VAN VLIET NEWS

Annual Meeting Notice 2003

Jill Wilm and Jeff Burke work the boat landing on opening day of the fishing season providing information on milfoil and other exotic species. (photo by Steve Frank)

Notice of Annual Meeting

2003 Annual Meeting Set for July 6th at 11:00 AM at Steve & Nancy Frank's!

The 2003 annual meeting and picnic of the Van Vliet Lake Association has been set for Sunday, ***July 6th*** *at the lake home of Steve and Nancy Frank. It will begin at 11:00 AM with a business meeting and educational session. There will be light snacks and beverages available with good conversation at the close of the meeting. The meeting itself will last no more than 1 ½ hours. The agenda appears on page 2.*

Survey Results

Many of you responded to our survey with the Spring newsletter. We are enclosing it again for those who did not respond. We are interested in feedback about the Association. At this point, the strong emphasis from responses has been to continue on our course – but to add a few social activities. If you didn't answer before, please send us your thoughts. According to the By-laws. Our stated purpose is:

> "The purpose of the Association is to preserve and protect Van Vliet Lake and its surroundings, and to enhance the water quality, fishery, boating safety, and aesthetic values of Van Vliet Lake as a public recreational facility for today and for future generations." (if you would like an entire set of Bylaws, let us know by checking the box on the membership form)

50" Musky Limit

The 50" musky limit plan was resoundingly defeated at the Vilas County Conservation Congress meeting. According to those who attended, the greatest concern was that it would negatively impact tourism by denying individuals the opportunity to catch and keep smaller muskies.

Most of you who responded to our question concurred with the idea of having the increased limit on the few lakes in Vilas County which would have been impacted – which included Van Vliet.

Thanks to those who expressed their opinions – for and against.

Notice of Annual Meeting

As indicated on the front page, the annual meeting will be held at Nancy and Steve Frank's property – immediately next to the Van Vliet Boat Landing on Crab Lake Road. It will begin at 11:00 AM on Sunday, July 6th. We intend that the business and education portion will last no more than 1 ½ hours. There will be light snacks and refreshments available after the meeting.

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Report of President
3. Report of Treasurer
4. By-law amendments
5. Board elections
6. Education session
7. Other new business
8. Adjournment

By-law Amendments

At last year's annual meeting, those present voted to recommend a change to the By-laws to allow for the election of a total of 4 at-large directors. There are currently 2 at-large directors – Tim Bowler and Barb Novak.

In order to accomplish this change, we will be amending the By-laws to add to more directors at this year's annual meeting. The proposed language is set on the next page. One of the new directors will serve an initial one year term. After that, the terms will be 2 years in length.

We are also recommending that the By-laws be amended to eliminate the standing committees now mandated by the By-laws. We have found that the committees have not always had activities to perform. Rather, we are suggesting that the Board determine that committees be appointed from time to time to serve the purposes of the Association. That language is also set on the next page.

Another recommendation is to create more flexibility in the timing of the Annual Meeting. Our rules now require the meeting on the Sunday closest to the 4th of July. This has not always worked out conveniently for the membership. We are seeking more flexibility by requiring the meeting be within 75 days of July 1st. This would open up the entire summer season for a meeting. Once again, the language appears on the next page.

Finally, we are also recommending that the voting procedures at the Annual Meeting be changed. In the past, we have allowed any number of votes per paid membership. There has been a question about the fairness of this procedure. We are proposing to change the voting rule to one vote per member. Anyone who meets the membership qualifications may join and vote.

For instance, in the past, a husband and wife attending the meeting who had paid the $10 membership fee would each have been able to vote. However, a single person who had paid the same $10 would have only had one vote. If this is adopted, each individual will have to be a member in order to vote. We are unable to change the minimum membership fee from $10 due to state rules for "qualified lake associations". Once again, the language for this change is also set forth on the next page.

Amendment 1 – Number of Directors

Article 6, Section 2 be changed to read as follows:

COMPOSITION: The Board of Directors shall include the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, four at-large directors, and the past President.

Amendment 2 – Committees

A new Section 1 to Article 8 would be added and the rest of the section would be renumbered. The new section would read:

Committees: The Board shall, from time to time, determine the need for appointment of Committees to support the activities of the Association. Those Committees may include, without limitation, the following Committees. *(see By-laws for list of committees).*

Amendment 3 – Annual Meeting

Article 5, Section 1 would be revised as follows:

ANNUAL MEETING: The annual meeting of the Association shall be held in the vicinity of Van Vliet Lake within 75 days of July 1st of each year. The time and place shall be arranged by the Board of Directors unless specified by the previous annual meeting. The agenda of the annual meeting shall include elections, discussion of projects, adoption of a budget, member concerns, an educational program or such other items as determined by the Board or membership.

Amendment 4 – Member Voting

Article III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - ELIGIBILITY: Membership in the Association shall be open to any individual, family, business, or organization, that (a) subscribes to the purposes of the Association and (b) owns or leases property within one mile of Van Vliet Lake or is resident within one mile of Van Vliet Lake for at least one month of every year.

Section 2 - DUES: Dues shall be $10.00 per eligible individual paid on a calendar year basis.

Section 3 - MEMBER: Any individual eligible under Article III who has paid dues for the current year.

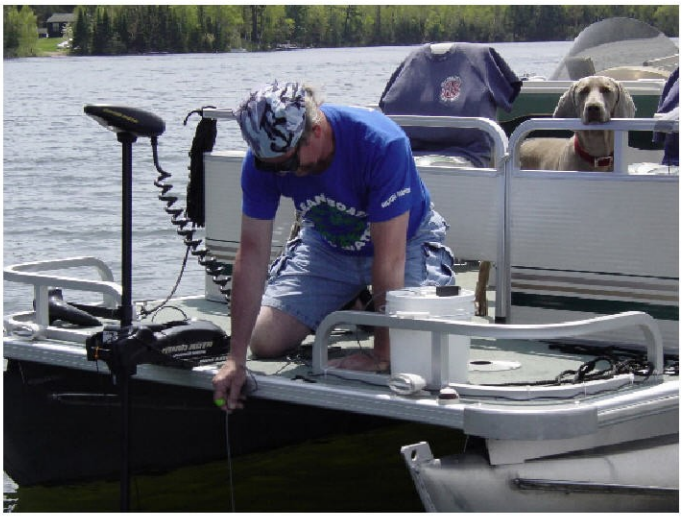
Annual Meeting Program

Jill Wilm and Jeff Burke attended a workshop on preventing exotics from getting into lakes. They will be presenting a short informational program at the Annual Meeting. You can see that they were already at work from the picture on the front page.

Jill and Jeff came back to Van Vliet Lake with a comprehensive and valuable "kit" of helpful resources to assist in combating Eurasian Water Milfoil and other aquatic exotics. These invasive species are a REAL THREAT to our lake and we must learn to identify them and prevent their occurrence.

Anyone interested in acquiring handouts or being "trained" in awareness, or if you simply have questions regarding this issue, phone Jill at (715) 686-7396.

In addition, at the Annual Meeting, Jeff will speak briefly about his work on water quality testing.



Jeff Burke taking water temperature readings on Memorial Day weekend. His friend, Shadow, is supervising. (photo by Tom Olson)

Boat Landing Volunteers

In our prior newsletter, we asked for volunteers to help with our boat landing adoption. We are pleased that many of you already volunteered to help. If you wish to help out and haven't signed up, let us know by checking the box on the membership page.

The good news is that there was little to do last year. It appears that, by staying on top of things, there was little trash which collected at the landing.

So far, Jeff & Jorga Burke, George & Pat Kupfer, Steve & Nancy Frank, Dick & Carol Novak, Jill Wilm, Tom & Barbara Olson, Peter & Joan Herr, and Bill & Diane Schroeder have volunteered to help. Thanks to all of them!

Boater Safety

Barb Novak has offered to provide boater safety training at a location to be determined on Van Vliet Lake. The instruction is over several days and lasts a total of 12 hours. By successfully completing the course and the exam, you would receive a Boater Safety Certificate through the DNR's certification program. This will be offered during the week beginning July 19th. Contact Barb at (715) 686-2825 if interested.

As an additional comment, this appears to be very timely as a number of boating safety issues were raised over the Memorial Day weekend. Among others, there were comments on boats operating at high speeds through the channel between Van Vliet and Averill with other boats present, and jet skis operating at faster than "slow no-wake" in Averill.

Van Vliet History

The History Committee has been chaired for several years by Barb Novak. She is seeking information from abstracts of title on ownership of parcels on the lake. She is also seeking stories, anecdotes, and other interesting information about the past of Van Vliet Lake. Please contact Barb directly at (715) 686-2425.

Board News

Your Board currently consists of the following:

Tom Olson	President
Jill Wilm	Vice President
Nancy Frank	Treasurer
Jim Sprester	Secretary
Tim Bowler	At-Large
Barb Novak	At-Large

The terms of Nancy Frank, Jim Sprester and Barb Novak will expire at this year's annual meeting. All three have agreed to be nominated for re-election.

The Board is providing the following nominations to be voted on at his year's annual meeting:

Nancy Frank	Treasurer
Jim Sprester	Secretary
Jeff Burke	At-Large
George Kupfer	At-Large
Barb Novak	At-Large
Dick Novak	At-Large

Three "At-Large" directors will be elected this year. Each member will vote for 3 "At-Large" directors. The highest 3 will be the winners. The two highest vote getters will have two year terms. The third highest vote getter will have a one year term (to stand for re-election next year for a 2 year term).

Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting. You must be a paid member at the annual meeting in order to vote.

Questionnaire

Thanks to all of you who filled out the questionnaire and returned it with your dues. We have enclosed another questionnaire (on the back of the membership form) for those who have not yet paid their 2003 membership. We appreciate your feedback.

MEMBERSHIP SIGN-UP

Name_____

Home Address_____

City, State, Zip Code_____

Lake Address (if different)_____

Home phone_____Local phone (if different)_____E-mail_____

I/We want to **volunteer to help in the adopt-a-boat landing** program and will take responsibility for clean-up during tl following period(s): (many have volunteered already – but these slots are open – also the Burkes, the Kupfers, the Franl and Jill Wilm have indicated that they can help as needed).

_____ May 31 to June 13 _____June 14 to June 27 _____ Aug 23 to Sept 5

_____ Sept 6 to Sept 19 _____Oct 19 to Nov 1 _____ Nov 2 to Nov 15

Volunteer more than once!!!

Call Steve Frank with any questions (608) 231-2387 or (715) 686-7372

Board – I am interested in serving on the Board_____

_____ I would like to get a set of Bylaws.

Other Comments_____

_____

_____

Enclosed please find my membership check in the amount of

(min. $10) payable to the Van Vliet Lake Association, Inc.

Your membership is tax deductible. Your check is your receipt.

Mail to: Nancy Frank, Treasurer
Van Vliet Lake Assn, Inc.
4918 Fond du Lac Trail
Madison WI 53705

PLEASE COMPLETE QUESTIONNAIRE ON REVERSE SIDE AND RETURN!