

What's Happening!!

January 2009 Newsletter of the Lake Jennie Improvement Association

2008 In Review

Ice out was later than average occurring on April 19. Ice formed on November 21. The LJIA has 43 members out of 102 landowners. Please welcome one new resident to the lake in 2008 – Mark Theis and Michele Meis. They are located in the old Steffan residence on the Southeast corner of the lake. Mark works at Crow River Press and Michelle is with Edina Realty of Hutchinson.

Name Change

It was voted at the annual meeting to change our name from Lake Jennie Improvement Corporation (LJIC) to Lake Jennie Improvement Association (LJIA). We thought it would be recognized easier as a lake association rather than sounding like a business. Tom Gallett will be registering the necessary paperwork.

Treasurers Report

As of the January 10th board meeting, LJIA Balance was \$3465.53 with the main expense being our website reinitiation for \$125.

LJIA Website

LakeJennie.com is back to life!! A big thank you to Kary Delarius and Betty Kerber for their help in this matter. Meeting minutes, events, and other useful info can be found here and also at the new sign board, which will be erected at the south access.

Fish Contest Winners

The 2008 Catch and Release fish contest had a poor turnout for various reasons. The

Fish Contest Winners cont.

board decided to try it one more year starting in May 2009. The books will be hand delivered in late April along with the new 2009 lake directory.

We really encourage your family and friends to make even one entry to be eligible for prizes.

2008 Family Winners:

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Clint Kragenbring | Pike |
| Scott Lahr | Lg Mouth |
| Cameron Jourdan | Walleye |
| Isaac Nass | Sunfish |
| Randy Nass | Crappie |
| Cameron Jourdan | Rough Fish |
| Brandon Tamborino | Youngster |

Upcoming Events

March – Ice clean up day for March 7 at 11 am (weather permitting, March 14 is the backup date). We'll provide four wheelers and cruise the lake for garbage and pet litter. Call Randy Nass if you would like to volunteer.

April – Lake Jennie syrup run. A couple families on the east side of the lake make maple syrup. Come and join the fun and take a sample home. Call Randy Nass.

May – Spring road ditch cleanup is planned May 2 at 10:30 am. We'll meet at Jack Gersdorf's house and will provide supplies. Call any board member.

June – Annual meeting on June 27th at Randy Nass'. A free fish fry will be provided. We'd really like to see a good turnout. Come eat, drink and voice your opinion on lake issues. Please RSVP Nass' by the middle of June.

Upcoming Events cont.

July – Fourth of July boat parade and dock decorating. We will need some judges – call any board member.

Aluminum Can Recycling

We have been talking with the DNR if we can put a trailer at the south access for can recycling. The proceeds will go to the lake association. They don't know yet if they will allow it ??? If you see a trailer with a LJIA sign on it this spring, please drop off your cans to help support the lake.

Dry Hydrant

We have a permit started for a dry hydrant to be installed at the south landing. This will enable the fire department to refill tanker trucks quicker with a possible lowering of insurance rates. We're checking into a grant for the installation costs.

PWCs

Personal Water Craft remain the number one complaint to board members. We will be printing the entire rule book this spring. The main complaint has been a few users are not following the hours of operation (9:30 am to one hour before sunset). Please respect the privacy of fellow lake neighbors by abiding the rules.

MCAL

Randy Nass attends the Meeker County Area Lakes association held quarterly, of which Lake Jennie is a member. Most lakes are better organized than ours however, they are good role models for LJIA and makes us realize that we are in dire need of volunteers. With the Dedicated Funding that passed on Nov 4th we feel there will be great opportunities to secure funding to improve our water quality, if we collect data and recruit volunteers. We need people to read secchi discs, do vegetation mapping, water quality testing, dispense invasive species education material, etc. Several lakes in Meeker county are locating possible septic system failures with the use of infrared cameras from an airplane with grants covering the costs. Is it something we should think about?? As a homeowner is

this something you would consider if there was interest free funding available?

2008 DNR Stocking Report

At the October board meeting we had Chris Zellas from the fisheries department of the Hutch DNR. He stated the walleye problem is a bit of a mystery. The million + walleye fry they stocked in the spring didn't show up as hoped in the fall electrofishing survey. They added a 1000 lbs. of larger fingerlings this fall to see if they will survive better. Possible culprits in the DNR's mind is the lake has a large population of Northern pike (eating the walleyes). The board agreed, but also pointed fingers at the comorant and pelican populations on the lake. The rookery on Pigeon Lake (just to the north of Jennie) had a major "die off" this summer from Newcastle disease. We'll see how this affects our lakes fish populations. Several pages from the fisheries reports will be put on our website. Several things the board feels that everyone can do to improve Lake Jennie fishing are:

Catch and Release the larger fish (these are the spawning females)

Maintain a natural shoreline as much as possible (provides spawning habitat).

Protect against exotics (milfoil, curly leaf, etc. Inspect boats and trailers before landing into Jennie)

Don't disturb spawning fish with boat and PWCs in the shallows and dock areas until after mid June.

Pinch back the barbs on your hooks with pliers.

Careful and quick release of a fish is important. Don't handle any more than necessary.

Since the DNR removed the fish traps from the creeks approx. 10 years ago there is a much greater movement of fish between neighboring lakes. Take advantage of it by fishing in Wolf, Little Wolf (the DNR installed an access last year) or Todd. There has been excellent fishing in these lakes the last year. Be careful for Eurasian milfoil though, Big Wolf has large mats of it in the summer (this exotic greatly affects lakeshore value).

New C.O.

Nate Barrington, the conservation officer for Meeker County sold his place last summer (across from the Aquatic Management Area on the south side of Lake Jennie). The new C.O. for Lake Jennie is Wayne Hatlestad from Hutchinson. If you see game, fish or other violations please call him. Rob and Sue Collette bought the Barrington place. Rob is the Area Hydrologist for the DNR. He's being recruited to become a board member because of his vast watershed and shoreline knowledge.

Curlyleaf

We have been having discussions with the lake associations from Kandiyohi and Douglas counties about their curlyleaf problems and the success they are having with harvesters that they have purchased. Lake Collinwood is using chemical application to treat their algae blooms. Comments have been positive from their board. Is it something we should investigate?

Bird Sightings

A flock of turkeys has taken up year round residence near the lake. Two bald eagles spent several weeks on the lake this fall feeding on injured waterfowl and muskrats. A snowy owl (down from Canada) has been seen on the east side of the lake in late December and January.

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