VAN VLIET NEWS

ISSUE #6 **SPRING 1996**

ANNUAL MEETING - JULY 7TH

This year's annual meeting will be held on **July 7th** at the **Presque Isle Community Building** in Presque Isle. It will start at **1:00 PM**. Our agenda will include reports from all committees including the Planning Committee.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETING

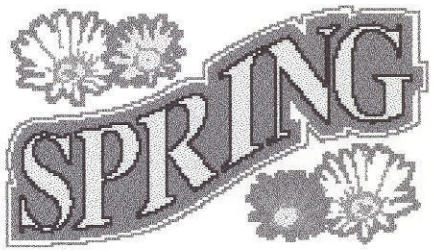
The Board of Directors and Committee Chairs met at Taylor's Alpine Resort on Sunday, May 26th. The purpose of the meeting was to plan for the Annual Meeting and to review winter activities. In addition, we conducted a planning meeting.

Present were Forbes Taylor, Don Liter, Jim Sprester, Nancy Gross, Barb Novak, Steve Smithson, Al Smithson, MaryAnn Smithson, Jim Freckmann, Paul Specht, Sharon Specht and Tom Olson.

Nancy Gross presented a Treasurer's Report which indicated that we had received $525 in dues payments to date. Most of last year's members had already paid, and a few new members have joined. Thanks were expressed to all -- and especially those who sent in additional contributions.

Despite the inability to hold meetings, the Planning Committee is functioning well. Steve Smithson has compiled a "draft" planning document which can be used as an outline for a plan for Van Vliet Lake. There is still lots of work to do in gathering data and formulating recommendations, but it is an excellent start.

We had earlier received notification from the Land, Air and Water Conservation Committee of Vilas County inviting us to apply for a



lake planning grant being administered through the University of Wisconsin Extension and Vilas County. Since the request had to be submitted by June 15th, the Board voted to proceed with submitting a request for the grant.

The Lake Association which receives the grant will receive staff assistance in the development of a lake management plan through the Vilas County of the UW Extension. Since the survey (reported on later in this newsletter) had shown support for applying for a grant, this was seen as being in accord with the membership's wishes.

The application will be judged on level of lake organization, present involvement in lake monitoring programs, past lake management activities, willingness of lake residents to volunteer time, the ability to meet with a planning committee or decision makeing body, and physical features of the lake.

Steve Smithson is preparing the application letter. We may have more information on this application and its implications at the time of our Annual Meeting.

Jim Freckmann reported that he had contacted Harland Carlson of DNR to assess the level of damage to the fish population caused by the harsh winter. Although there were some reports of fish kills in portions of the lake, it appears that the winter was not as harsh as many of us feared

SURVEY RESULTS

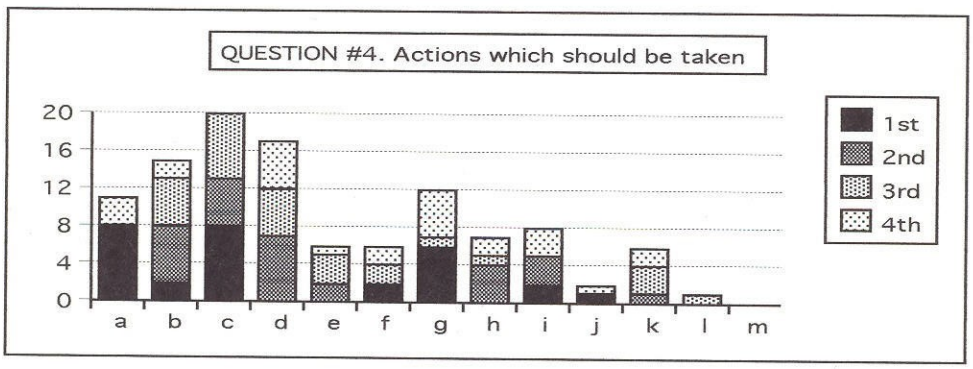
As we go to press, we have 28 surveys returned and compiled. That's a pretty good return, but it is not everyone on the lake. It would be good to hear from the rest of you. Here's what you have told us.

	YES	NO
1. I OWN LAKEFRONT PROPERTY ON VAN VLIET	24	4
2. I AM A PERMANENT RESIDENT ON THE LAKE	7	21
3. I AM A MEMBER	28	

Question 4, the rank order of importance. I have assigned values of 1st=4; 2nd=3, 3rd=2 and 4th=1.

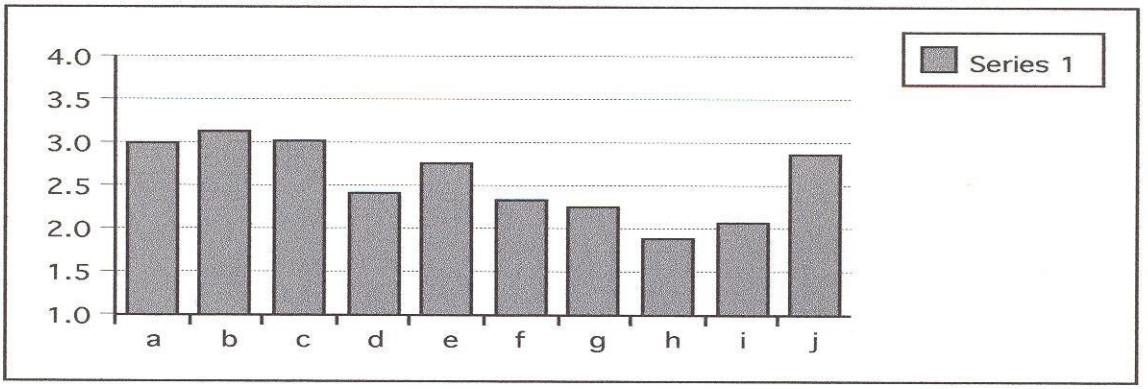
QUESTION 4 WHICH ACTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN

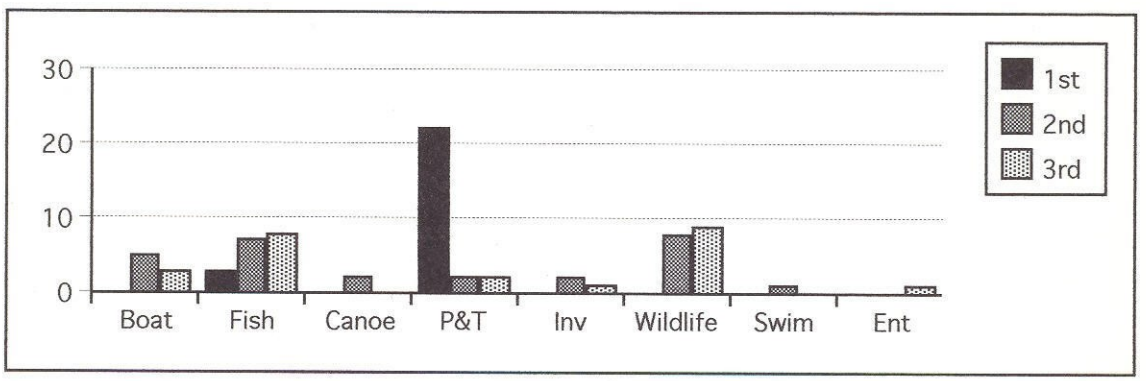
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	score
a. Strengthen lake association	8	0		3	1.2
b. Develop a lake management plan	2	6	4	2	1.3
c. Define the problems of the lake	7	5	7		2.0
d. Determine the causes of the problems		6	5	5	1.2
e. Stock fish		2	3	1	0.5
f. Assure proper use of septic systems	2		2	2	0.5
g. Manage aquatic plants	6		1	4	1.1
h. Manage algae		4	1	2	0.6
i. Monitor water quality	2	3		3	0.7
j. Aerate	1			1	0.2
k. Improve fish habitat		1	3	2	0.4
l. Enforce safety laws			1		0.1
m.No action					0



5. The association should develop a plan to: I have assigned the following values 1=4 points, 2=3 pts, 3=2 pts, 4=1 pt, 5=0 pts.

	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	Score
a. Conduct water quality study	14	6	4	2	2	3.0
b. Conduct watershed study	15	4	8		1	3.1
c. Conduct septic system survey	12	7	7	2		3.0
d. Conduct mapping of aquatic plants	5	8	10	2	3	2.4
e. Develop aquatic plant management plan	10	5	9	3	1	2.7
f. Develop more thorough fish survey	6	6	10	4	1	2.4
g. Stock fish	6	6	11	1	2	2.3
h. Study fish harvesting pressure	3	4	13	3	3	1.9
i. Aerate the lake	4	4	14	2	3	2.1
j. Develop a plan for silt removal	14	5	4	2	3	2.9



Question 6. The reason that I own property.

	1st	2nd	3rd
Boating	5	3	
Fishing	3	7	8
Canoeing	2		
Peace and Tranquility	22	2	2
Investment	2	1	
Observe wildlife		8	9
Swimming		1	
Entertaining			1
Other			1