VAN VLIET NEWS

Spring 2000

(Photo by Tom Olson)

View of Van Vliet Lake and the rest of the Presque Isle Chain

2000 Annual Meeting Set for July 1st at Presque Isle

The 1999 annual meeting of the Van Vliet Lake Association has been set for **July 1st** at the Presque Isle Community Center beginning at **2:00 PM**.

We will have a special program featuring noted author and naturalist, John Bates

John Bates to speak at Annual Meeting

"A Cultural History of Lakes and Rivers of Northern Wisconsin" will be the topic of a presentation by John Bates at our annual meeting.

The unique nature of the rivers and kettle lakes of the Headwaters Region has created a rich cultural past for the region. From the time of the Indians, to the fur traders, to the logging era, to today's recreation and vacation land, this area has seen fascinating changes.

To better appreciate and conserve our region, we will broaden our understanding of it with a 1 hour look at 10,000 years of life on the waters of the Northwoods after the departure of the glaciers. Non-members will be welcome for a $5 contribution.

ee Page 4 to learn how to edit or replace this picture

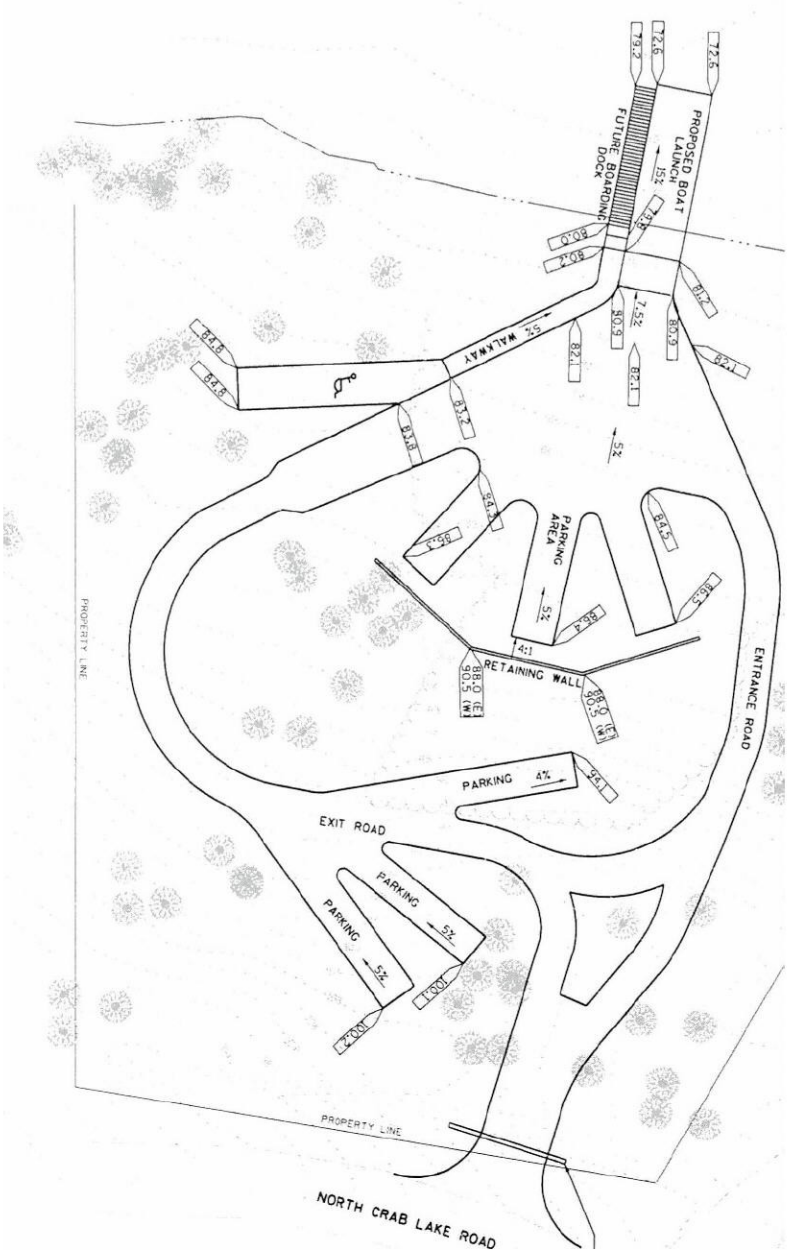
Boat Landing Update

Steve Frank has continued to work closely with DNR staff on the proposed boat landing for Van Vliet Lake. We believe that the DNR has developed a very positive proposal for the site, which includes attempting to minimize the destruction of trees. It will also minimize the impact on the Frank property. The site is located on Crab Lake Road just south of Steve and Nancy Frank's property.

The landing will include seven stalls for parking rather than an open parking lot and a 12' wide ramp. In addition, there will be a removable dock.

The DNR is in the process of putting the development out for bids. Assuming that the bids come back in an acceptable manner, the landing would probably be built sometime before snow flies in the Fall of 2000.

Below is a drawing of the site:



Name for Boat Landing

It has been proposed that the new landing be named for Jules Novak -- long time Van Vliet Lake resident. Jules spent many years of his youth as well as later years on Van Vliet Lake. He provided guide service for many years. With his wife, Barb, they raised two sons on the island. Jules was always known for his friendly, talkative spirit and his willingness to share his vast knowledge of fishing.

If this idea is supported, we would request that the DNR design and maintain a sign at the landing in the name of Jules Novak.

With your annual membership registration, please indicate your views – For, Against, or No Opinion.

Lake Aeration -- conclusions

At last year's annual meeting, those present had a good discussion of aerating. It was concluded that the best course of action was to "table" the discussions for the present.

The information developed indicated that Muskellunge Lake (near Eagle River) had good results from their aeration project. However, they had several advantages which we do not. First, they had an excellent location for the pump (close to a town road and electrical service). Second, they had a number of permanent residents on the lake who adopted the project and were interested in providing the regular servicing it needs during the Winter months.Third, there is a need for some volunteer support to erect and remove snow fences and to run and remove the PVC pipes each Winter and Spring.

The cost of the project would not appear to be a large issue as DNR provides most of the funds for the equipment. The major ongoing expenses are electricity and whatever servicing of the equipment is required. Muskellunge Lake operates their project on an annual budget of about $1,200.

Due to lack of a consensus to proceed and continuing questions about the level of support for the project, it was recommended and concluded that we should not proceed at this time.

Boater Safety

Several people on the lake commented on the increase in boating activity last Summer. That requires ever more vigilance in the area of boating safety. The growth of higher powered fishing boats, more skiing, more personal watercraft and the new popularity of kayaks and canoes has all led to greater activity. On our relatively small lake, that puts a higher premium than ever on courtesy and safety.

A few hints: water ski in a counterclockwise direction well away from shore; wear life preservers; remember the no-wake rules near shorelines.

Owner Update Project

Barb Novak, and Dick and Carol Novak have undertaken to update our information on the owners of property within the Van Vliet Lake area. This is very important as we struggle to keep current on the names and addresses of the owners on the lake. We have had some turnover in the last few years which has been hard to track.

The last page has a listing of current owners. If you are aware of missing names or wrong names, please let us know with your annual membership registration.

Many thanks to Dick and Carol and to Barb for their time and effort on this project.

Association Board/News

The present Board members for the association are:

Tom Olson	-	President
Forbes Taylor	-	Vice President
Jim Sprester	-	Secretary
Nancy Frank	-	Treasurer
Barb Novak	-	At-large
Jim MacAdam	-	At-large

Those who will be up for election at this year's annual meeting are Tom Olson, Forbes Taylor and Jim MacAdam.

The association remains in good financial shape with $1980.68 in the treasury (plus $150 on deposit for the annual meeting). We are a member of both the Wisconsin and Vilas County lakes associations. Last year $575 in dues was collected.

Campfire on Novak's Island

Once again, Barb Novak has graciously invited all of us to a campfire on Novak's Island on the 4th of July weekend. **This year's campfire will be on Saturday night, July 1st.** Plan to arrive about 8:00 PM, bring folding chairs, your own beverages and some snacks to share. A flashlight is also a very good idea.

Thanks again to Barb for her hospitality.

Short Winter

With the lake not freezing until well into December and ice out in early April (remember a couple of years ago when it went out on May 15th), it will be very interesting to watch both the fish and aquatic plants in Van Vliet this year.

Most of the longer term residents were pleased both with the fishing and the condition of the aquatics last year.

What's Next???

What do you want your association to focus on next? We have had a very successful relationship with the DNR in moving toward a satisfactory development of the boat landing. Education has been provided both on fish management and aquatic plant issues. This year, we will have a presentation on the cultural history of the northwoods with a focus on the impact of the lakes and streams of the area.

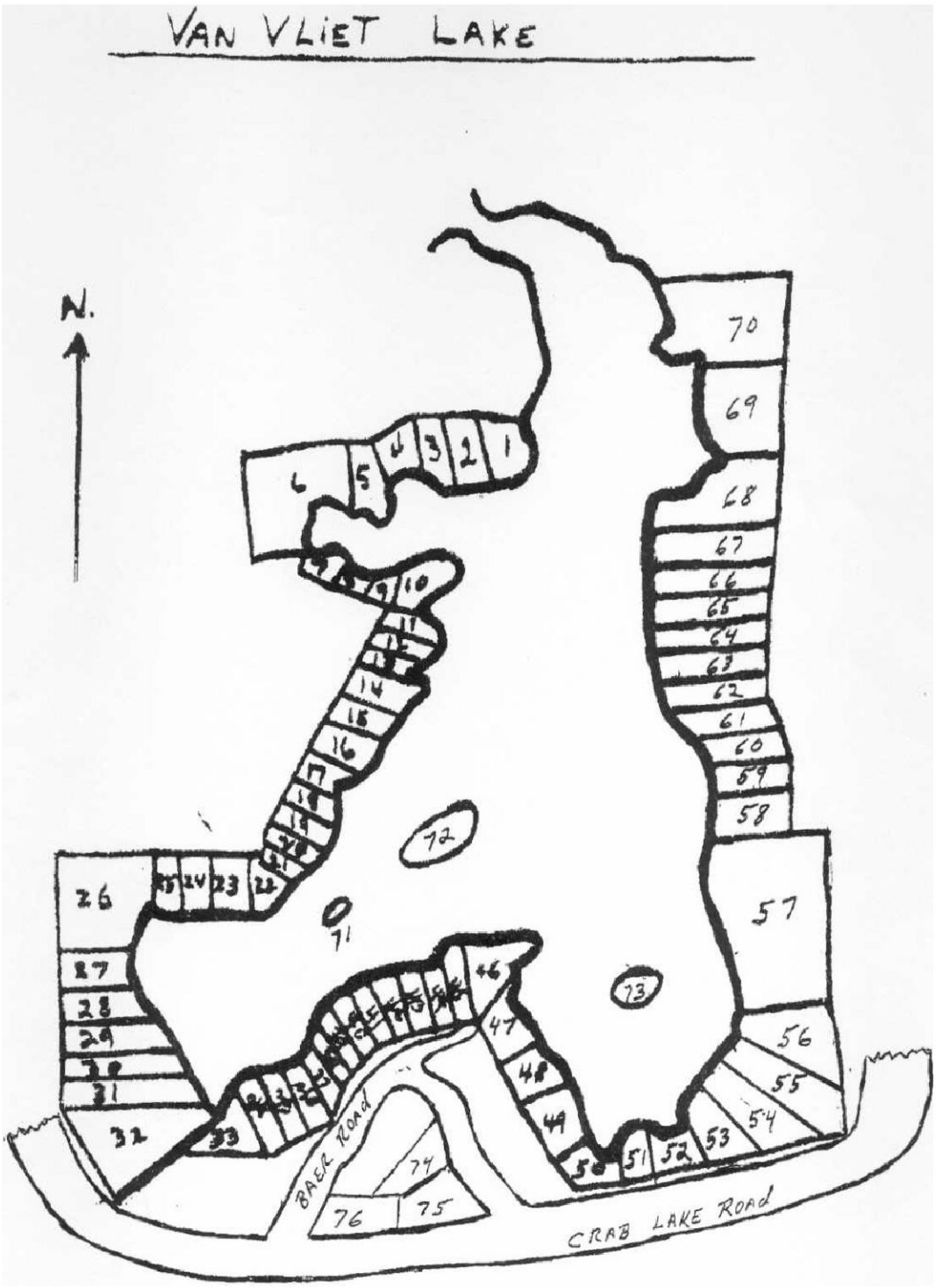
We have many options: more educational programs (plants and animals of northern Wisconsin, geological foundations of the area, more on fish and aquatics, boater safety, canoe/kayak trips in the area, social activities (summer or winter), or anything else you might suggest.

Please use your membership form for your thoughts.

Many thanks to Dave Sidlo for his donation in the printing of this newsletter!

Paul Specht and muskie. Hard evidence that muskies are out there.

1. Nick & Rita Andrew
2. Paul & Kathleen Nasenbeny
3. Jim & Carol Awe
4. Vacant
5. Paulette Cary
6. Vacant
7. Ross & Nelda Greaser
8. Stan & Judy Kleinert
9. Don & Janet Funk
10. Rosemary Stewart
    Robert Stewart
11. George Kupfer
12. Fred Hanson
13. William Vinall
14. William Buschmeier
15. Jim & Noelle Niquit
16. Steve & Linda Smithson
17. Mary Ann Smithson
18. Barb Novak
19. John & Donna Fagan
20. Ed & LaVerne Brodsky
21. Dick & Karen Harris
22. Jeff & Jorja Burke
23. Dorothy Secora
24. Renn & Barb Karl
25. Marion Dunne
26. Frank Bradley
27. Kenneth & Nancy Ruffner
28. Joe & Noreen Janda
29. Peter & Joan Herr
30. Carl Lekan
    Jerome & Claire Lekan
31. Vacant
32. Gary Brown
33. Al Orel
34. John & Phyllis Widstrand
35. Doug & Jane Schwanz
36. Dick & Carol Novak
    Dave & Sandi Sidlo
37. Don & Eleanore Kostelc
38. Ken Alix
    Paul Alix
39. Al Goeler
40. Zane Bussler
41. Gloria Goehring
42. Easement
43. John Rottman
44. Jim & Marge Rottman
45. Matthew & Lynda Rottman
46. Tom & Barbara Olson
47. Jim & Kathy Sprester
48. Mark & Wendy Osberg
49. Jim & Barb MacAdam
50. Matt & Lorraine Pachi
    Matt & Theresa Pachi
51. E. Kritzer & L. Pheil
52. Jim & Helen Krahn
53. DNR



1. Nick & Rita Andrew
2. Paul & Kathleen Nasenbeny
3. Jim & Kathy Sprester

54. Steve & Nancy Frank
55. Paul & Sharon Specht
56. Vacant
57. Forbes & Toddy Taylor
58. Elizabeth Sterbenz
59. Len & Martha Kaplan
60. Don & Lorraine Liter
61. Bill & Diane Schroeder
62. Rick Lane
63. Walter Weber
64. Don Trimble
65. Don Trimble
66. Don Trimble
67. Bruce Nelson
68. Leonard Eringis
69. Harold Buckett
70. Harold Buckett
71. Elizabeth Sterbenz
72. Barb Novak
73. John Geiger
74. Dorothy Voorhees
    John Voorhees
75. Allen Vollert
76. ??? Rottman