Lake Soundings

The Gilmore Lake Association Newsletter - Spring 2023

2023 Annual Meeting & Boat Parade

The Gilmore Lake Association Annual Meeting will be held at 10:00am on Saturday, July 1 at the Jack Link Aquatic & Activity Center in Minong. Membership lunch catered by Mama Jo's to follow.

The 2023 Annual Boat Parade will start at 1:00pm on Sunday, July 2 at the Landing. (Rain date is the following day). Theme: "Catch a Wave."

President's Message

Dear Lake Neighbors,
Summer has arrived! And so have the mosquitoes! We had a long hard winter and I'm looking forward to a beautiful, warm and relaxing season at the lake.

Over the winter, the GLA board has been working with the WDNR and LEAPS, our lake consultant, to develop a five-year aquatic plant management plan which will guide our EWM mitigation efforts going forward. (See nearby story on page one.)

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Invasive Plant Management Plan for Gilmore Lake in Development

Plan to be presented at GLA annual meeting in July

Aquatic plants (often referred to as weeds in the lake) form the foundation of healthy and flourishing lake ecosystems — both within lakes and on the shores around them.

They produce life-giving oxygen and protect water quality by filtering and absorbing nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen) that stimulate algal blooms. Aquatic plant beds stabilize soft lake bottoms and reduce shoreline erosion, which minimizes the effect of waves and current. They provide important reproductive, food, and cover habitat for fish, invertebrates and wildlife.

Healthy native aquatic plant communities help prevent the establishment and spread of invasive non-native plants like Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM), Curly-leaf pondweed, and purple loosestrife. Unfortunately, Gilmore Lake already has several

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Fran Bogner: A Man for All Seasons

The long-time Gilmore Lake resident kept history of seasonal changes, some on an ancient outhouse door

Fran Bogner in his garden on Gilmore Lake, circa 2020.

Before he passed away last spring, long-time Gilmore Lake resident Fran Bogner noted that the lake "ice out" in May was one of the latest dates in 60 years.

Fran, then age 87, should know. Besides being a keen observer of seasonal changes on Gilmore, he had help from an unlikely source. When Fran and his wife Marlease bought their summer home in 1976, it still had an old outhouse in which the previous owner had scrawled a veritable farmer's almanac of seasonal observations inside its door.

The door is long gone but the family framed the faded print of a Louisiana

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Gilmore Lake Association Board

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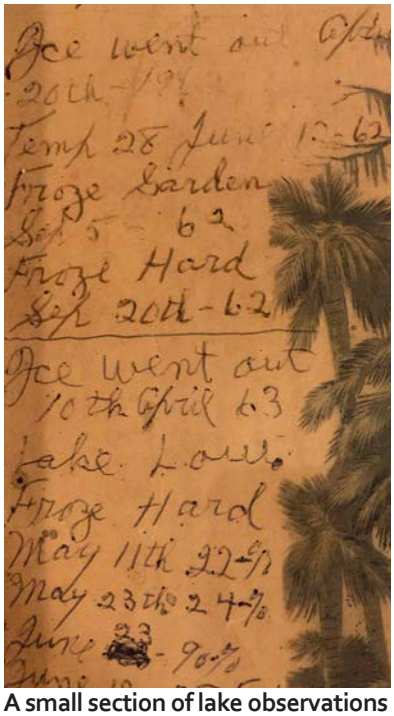
A Man for All Seasons…



A small section of lake observations from Fran Bogner's outhouse door.

Heron that had hung on the door to preserve some of the natural history from the 1960s. The 1963 entries were typical: "Ice went out 10th April 63, lake low…fresh peas 6-25, Aug 12 3 1/4 inches of rain…Froze hard 22° Sep 12." 1964: "April 16, 1964 Martins and swallows came back. Ice out 15th. April 16 82 temp…Lake up under boathouse…Light frost 12 May."

"My dad loved the lake and over the years he continued to record things like first snow fall, ice out and other changes on his calendars," said daughter Suzi Talaric. "My parents loved sharing their property with family and friends. It was a great place for everyone to stay connected."

The Bogner property was once home to Wayne's Lane Resort, which rented cabins in the 1960s. The Bogners built a new lake home – the large gray house with white trim that now sits above a wide sandy beach in the southeast corner of Gilmore Lake – in 1990 and retired there a few years later. A few of resort cabins remain as charming guest houses on the Bogner property, as well as a 1904 ice house and the original water pump.

The Bogners, their six children and extended family made a tradition of repairing and improving the property. "Everyone pitched in," says daughter Joanie Neel. "We all enjoyed the lake but we worked to take care of it."

Enjoying sunsets at the end of long day of play and work on Gilmore gave rise to a favorite Bogner family saying: "The lake looks good."

Below: The Bogners in front of the original Gilmore cabin, 1976. From Left: Jayme, Marlease, friend Shirley Richards, Joanie, Leslie, Fran. Not pictured: Suzi & Shelly.

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President's Message from page 1…

This spring's five-foot flood is on the high-end of typical lake flooding. If you are missing or found dock parts, canoes or lake toys, you can post them on the Gilmore Lake Facebook group or send the photos to me, and I'll post them on the website. Automated lake level readings will soon be available on the website.

Our Annual Meeting is at 10:00 am on Saturday, July 1st at the Jack Links Aquatic and Activity Center. A buffet lunch will follow the meeting. Our agenda includes the election of four GLA board positions. Dick Johnson, Bill Huelsman, Daryl Iverson are up for re-election to three-year terms. We will fill the open seat vacated by Homer Gatlin III who stepped down this spring. Kristi Casey O'Kane has been nominated. Any other members interested in serving on the board can step forward at the meeting. I hope to see many of you then.

Fran McCloskey, President
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Invasive Plant Management Plan…

invasive non-native plants; the most potentially problematic is EWM. Management of EWM has been on-going in the lake since its discovery in 2009. Management does not mean eradication, which is not possible, but control. Small-scale management had been keeping it from becoming more widespread in the lake, but recently has been found in more sensitive areas of the lake.

Management actions in a lake are not taken lightly. Care must be taken to ensure the impacts of management are not worse than those of the plants being managed.

When a lake organization wants to manage aquatic plants in a Wisconsin Lake, an aquatic plant management (APM) plan is generally required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). Gilmore Lake Association's current five-year APM expires this year. A new five-year APM Plan is currently under development, funded with a $6,500 grant from WDNR.

The purpose of an APM Plan is to:

- Identify issues caused by aquatic plant growth
- Identify all aquatic vegetation in the lake in relation to distribution and density
- Identify which species of aquatic plant cause issues
- Establish a need for management
- Review management alternatives and determine which are best suited for the specific lake
- Solicit Lake resident, user and other stakeholder input during development and approval of a completed plan

Once the draft APM Plan that addresses all the previous bullets has been completed, made available for public comment, and approved by the Lake Association, that Plan will be taken to the WDNR for review and approval. WDNR approval opens the door for the implementation of management (permitting for treatment) and potential state grant funding to help support management.

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Invasive Plant Management…

This new APM Plan will guide Gilmore Lake Association in its efforts to control invasive aquatic plants for the next five years and provide a framework for soliciting WDNR surface water grants to support the control efforts. The WDNR annually funds $3.8 million state-wide for planning, education and management of invasive aquatic species. Gilmore Lake has received over $70,000 in control and planning grants since EWM was first discovered.

At the Gilmore Lake Association Annual Meeting in July, parts of the new APM Plan will be presented and discussed with lake residents and others present. It is expected that a completed draft will be available for review by mid-July and will be made available on the GLA website and announced locally in the newspaper to allow public comment. Final submittal to the WDNR for approval is expected in early August. The new APM Plan will be implemented in 2024.

By Dave Blumer, Consultant
Lake Education and Planning Services, LLC

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Gilmore Lake Association

The Gilmore Lake Association is committed to protecting our lake and your investments through the proactive management of Eurasian Water Milfoil and monitoring water quality in our lake. By joining the Association, your dues help support this work. Fill out the form below and mail it, along with your $25 check or money order to:

Gilmore Lake Association
P.O. Box 188
Minong WI 54859

PLEASE SIGN ME UP! 2023 MEMBERSHIP IN THE GILMORE LAKE ASSOCIATION

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Amount enclosed: _____ **( ) $25 Membership** **( ) Donation:** _____