



Friends of Clam Lake Newsletter

Summer 2008

Volume 2, Number 2

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Notice of Annual Meeting

August 9, 2008 – Friends of Clam Lake Annual Meeting

Time: **Registration: 9:00 am**
 Meeting: 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: **Alden United Methodist Church**
 Alden, Michigan
 (in the lower air-conditioned level)

Topics: **Year in Review**
 Election of Officers for 2008 – 2009
 Current Projects & Activities
 Member Feedback & Recommendations
 and
 A great time to meet your Friends!

Clam Lake Watercraft Carrying Capacity Study

On Saturday, July 19, volunteers from the Friends of Clam Lake conducted a boat survey on Clam Lake. Our thanks to the following members:

Duane & Doris Ferris, Carol Hoadley, Rachel Hoadley, Joan & Bob Sell, Dave & Sharon Brooks, Art Hoadley, Steve Hoadley, Dave & Maureen Latanick, Jackie & Steve Kline, Cottie & Tom Volle, Jim & Mary Ann Marling, Jim & Joyce Overholser, Bob & Arlene Manzardo, John & Nancy Tisch, and Paul & Lori Sak

Although the forecast had called for a 10% chance of precipitation, the volunteers braved the elements throughout the day (some sun, some clouds, some rain, some downpour, some wind, some calm). With the exception of snow and ice, it was a meteorological wonderland.

Even with this type of weather, there was boating activity but not representative of a typical day on Clam Lake and the Chain of Lakes.

A preliminary report on the survey will be presented at the Friends of Clam Lake Annual Meeting on Saturday, August 9th, 9:30 am at the Alden Methodist Church. Another survey that would be more typical of a summer day on Clam Lake is currently being considered. More details at the Annual Meeting.

Loon Nesting Area Designated in Clam Lake

The call of the loon will hopefully be heard for many years on Clam Lake thanks to donations from the Friends of Clam Lake and St Marys Cement in Charlevoix. There are now two, **highly visible** loon nesting buoys in the east end of Clam Lake, designating the area where loons nest as they return to Clam Lake each spring. The buoys have a silhouette of a loon with the words “Caution – Loon Nesting Area” prominently displayed. After receiving a permit from the Michigan DNR, the buoys were installed by Friends of Clam Lake members Bob Schaefer, Kristi Dewey, Peg Comfort and Paul Sak. The buoys will be removed each fall and re-positioned again next spring.



Bob Schaeffer and Paul Sak lower one of the loon nesting buoys into Clam Lake



Bob Schaeffer and Paul Sak with loon nesting buoy in position at the east end of Clam Lake

Paul Sak, President of the Friends of Clam Lake commented, “Protecting the quality of our lakes has many aspects. The haunting calls of the loon are one of those gifts from Mother Nature that we all cherish and enjoy. We hope that all boaters on Clam Lake will respect this gift and minimize their activity near this nesting area.”

The Common Loon is a beautiful and special water-bird, symbolizing wilderness and solitude. You can learn more about the Common Loon at the Michigan Loon Preservation Association website, www.michiganloons.org or you can listen to recordings of the four basic loon calls (hoot,

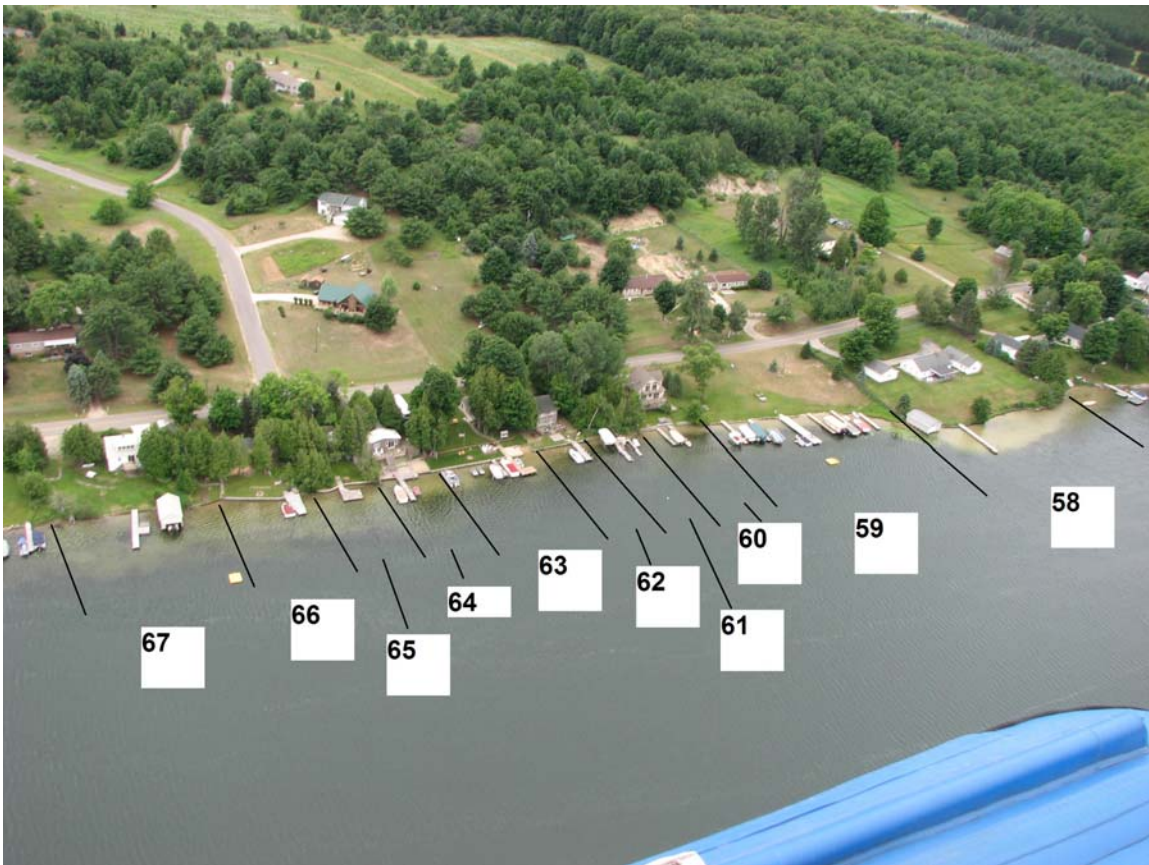
tremolo, wail and yodel) at the Canadian Wildlife Service website, www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/loons/images.html.

Shoreline Survey

The shoreline survey is underway as this newsletter is going to press. This survey is intended to establish a baseline of what Clam Lake's shoreline is like at this point in time. The survey is a joint effort between Friends of Clam Lake and Three Lakes Association. The survey methodology was used last year on Torch Lake and this year TLA is surveying Lake Bellaire with Friends of Clam Lake coordinating the survey of Clam Lake. The project on Clam is being undertaken by team members; Art Hoadley, Braden Ackerman, who is a student intern with TLA, Trish Narwood, Steve Hoadley, and Carol Hoadley.

The first step on Clam Lake has been to take aerial photos of the entire shoreline. Using plat maps, each parcel has been assigned an individual "survey number" and these were digitally overlaid on the aerial pictures (see example). The shoreline is now being surveyed from the water, at which time a two page survey form is completed and a lake side picture taken.

The data will be entered into a spreadsheet for evaluation. This data will be used in a summary form without any individual properties being identified.



Membership

Summer 2008 is here and the annual meeting is less than a month away! The membership committee is appealing to all stewards of Clam Lake to download the 2008-2009 membership application and mail it with your dues, comments and suggestions to our PO Box 173, Alden, MI 49512. If you are unable to download from your computer, contact me at (231) 377-9606, or send me an e-mail, tkvolle1@yahoo.com.

Remember, a group such as ours will only be effective if our members are active; therefore, we invite you to participate and become involved in any of the on-going projects mentioned in the newsletters. As a volunteer, you can decide how much time you care to give – perhaps an hour or two working on the boat carrying capacity, or a few mornings devoted to the shore survey. Maybe you are too busy right now and only have time to send in your dues, comments and concerns. PLEASE do not forget however, every member of FRIENDS OF CLAM LAKE is on the membership committee and is asked to actively solicit new FRIENDS!

Cottie Volle, Chairman
Membership Committee

Board of Directors

Paul Sak (vacant)	President PaulSak@focl.info
Art Hoadley	Vice-President
Carol Hoadley	Treasurer ahoadley@charter.net
Cottie Volle	Secretary
Bill Frost	Membership Committee Chair tkvolle1@yahoo.com
Jack Gartner	By-law Committee Chair wfrost55@comcast.net
Jim Marling	Membership Committee jgartner@gbbn.com
Tom Frey	Membership Committee jimredwing@msn.com
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