

TOMAHAWK LAKE

Association, Inc.

Lake life in the Northwoods

TLA Budget Explained

by Paul Shain, TLA President

As TLA President, I often get asked questions about our financial model and how it all works. It was suggested that an article in our newsletter would be helpful to all TLA members, so here goes.

SOURCES OF FUNDS:

TLA generates revenue from five different sources:

1. Our primary source of revenue is **donations from our membership**. Our goal is to have all lake property owners contribute their **Fair Share**—so that we all share in the required investment to keep Tomahawk Lake healthy for years to come. About half of our property owners

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Real-estate Trends and Water Quality

by Adam Redman and Radley Watkins

As a Board member of the TLA, I was asked to write an article for the newsletter. TLA members typically ask me about real estate trends on the lake and aspects that effect real estate values. Rather than write an article answering these questions, I thought it would be good to have Rad Watkins, one of the Green Team members at Redman Realty Group, provide perspective on our Lake's natural resource threats and the correlating real estate trends. Rad is a fellow Tomahawk Lake resident. His family has been on Tom since 1949. Rad actually used to be the Oneida County Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator and as a Senior Scientist for the lake management consulting firm Bonestroo, Rad wrote the first Tomahawk Lake Comprehensive Lake Management Plan. I hope you enjoy! —Adam Redman

From Rad Watkins— We are all lucky to be able to enjoy Tomahawk Lake and the beautiful lands that extend through our watershed. Because of our lake's water purity, Tomahawk Lake is considered an Outstanding Resource Water of the state of Wisconsin. People from all over the country are constantly looking for opportunities to become Tomahawk Lake property owners...in part for the wonderful chain we enjoy, in part for the significant amounts of undeveloped and State owned shoreline, in part for the fantastic

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DEDICATED TO TOMAHAWK LAKE

The Tomahawk Lake Association is the only resource dedicated exclusively to Tomahawk Lake. This does not mean that the issues we address necessarily are unique to our lake, but they are of high concern to those who care about the lake. Tomahawk Lake unites us as an "interest group," and therefore gives us greater capacity to have an impact on our shared concerns through our combined efforts, financial resources and political influence.

SIGN UP ONLINE FOR E-NEWSLETTER

www.tomahawklake.org

HELP US HELP YOU!



Emails are our number one way of keeping in touch with all TLA members and friends! We are trying to update our system—over the past year we have gotten many emails returned to us. One might ask, "What do you need this for?" We use emails to send out email blasts, newsletters, events and it is our fastest and most efficient way of getting important information to you.



We need your help! Some people may have changed their email over the past year, or some might never have gotten us an email to begin with.

Please contact our **Membership Chairman Scott Meitus** with your email address or whenever there is a change in your address at: smeitus@aol.com



info@laketomahawk.org | www.tomahawklake.org

Tomahawk Lake Association
P.O. Box 535
Minocqua, WI 54548

TLA Budget Explained

(Continued from page 1)

actually contribute—and we continue to work to educate and encourage the remaining folks to invest in the lake.

2. Our second source of revenue is from **grants** we receive from the Wisconsin DNR. They are wonderful partners of Tomahawk Lake and have consistently funded programs such as our chemical treatments, our Hydraulic Conveyor System and our Clean Boats, Clean Waters ramp monitoring program.

3. Our third source of funds is from **the four towns that border our lake**. We have been fortunate to receive funds from Minocqua, Woodruff, Lake Tomahawk and Hazelhurst. We thank them for supporting our efforts to provide an outstanding lake experience in support of tourism and the economic impact it has on our community.

4. Our fourth source of income is from **social events we hold**. The Mallory and Daly families have sponsored the Hermit Island Swim Challenge for the last several years and Buoy Sponsorship has been a major contributor to our revenue. Our wine tasting and silent auction, as well as other items, like merchandise sales (baseball caps this year) also add to our revenue.

5. And finally, **we benefit from volunteer hours**. These are important contributions to TLA as all DNR grants require us to provide matching contributions—and volunteer hours are an important essential part of this. We have many important volunteers, including Clean Boat, Clean Water ramp attendants, includes 17 teams of individuals that perform 2 lake surveys each summer in support of our lake treatment programs); our board members who devote countless hours to the organization; and our scientific volunteers who measure lake clarity all summer long. There are always areas where we can use more volunteers, so if you have an interest, just let us know and we will be glad to find a mutually beneficial volunteer opportunity.

USES OF FUNDS: Our uses of funds fall into the following categories:

1. Invasive species removal/treatment: Our largest category of expenditure is on the treatment and removal of invasive species. Eurasian Water Milfoil is the primary target, and we utilize both chemical and mechanical treatment tools. Chemicals were not used in 2017 at the request of the DNR, but we did utilize our mechanical Hydraulic Conveyor System (HCS). We are still working with the DNR on options for 2018, so more information will be forthcoming as we finalize our plans over the winter.

2. Shoreline Preservation: A second major initiative of our Comprehensive Lake Management Plan is the protection and preservation of the shoreline. Effective shoreline management helps to manage run-off into the lake, thus reducing the nutrients that feed invasive species.

3. Labor Costs: Our work requires people, and we employ several folks to support the efforts of TLA. Our Executive Director, Ned Greedy, leads the effort and oversees all activities. We employ two divers for the HCS boat, and also two ramp attendants

for both the Thoroughfare Landing and the Lake Tomahawk Landing. We employ a part-time accountant to assist with our bookkeeping. There are various volunteer folks who assist with the production of our newsletters and maintenance of our website.

4. Communication: Our two newsletters, e-blasts, website, and our Facebook page are all important communication methods to share news with our members. Some are low-cost, while others, like this newsletter, are quite expensive.

RESERVES: Over the last 10 years, through some very generous donations from a few key donors, we have built a 2-year reserve in our operating budget. While this might seem to be a large reserve, in reality, our board feels it is prudent given the variability in funding that we have experienced in the past. DNR grants are never guaranteed, nor are contributions from our other sources. We feel it is important to maintain our ability to continue our lake initiatives should our funding sources change.

A summary of our 2017 budget is below:

Sources of Funds

Town Revenue	\$23,000
Grant Revenue	\$85,600
Fair Share	\$60,000
Other Events/Misc	\$13,775

Total Sources of Funds \$182,375

Uses of Fund

Invasive Species Removal	\$51,500
Shoreland Preservation	\$15,000
Labor	\$64,000
Communication/Website/Mailings	\$8,125
Admin Fees/Events/Insurance/Other	\$17,000

Total Expenses \$155,625

Estimated Contingency for 2017 \$26,750

Overall Long-Term Reserve \$313,000

Comments: 2017 was an unusual year for TLA. In past years, we spent an average of \$35,600 on chemical treatments—which in 2017 we were not allowed to do per instruction from the DNR. The impact of this was significant increase in the amount of EWM in the lake. We are working with the DNR on a plan for 2018. Where this plan ends up will inform our decision on **Fair Share** amounts for next year.

The Winds Of Change (part 2)

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NED GREEDY



Welcome from the frosty northwoods where the trees have lost their leaves, and the Tamarack's are golden smoky. Who knows when the first snows will arrive. Fall is generally one of the busiest times of the year for TLA work and this fall has seemed doubly so.

As I write this letter, I have completed the annual fall Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) and aquatic plant inventory and as you may well imagine, the results show a heavy increase in EWM infestation levels in our watershed. As I have said in the past, this summer season proved to be the "perfect storm" for aquatic plant growth throughout our watershed, and our primary concern is the growth in EWM. With record rainfall in April, May and June, along with warm and sunny days throughout July and August, the number of acres of heavy dense EWM within our lakes has expanded from the 14.8 acres recorded in last fall's plant inventory survey to 64.85 acres mapped in late September of 2017. In addition, new locations of EWM infestations have popped up in a number of places where they have not been seen before. This is definitely not a good sign

As you may recall from my spring newsletter article, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) in Oneida, Vilas and Forest counties did not issue spot chemical treatment permits in 2017 for lakes with infestation sites of less than 5 acres. Approximately 30 lakes in this three county area were affected. While I can't speak for other lakes in this group, our watershed experienced an unprecedented rebound in this aquatic invasive species over this year's growing season. I'm certainly not saying that all of this growth is due to the WDNR's moratorium on chemical treatments for small areas, as there is little doubt that the nutrient load experienced from the exceptionally wet spring, and the ideal growing conditions over the summer are major factors in the EWM's rebound.

You may also recall from the spring newsletter, that this localized WDNR policy was developed after a number of university studies gave evidence to the long-term negative impacts of chemical herbicide use on the general health of lakes and streams. I would refer you to my spring newsletter article which gave an overview of these studies. The long and short of it is that there is compelling evidence that long-term use of chemical herbicides to control invasive aquatic plants does adversely affect fish reproduction in lakes, and also leads to the buildup of chemical residue in bottom sediments. The article also gives an overview of an Army Corps of Engineers study which indicates that herbicide applications for spot treatments (sites of less than 5 acres) are relatively ineffective in controlling EWM, due to the rapid dissipation of herbicide concentrations over the small areas. In the year since the WDNR instituted their

current permitting policies in Oneida, Vilas and Forest counties, nothing has changed to throw the validity of these study results into question. In a meeting with the local WDNR Lakes Manager in early September, I was told that there would be no change to their policy of rejecting chemical herbicide treatment permits for spot chemical treatments of EWM in 2018.

When we look at conditions in our watershed, along with the WDNR's policy concerning chemical treatment permits we find ourselves "between a rock and a hard place." The WDNR contends that EWM, if left untreated, will seek an infestation "equilibrium" which will settle at a level that "we all can live with." Our experience as a lake organization does not support this theory. We have Eurasian Water Milfoil reestablishing itself throughout our watershed, and we seemingly have no effective tool to remove EWM from larger high density infestation sites. At this time our options are few:

- Continue to live within the local WDNR policies and continue to closely monitor the spread of EWM within our lakes.
- Utilize our Hydraulic Conveyor System to remove heavy EWM infestations where they occur on heavily used shorelines, understanding that the HCS capacity is not nearly sufficient enough to keep up with shoreline owner demands.
- Educate riparian owners on hand removal procedures, which include hand pulling EWM as well as cutting techniques for the limited removal of "nuisance plants" on their shorelines.

While these options live within the bounds of current WDNR local policy, we are going to propose an alternative option – one that meets the WDNR half way.

We will propose to the local WDNR Lakes Manager that together we initiate a "test program." Where heavy dense EWM is adjacent to state owned undeveloped shorelines, we will continue to adhere to the no treatment policies. But, where heavy dense EWM infestations are adjacent to privately held shorelines, that we be allowed to make judicious chemical applications using contact herbicides. This can work because the 64.85 acres of heavy dense EWM identified in the fall survey, roughly half are located adjacent to undeveloped state owned lands and half by privately held lands.

Finally, I think it's important to note that the WDNR and the University of Wisconsin have spent a great deal of time and money in studying the effects of chemical herbicides on the aquatic plant community in our lakes and streams. The results of these studies decry the negative effects of these courses of treatment. It should be noted that there are other studies which are not necessarily in agreement with their conclusions. I am personally in agreement that the long-term use of chemical herbicides—as the sole tool to control heavily infested EWM sites—is not a good thing. But while I am in agreement with them on this issue, I find it unfortunate that neither the WDNR nor the University of Wisconsin system seem to have any suggestions on how to successfully approach the EWM control problem. We hope that they will redouble their efforts to identify, develop and implement new long term solutions that will meet the needs of all interested parties.

Real-estate Trends and Water Quality

(Continued from page 1)

fishing or recreational boating and, of course, because of the aforementioned wonderful water quality. All that being said, there are still many threats challenging our lake.

The threats that our lake faces range from: **1)** the fact that the suite of invasive species trying to colonize our waters seems to be constantly growing; **2)** as a lake association we still have yet to designate Critical Habitat (*an Action item in our new Comprehensive Lake Management Plan, page 127, and an area of interest since our original plan*); **3)** our watershed continues to be deforested; **4)** State wetland protection regulations seem to be persistently eroded; and **5)** all this leads to degraded water quality in our beloved Tomahawk Lake. For example, during this very rainy spring, we saw an abnormal amount of nutrients carried into the lake via runoff and overland rain flow. This helped lead to the massive alga blooms we saw in the lake in early summer. As our watershed gets further developed, and if we don't practice prudent shoreland protection, we will see more and more of this type of water quality impact.

Even with all these threats, there is still a lot of good news. TLA has the opportunity to advocate for shoreland protection by working with the WI Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on designating Critical Habitat around Tomahawk Lake, and through voluntary conservation easements. Groups like the Lakeland Conservancy are protecting open tracts of wetlands and forest—the filters for our watershed. Local officials and lake residents still have no tolerance for seeing any sort of industry in the watershed that would add any point-source contamination directly into the lake. Perhaps more than anything, TLA has been both proactively and reactively responding to the threat of invasive species. Invasive plant species eradication and containment is something the TLA has worked extremely hard on and should be very proud of.

Many ask why it is important to support the invasive plant species controls. That is something I can probably answer as much from a realtor's perspective as an ecologist's perspective. Within the last few years one of the Lakeland Area's nearby prized lakes has had a major growth of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). On this lake, there are certain homes for sale that have large beds of EWM growing just off the docks. The feedback for these listings has not been positive, as prospective buyers find these dense beds of invasive species undesirable, and therefore the homes become harder to sell and are worth less. On the other end of the spectrum, Tomahawk Lake, where the residents have been diligently monitoring, chemically treating, and hand pulling EWM for years, real estate values are particularly high and inventory is now somewhat low. Let's explore that further.

Currently there are only four active for sale single-family homes on Tomahawk Lake. This is a traditional low inventory time of year, because many people who are thinking of listing a home will wait till spring to put it on the market, but still four is very low. The average listing price of the four active homes is just over \$600,000 and so far those homes have been on the market about an average of 185 days. Over the last year, 14 single-family homes have sold on the lake, with an average sales price of just about \$945,000 and average days on the market at 188 days. There were 332 Oneida County lake-front homes sold within a year's time of writing this article, with an average sales price of just about \$340,000 and 207 days on the market. It is easy to see that homes on Tomahawk Lake are much more valuable than the average Oneida County lake home.

Again, the reasons Tomahawk Lake demands such high real estate values is because of the natural resource reasons mentioned above and the fact that caring citizens like you have been working hard to protect this shared resource. It is easy to feel—like with the WI DNR's change in policy to discontinue herbicide treatment of EWM—that we are fighting a losing battle. But please don't give up! There is still much work to do and many lake associations are looking up from the water and starting to think at the watershed level. We can still work with elected officials and zoning professionals to protect our shorelines and try to limit the adverse environmental impacts of larger development. Things like strong stormwater-management ordinances, better wetland protections, maintaining native shorelands/shorelines, and diligent stewardship of our uplands will have compound and beneficial effects to the waters we love. It is up to us to protect this resource, and for many, to protect your investment and family treasure. Environmental stewardship may do more than assure there are eagles for your grandchildren to look upon; it may payback financially in the long run.

TLA Board Contacts

Here's how to contact your board officers:

President: Paul Shain
paul@badgernorth.com or 608-658-2006

Vice President: Margo Oppenheim
mmoppy@deerrunstone.com or 715-356-3722

Treasure: Scott Harmsen
scott.harmsen@gt.com or 414-617-4541

Member At Large: Noah Lottig
nrlottig@gmail.com or 715-356-9494

Secretary: Leslie Hertz
lfox3@wi.rr.com or 262-989-5093

TLA Board Members

Paul Shain, President

paul@badgernorth.com

Paul and his wife Suzy have owned a home on Tomahawk lake for the last 12 years. He has been President of TLA since 2009, and is entering his final year in that role. Over the last 8 years he has worked hard to create a sustainable business model for the organization with a focus on collaboration with our various constituents, including our lake property owners, the Wisconsin DNR, and the four townships that support TLA. The recently completed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan provides a future road map for lake stewardship, and expands our commitment to shore land preservation. When not "up north", Paul and Suzy can be found in Madison, where Paul is the CEO of Singlewire Software. As lifelong Badgers, Paul and Suzy are very involved in philanthropic activities associated with UW-Madison, and can frequently be found cheering at Badger Football and Basketball games.



Margo Oppenheim,

Vice President &

Event Committee Chair

mmoppy@deerrunstone.com



Margo has lived on Tomahawk Lake for 65 years. Wow, how can it be that long already?

She has lived in three different homes at 7860 Leary Road and currently resides at 7848 Leary

Road. Her parents, Ruth and Harrison Klippel, established Klippel's Landing (currently Lakeside Grill) in 1946. In 1960, Harrison dredged a channel coming off Tomahawk Lake and winding around approximately one quarter mile to the west. It is on this channel, Klippel's Channel, that Margo resides.

Margo has been on the TLA Board of Directors for the past 14 years, serving in the capacity of treasurer, secretary and vice president. Margo has served on the Minocqua Town Planning Commission and Town of Minocqua Christmas Decorating Committee for the past 11 years. She also serves on the Minocqua Mural Committee. She and her husband, Alan, own and operate Deer Run Stone on Hwy. 51 south a wholesale distributorship and retail seller of natural and man-made stone products used for building materials, (fireplaces, interior and exterior walls) landscape and flooring products. They built and opened a new facility in 2016 next to Minocqua Hardware on Hwy. 51 South. Come in and see their huge display.

They have one daughter, Lindsey, who also is a TLA Board Member, and one cute little dog, Kenzie. Margo's love and passion for Tomahawk Lake has rubbed off on her family. Kenzie especially loves swimming in the lake and exploring various islands with her canine friends.

Scott Harmsen, Treasurer

scott.harmsen@us.gt.com

Scott and his wife, Tammy, along with their three adult children, Jenna, Alyssa and Jacob,



and two Labradors (Miley and Maizy), have been summer residents of the Pottawattomie Colony on Tomahawk Lake since 2004. Prior to that, they enjoyed fifteen wonderful summers on Kawaguesaga Lake with Scott's parents and sister. Tammy was born and raised in Minocqua. When not enjoying the lake, they live in Pewaukee, Wisconsin, where Scott is a partner in a global public accounting firm. On July 25, 2015, on a beautiful sunny warm day, Scott and Tammy were blessed to be the parents of the bride at a truly special wedding ceremony on Hearthwood Point. Jenna married Karl Yentz, son of Dr. Tom and Patty Yentz, also Tomahawk Lake residents and TLA members. Jenna and Karl's wedding day is affectionately known as the Best. Day. Ever.

Leslie Hertz, Secretary

lfox3@wi.rr.com

Leslie has been on Tomahawk Lake since 1999, but has been on up north fishing trips with her Sheboygan relatives since she was an infant. Her husband, Bob, has been on the lake since 1955! Together, they have 7 children and 6 grandchildren who all enjoy spending time at the cottage. When not up north, they live in Racine, where Leslie is busy as a pediatrician, running the parent association at the high school, attending soccer games, and cheering on her beloved Chicago Cubs.



Meg Daly

meg@coachmegdaly.com

Meg Daly is a speaker and coach who works with individuals feeling stuck yet eager to take their lives to the next level.

She has a natural ability to hone in on the unique gifts of her clients, while inspiring and supporting them to create more effective lives at



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TLA Board Members *CONTINUED*

work and at home. In addition to her private coaching practice, Meg also facilitates workshops for the private and corporate sectors. You can learn more about her by visiting www.coachmegdaly.com as well as her blog at *M Magazine*, www.mmagazinemilwaukee.com

Ned Greedy

Executive Director

edgreedy@gmail.com



Ned and his family have enjoyed summers on Tomahawk Lake since 1962. In 1966, they purchased their family home

on the point of Blueberry Bay. It has been an important part of Ned's life ever since. After a 35 year career in business, Ned and his wife, Pam, moved to the shores of Tomahawk Lake in 2004. Ned joined the Tomahawk Lake Association shortly afterward and served two years as vice-president before becoming the association's first Executive Director. Ned and Pam have four adult children and two grandsons.

Jim Kavemeier

Education and Environment Chair

jimkavemeier@mac.com

Jim and his wife Kathy's lake home is located in Piene Bay. They have two married children, son Todd (Patty) Kavemeier and daughter



Karen (Todd) Gamroth. Now retired, he enjoys fishing and viewing the scenery and wildlife present on the lake. Previously he was manager of the Waukesha County Park System. Like many, he believes in being a good steward of the Tomahawk Lake System. A place where the natural

beauty, recreational opportunities, wildlife, peace and tranquility his family enjoys can be also enjoyed by future generations.

Noah Lottig

Education and Environment Co-Chair

nrlottig@gmail.com

Noah and his wife, Bryn, now live full time on Tom with their two sons, Meyer (5) and Corbin (3).

Noah is a research scientist and site manager at the UW Trout Lake Research Station. His research focuses on understanding long-term water quality patterns in lakes and streams. Noah completed his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in aquatic sciences in 2009. Bryn's family has had a place on Tomahawk Lake for 30+ years. Noah and Bryn's free time is spent keeping up with their two children and spending as much time on the lake in the summer as possible.



Scott A. Meitus

Membership Chair

Smeitus@windwardinvest.com

Scott A. Meitus is the Founder and Managing Partner of Windward Group, a Minocqua, Wisconsin-based company that provides expert financial and

market analysis services to private multifamily investors, developers and family offices. During his career, Scott has provided in-depth, critical analysis and examination of over 4,000 apartment properties nationwide and has completed more than 500 formal market analyses. Scott has also overseen the acquisition and management of 18 apartment properties in Illinois and



Wisconsin with a combined purchase value of just over \$50 million. On average, the investment in these assets provided partners with returns of 29.2% annually. He is author of a number of published articles focusing upon multifamily investment and has spoken at many real estate-focused conferences and symposiums. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a BA in Real Estate and Urban Land Economics, and is involved in several civic and non-profit organizations including Rotary International where he is currently President Elect of the local chapter, Ducks Unlimited, the Wisconsin Waterfowl Association, the Tomahawk Lake Association and Junior Achievement. In his spare time, Scott enjoys golf, fishing, waterfowl hunting and swimming.

Louis Molepske, Jr.

molepskelaw@gmail.com

Louis has called Tomahawk Lake his second home since he got his first job at Dan's Minocqua Fudge in grade school and went to work by boat. Louis waterskied with the Min-Aqua Bats Water Ski Club at night



and wrote for the *Lakeland Times* while attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he earned a degree in Political Science and Journalism. Louis graduated from Marquette University Law School and served in the Wisconsin Legislature for ten years as ranking member of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee. Louis works as the elected Portage County District Attorney and resides in Stevens Point with his wife Raquel and daughter Julia.

Lindsey Oppenheim

Events Committee Co-Chair

lindsey.oppenheim@gmail.com

Lindsey Oppenheim has been a part of Tomahawk Lake since 1984. She loves spending her spare time on the lake and is thankful for the allure and charm of the Northwoods. Lindsey is now serving

her fifth year on the TLA Events Committee. Lindsey resides in Arbor Vitae, WI year-round. She is



a Family Support Specialist out in Lac du Flambeau and gets the pleasure to work with families from prenatal to

the child's fifth birthday. Lindsey has strong ties to the lake for her Grandparents were the original owners of Lakeside Grill, then known as Klippel's Landing. One of her hobbies is nature photography – needless to say Tomahawk Lake makes a beautiful canvas. Check out some of Lindsey's photography of the lake on our TLA website. She would love to hear any ideas or suggestions you have in regards to events for our lake community.

Adam Redman

Adam@RedmanRealtyGroup.com

Adam and his wife, Melissa, moved onto the lake in 2012 and have 4 kids: Tyson (9), Blake (7), Kaden (5) and Layla (4). Adam, who was born and raised in Minocqua, grew up on the Minocqua chain. Before receiving his BS in Kinesiology at Indiana University, Adam attended MHLT elementary and Lakeland Union High School and was a member of the Min-Aqua Bats Water Ski Club. Adam is the Broker/Owner of Redman Realty Group in Minocqua and Manitowish Waters. Adam is also on the board of directors at the Campanile Center of the Arts, Lakeland Area Scholarship Committee, Northwood's Association Board of Realtors, Lakeland Assembly of God and is an active member of the Lions Club of Minocqua. Stop by and say hello to Adam, Melissa and their little paddleboarders.



Lorri Wanserski

wanserski6@charter.net

Lorri has owned her cottage at 7816 Leary Road for the past six years. She lives in Wausau and is a part-time dental hygienist at her husband Dave's office. Lorri and Dave have four children. Matt (32), Mike (30), Michelle (25), and Mallory (20). Lorri has been involved in various community organizations including the Warming Center for the homeless, and Resurrection Catholic Church. She loves to garden, play tennis, walk/jog, and take care of her chickens. Lorri and family love their cottage on Tomahawk Lake and want to get involved in keeping it a special place for their family to enjoy.



Gretchen Watkins

Marketing & Public Relations Chair

gwsurfacewater@gmail.com

Gretchen has been a part of Tomahawk Lake since 2000 when she married Radley Watkins. Professionally, Gretchen worked for the first 20 years of her career as a Hydrologist, Engineer, and Water Resource Specialist for both public and private institutions protecting human and environmental health by designing and regulating infrastructure to protect water quality around the country. She worked for the US Forest Service, UW Center for Limnology, and the Lac Du Flambeau Tribal Natural Resources. She authored and directed multiple research and regulation grants for more than one million dollars and published several legal and technical reports in protection of human health and the environment. Gretchen has served as a board member on the Vilas County Lakes and Rivers Association and the Lac du Flambeau Town Lake Committee. Gretchen is now a Lakeland Union High School science teacher. She has recently joined the Tomahawk Lake Association Board and is helping with the newsletter. In her free time she enjoys family and the outdoors.



2017 Summer Events Update

The Hermit came out for a day full of sunshine, fun and laughter at **the fifth annual Hermit Island Swim Challenge!** This year we had multiple races again—children's swim, adult/family swim around the island, and water craft. We had 36 people register for the challenge. The Hermit handed out kiddie medals to all who swam. Our two fish trophies were given to Dene Hillinger for coming in as the first female swimmer and Tyler Eckert came in



first for the male swimmers. This year the Hermit had hats for sale as well as t-shirts

and sweatshirts. He has decided to add kiddo hats to next years' event!

The Hermit and his committee would like to thank all who came out to participate



as well as all the volunteers who made the day safe and possible!

This year was our first Pot Luck Social!

What a great turnout we had, so many new faces as well as familiar faces. We gathered at Leslie and Bob Hertz's house in Piene Bay, for lots of yummy food, good company and beautiful weather. Thank you to everyone who brought a dish to pass and a HUGE thank you to Leslie for hosting, putting together the event and providing food and beverage. The lake crowd has spoken—this Pot Luck Social will be turned into an annual event for friends and family of all ages.



W I S C O N S I N

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Tomahawk Lake Association
P.O. Box 535, Minocqua, WI 54548

2018 Tomahawk Lake Association Events

Wine Tasting: Saturday, June 23, 2018, 4-7 p.m.



It's Back!! We hope you have missed this event as much as we have! This year the **TLA Wine Tasting & Silent Auction Event** will be held at Pete and Brenda Gauchel's house. Julie Kay's Catering, formally known for her catering at Trig's, will once again be catering our event. So, bring your appetite and pocket book to start the summer out with us!

Hermit Island Water Challenge: Saturday, July 7, 2018, 9-12 p.m.



The hermit on Hermit Island once again welcomes you for **a morning full of water races!** Bring your kayaks, canoes and paddle boards for the water craft race around the island. We will again have a short-course kid's swimming/running race and an adult and family swim race around the island.

TLA Potluck Social: Saturday, August 11, 2018 4-7 p.m.

I don't know about you, but we had so much **fun** at last year's potluck, we decided to make it an annual event! Get out your **favorite summer recipe**, a refreshing drink and a chair to lounge in and meet us at Adam & Melissa Redman's house for **a family friendly get-together**. TLA will provide paper products, condiments and the main meat dish to pass.



Details on events will follow in the months to come. Please keep your eyes peeled for those email blasts. Mark your calendars now! Please have a healthy and safe winter and we can't wait to see everyone next summer!

Margo's Minocqua Minute

- **Minocqua Fire House update!**
The building is coming right along and all should be completed in November.
- **Dollar General is breaking ground**
south of town on Hwy. 51 across from Moto-Mart.
- Check out the **Pizza Vault** in downtown Lake Tomahawk in the old bank building. They opened up this summer and are doing great! They even deliver pizza right to your boat at the public boat landing!
- It's that time of year...**seasonal businesses** are closing.
- The fall weather has set in and the animals are getting ready for another winter or migrating south. Hopefully come next spring I will have more to update you on.