

The Voice of Squash Lake



Volume 15, Issue 3

January, 2024

Mission Statement

The Squash Lake Association's mission is to preserve and protect Squash Lake and its surrounding ecosystems, and also to enhance the water quality, the fishery, the wild natural habitats of Squash Lake, as a public recreational facility, for today and for future generations.

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The newsletter is published in January, May and September. Please submit your articles, pictures & submissions to:

Linda Tennesen
russ.linda.tennesen@gmail.com

The next newsletter deadline is:
April 15, 2024



picture courtesy of Laryl Laetsch

The Squash Lake Association proudly participates in the Wisconsin DNR and the UWEX Lakes, Clean Boats Clean Waters Program.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Kathy Tournour

Dear Squash Lake Neighbors,

I hope this letter finds you in good spirits as we welcome the new year. Squash Lake in winter holds a serene and enchanting allure and I'm looking forward to spending cozy days at our cabin in the upcoming months.

While our boats hibernate in their winter berths and the docks patiently await the return of warmer days, our community spirit remains vibrant. I want to express my gratitude to all those who participated in our events in 2023. The annual members meeting, fishing workshop, silent sport Saturday and boat parade were all a success.

Looking ahead, we have some exciting plans in store for the new year. The SLA board will be busy this winter planning events for summer. Your ideas, input, and engagement are invaluable as we strive to make our lake association an even more vibrant and connected community. If you have suggestions or would like to contribute, we welcome your involvement.

As we navigate through January's chill, let us find warmth in the connections we share as residents of Squash Lake. If you have thoughts, ideas, or simply wish to connect, please feel free to reach out. Your input is valued, and together we can continue to make our lake community a haven for all seasons.

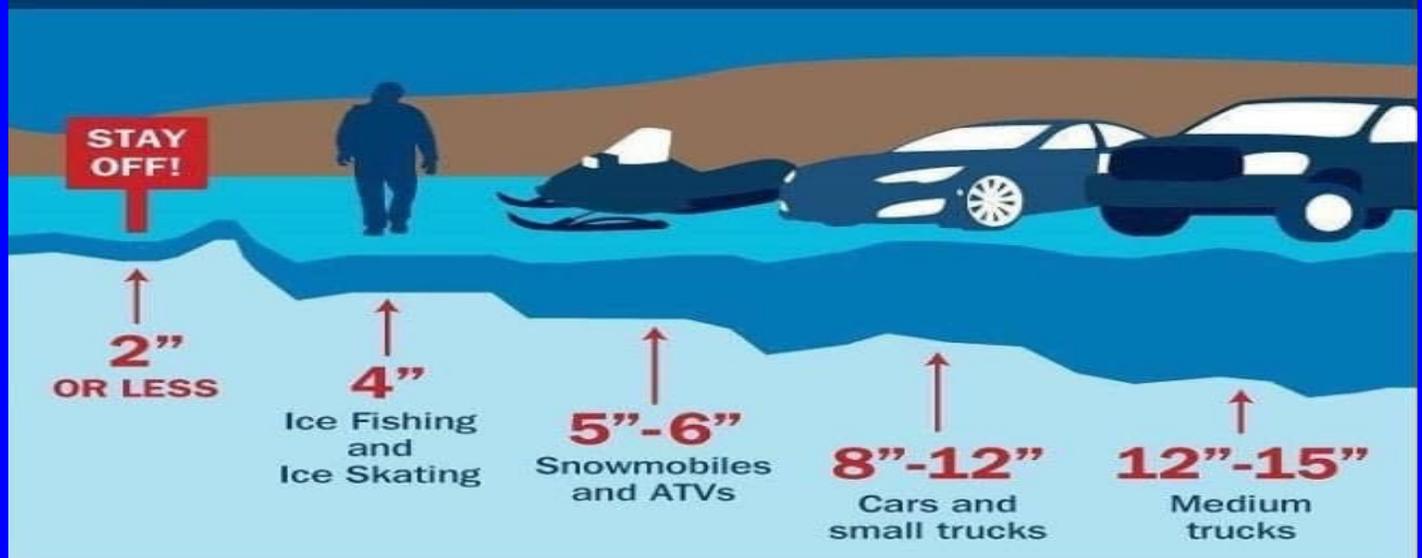
Wishing you a peaceful and joyous January,

Kathy Tournour

920-912-3883

Ice Thickness Chart

Safe Ice Depths



Note: These are rough guidelines for clear ice only.

"Ice Thickness Safety Chart." The Old Farmer's Almanac, N.p., n.d. Web, <<http://www.almanac.com/>>.



*You can fill out and mail the form below to
Tom Eggert or
visit our website and pay by credit card or PayPal
\$25*

[Join the Squash Lake Association \(squash-lake.myshopify.com\)](http://squash-lake.myshopify.com)

Squash Lake Association Membership Form

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Lake Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone# _____

I would like to help with (circle your choice): boat inspections, EWM monitoring, mailings, or ?

Instead, I would like to contribute towards hiring an inspector (\$15/hr. increments, please use "Landing Inspector" below)

\$ _____ Yearly Membership (limit 2 per property) \$25.00 Dues are for January 1– December 31

\$ _____ CBCW & Landing Inspector

\$ _____ Fisheries

\$ _____ Educational Programs

\$ _____ Other _____

\$ _____ **Total** (Check # _____)

Mail to: Tom Eggert, Squash Lake Association, or you can pay by credit card or pay pal @

Treasurer

PO Box 511

Rhineland, WI 54501

[Join the Squash Lake Association \(squash-lake.myshopify.com\)](http://squash-lake.myshopify.com)

Thank you for your generous donation and support.

The Squash Lake Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

(Your donation is tax deductible)

SLA Board Members

Officers:

President: Kathy Tournour

ktournour@gmail.com

Vice President: Russ Tennesen

russ.tennesen@gmail.com

Secretary: Leslie Stilin Schmidt

lastilin@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Tom Eggert

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At-Large Members:

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Greg Nevinski

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Jay Laetsch

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Dale Smith

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SLA BOARD MEETINGS & OTHER EVENTS

February 3, 2024	9:00 am	Zoom Meeting
April 6, 2024	9:00 am	Zoom Meeting
May 18, 2024	9:00 am	Crescent Town Hall
June 22, 2024	ANNUAL MEETING	TBD

**Everyone is welcome!
to attend!**

Unless otherwise noted, the meetings are held in the Crescent Town Hall.

Fisheries Committee

By Dale Smith

The Fisheries Committee had a Fall Meeting with all members in attendance. There was a discussion about the 4 fish cribs that were placed last summer. (A picture of the location and exact GPS coordinates were printed in the September Newsletter). There were a couple of reports of fishermen taking some nice small mouth bass off the cribs. Since the cribs were placed later in the summer, there has not been a lot of feedback at this point. The committee would like to hear from people that have fished the cribs. Please send any reports to Dale Smith at dws2621@gmail.com. The discussion then turned to the future. It was decided that the committee would continue to plan for placing more cribs next summer. The committee will work on ideas to lower the costs. Obtaining more donated lumber and using buckets of cement in place of cement blocks to sink the cribs were two of the ideas.

Since the Fall Meeting, the committee has been contacted by the DNR. The committee was informed that it would have to get a special permit before cribs could be placed in the future. Previously the committee was told that it just had to provide the location of the cribs after being placed. The DNR will be contacted to get more information.

IN MEMORIAM



William "Tex" M. Akan, 80 of Chippewa Falls, died Saturday, October 7, 2023 at Wissota Place in Chippewa Falls under the care of Heartland Hospice.

Bill was born September 29, 1943 in McKinney, Texas, the son of Dr. John and Evelyn (Ryan) Akan.

Bill graduated from McDonell High School in 1961. He graduated from UWEC with a Bachelor degree in 1965 in secondary education, biology and chemistry. He taught in Gays Mills, WI, at North Crawford schools. In 1973 he began teaching science at Oshkosh North High School and retired in 2003. He coached football for a few years, but his real enjoyment was coaching wrestling at both high schools he taught at. He was inducted into the Oshkosh North High School Hall of Fame in 2013 for coaching wrestling.

Bill married Christine Wells on October 29, 1988 in Eau Claire and in 2009 they moved to their lakefront home in Rhinelander where they enjoyed fishing and hunting.

Bill was an avid hunter, fisherman, and DNR volunteer. One of his greatest accomplishments was teaching and the positive impact he had on students as well as many other relatives and friends. There's a special place in Oshkosh near the high school in his honor named Akan Acres.

Bill is survived by his nieces and nephews, Mike, John, Bill, Patrick, Katie, Becky and Brian; sisters-in-law, Carol Akan, Bonnie Akan and Barb Akan; also survived by his loyal dog, Christi.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife, Cris on July 12, 2013; his parents; and three brothers, Patrick, Jack and Marty Akan,

Bill acted as the coordinator for the Squash Lake Clean Boats/Clean Water program and will be sadly missed.



Things You Probably Never Knew About The Great Lakes....

1. Lake Superior is actually not a lake at all, but an inland sea .
2. All of the four other Great Lakes, plus three more the size of Lake Erie, would fit inside of Lake Superior.
3. Isle Royale is a massive island surrounded by Lake Superior. Within this island are several smaller lakes. Yes, that's a lake on a lake.
4. Despite its massive size, Lake Superior is an extremely young formation by Earth's standards (only 10,000 years old).
5. There is enough water in Lake Superior to submerge all of North and South America in 1 foot of water.
6. Lake Superior contains 3 quadrillion gallons of water (3,000,000,000,000,000). All five of the Great Lakes combined contain 6 quadrillion gallons.
7. Contained within Lake Superior is a whopping 10% of the world's fresh surface water.
8. It's estimated there are about 100 million lake trout in Lake Superior. That's nearly one-fifth of the human population of North America!
9. There are small outlets through which water leaves Lake Superior. It takes two centuries for all the water in the lake to replace itself.
10. Lake Erie is the fourth-largest Great Lake in surface area, and the smallest in depth. It's the 11th largest lake on the planet.
11. There is alleged to be a 30- to 40-foot-long "monster" in Lake Erie named Bessie. The earliest recorded sighting goes back as early as 1793.
12. Water in Lake Erie replaces itself in only 2.6 years, which is notable considering the water in Lake Superior takes two centuries.

13. The original publication of Dr. Seuss's *The Lorax* contained the line, "I hear things are just as bad up in Lake Erie."
- Fourteen years later, the Ohio Sea Grant Program wrote to Seuss to make the case that conditions had improved. He removed the line.
14. Not only is Lake Erie the smallest Great Lake when it comes to volume, but it's surrounded by the most industry.
- Seventeen metropolitan areas, each with populations of more than 50,000, border the Lake Erie basin.
15. During the War of 1812, the U.S. beat the British in a naval battle called the Battle of Lake Erie, forcing them to abandon Detroit.
16. The shoreline of all the Great Lakes combined equals nearly 44% of the circumference of the planet.
17. If not for the Straits of Mackinac, Lake Michigan and Lake Huron might be considered one lake. Hydrologically speaking, they have the same mean water level and are considered one lake.
18. The *Keystone State* was one of the largest and most luxurious wooden steamships running during the Civil War.
- In 1861, it disappeared. In 2013, it was found 30 miles northeast of Harrisville under 175 feet of water.
19. Goderich Mine is the largest salt mine in the world. Part of it runs underneath Lake Huron, more than 500 meters underground.
20. Below Lake Huron, there are 9,000-year-old animal-herding structures used by prehistoric people from when the water levels were significantly lower.
21. There are massive sinkholes in Lake Huron that have high amounts of sulfur and low amounts of oxygen, almost replicating the conditions of Earth's ancient oceans 3 million years ago. Unique ecosystems are contained within them.
22. Lake Huron is the second largest among the Great Lakes, and the fifth largest in the world.
23. In size, Lake Michigan ranks third among the Great Lakes, and sixth among all freshwater lakes in the world.
24. Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake that is entirely within the borders of the United States.
25. The largest fresh water sand dunes in the world line the shores of Lake Michigan.
26. Because water enters and exits Lake Michigan through the same path, it takes 77 years longer for the water to replace itself than in Huron, despite their similarity in size and depth. (Lake Michigan: 99 years, Lake Huron: 22 years)
27. When the temperature of Lake Michigan is below freezing, this happens.
28. Within Lake Michigan there is a "triangle" with a similar reputation to the Bermuda Triangle, where a large amount of "strange disappearances" have occurred. There have also been alleged UFO sightings.
29. *Singapore, Mich.*, is a ghost town on the shores of Lake Michigan that was buried under sand in 1871. Because of severe weather conditions and a lack of resources due to the need to rebuild after the great Chicago fire, the town was lost completely.
30. In the mid-19th century, Lake Michigan had a pirate problem. Their booty: timber. In fact, the demise of *Singapore* is due in large part to the rapidly deforested area surrounding the town.
31. Jim Dreyer swam across Lake Michigan in 1998 (65 miles), and then in 2003, he swam the length of Lake Michigan (422 miles).
32. Lake Michigan was the location of the first recorded "Big Great Lakes disaster," in which a steamer carrying 600 people collided with a schooner delivering timber to Chicago. Four hundred and fifty people died.
33. Lake Ontario is the smallest of the Great Lakes in surface area, and second smallest in depth. It's the 14th largest lake on the planet.
34. The province Ontario was named after the lake, and not vice versa.
35. In 1804, a Canadian warship, His Majesty's Ship *Speedy*, sank in Lake Ontario. In 1990, wreck hunter Ed Burt managed to find it.
- Only, he isn't allowed to recover any artifacts until a government-approved site to exhibit them is found. He's still waiting.
36. Babe Ruth hit his first major league home run at Hanlan's Point Stadium in Toronto. It landed in Lake Ontario and is believed to still be there.
37. A lake on Saturn's moon Titan is named after Lake Ontario.



Squash Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

www.Squashlakedistrict.com

Upcoming District Meetings

January 14, 2023 April 14, 2024 July 14, 2024

1:00 pm

Crescent Town Hall

Squash Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Officers

Tom Johansen, President

tomandmegjohansen@gmail.com

Jerod Bennet, Secretary

jerod@alterrahomes.com

Dan Butkus, Treasurer

dan.butkus@yahoo.com

Robb Jensen, County Rep

crescentchair@townofcrescent.com

Peggy Jensen

Peggy.jo.jensen@gmail.com

Squash Lake District News

The annual review we received from our lake consultants, Onterra LLC., for the 2023 dive season was positive. Diver hand harvesting achieved its goals in the predetermined target areas on the lake. Our divers harvested 5783 pounds of EWM from the lake, the third highest year of EWM collection since the program started, and the highest since 2014. High levels of EWM were consistent with other lakes in the northern regions of the state.

The divers reported that the milfoil returned to areas very quickly and more vigorously after being harvested than in previous diving seasons. Milfoil was harvested in most areas of the lake. In some areas of the lake, divers returned 5 and 6 times to keep those areas clean. The Loon Bay area continues to be an area of concern because of the difficulty of harvesting this shallow water bay

Two of our regular divers will be returning to dive again next summer. We continue to look for new divers. If you have interest or know of an interested diver please contact Tom Johansen (district chairperson). Next summer we will again be using, Aquatic PLant Management, a milfoil removal company from Minocqua. This company uses a dive boat with four air hoses for divers to swim in front of the boat and harvest milfoil. Please watch for them next summer, and like our other dive boat, maintain a safe distance (over 100 feet) from the boat and divers.

Chloride levels were measured again this summer. The level was recorded at 14.3 mg/l which is an elevated level from the first recording in 1993 at 4 mg/l. but consistent with last years reading of 14.4 mg/l. Salt runoff from highway 8 is assumed to have made an impact on the increased chloride levels. We are communicating with the state and county highway departments to share our future readings and potential concerns.



Town Board

Robb Jensen, Town Chairman

Kyla Waksmonski, Supervisor I

Michael Pazdernik, Supervisor II

Tracy Hartman, Clerk

Carla Fletcher, Treasurer

Keven Mahner, Fire Chief

Michael Schnautz, Assessor

Brad Gerdies, Road Crew

Visit www.townofcrescent.com for town information and to sign up to receive emails.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF CRESCENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

A public hearing for comments on the recommended Town of Crescent Comprehensive Plan shall be held at the Crescent Town Hall, located at 3231 Golf Course Rd, Rhinelander, WI 54501 on January 10, 2024, at 5:00 pm. The proposed comprehensive plan has been distributed as outlined in the statute.

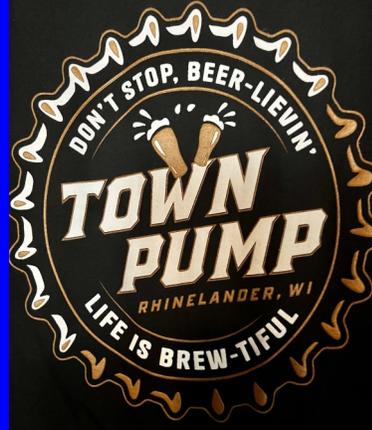
Michael Pazdernik, Town Board Supervisor for the Town of Crescent, may be contacted to provide additional information on the proposed comprehensive plan and ordinance at 715-401-2623, 3087 S Rifle Road, Rhinelander, WI 54501, and hodag.1969@icloud.com.

A copy of the comprehensive plan may be reviewed prior to the hearing at the Clerk's Office by appointment. The plan at <https://www.ncwrpc.org/oneida-county/>

A copy of the proposed comprehensive plan may be obtained by contacting Tracy Hartman, Clerk at crescentclerk@townofcrescent.com



Squash Lake Association



**Open 7 days a week,
11 am to close**

Phone:

715-282-6067

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russ.linda.tennessen@gmail.com

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Remember, if you want Amazon to donate to Squash Lake Association, you need to start each shopping session at the URL <http://smile.amazon.com>, and they will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases.

www.squash-lake.myshopify.com

Please visit our website for more up-to-date news and info.

If you think something should be listed on our website,

contact Kathy Tournour at:

ktournour@gmail.com

The Squash Lake Association is a Member of :

Wisconsin Lakes Association

Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Association

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