictured as photographer messed up-  
beside the Mieusi girls are cuter]**



**“Chair Lift” (Meiers)**