



President's Notes

A new year begins and with it new challenges for our Lake Association and opportunities for members to be involved.

2017 RECAP

Veliger Testing – This is the larvae form of zebra mussels. None were detected.

Water Quality Testing – This was completed in association with WAPOA. Access the latest results map [here](#).

Eurasian Water Milfoil Actions – Surveys were completed of Emily, Mary and the connecting Little Pine River for Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). EWM is present in Emily and Mary. The presence of EWM in Emily was substantially reduced from the prior year. The presence of EWM in Mary was verified for the first time. Treatment was completed on both Emily and Mary.

Fish Stocking - Completed stocking of walleye in Mary. See related story.

These projects happen because of your membership in ELRA. The Lake Association is then able to partner with the City of Emily Waters Fund, Crow Wing County and the MN DNR for added benefits.

2018 CHALLENGES/OPPORTUNITIES

EWM – This will continue to be a high priority. To meet this challenge, members at the annual meeting voted to increase dues to \$50. Crow Wing County for 2018 reduced the funds available for EWM control by \$1,000 to \$4,000. The \$4,000 from Crow Wing County is the total available for Emily, Mary, Little Pine River, and Dahler. We will continue to make use of the City of Emily Waters Fund as well.

Notes (con't)

Water Testing – Water testing for clarity and quality will continue. ELRA would like to study options to improve water quality; however, volunteers for this are needed. To volunteer, email ELRA at elra@emilylakes.org.

Veliger Testing – This will continue as we need to remain vigilant for detecting zebra mussel presence. Remember also to inspect your docks, boats, lifts, etc. as you put them in or remove them from the water. Report any possible infestations to the **MN DNR and ELRA**.

Membership

Your membership dues for 2018 are now due in the amount of **\$50.00**. Membership runs with the calendar year. Checks should be sent to ELRA, P.O. Box 111, Emily, MN 56447 or you can pay online at www.emilylakes.org. If paying on-line a credit processing fee of \$1.50 is added.

A mailing is being sent for membership to all property owner on Dahler, Emily, Mary and the Little Pine River shortly. Watch for this and follow-up with your friends and neighbors. The more members we have the more we can do for the lakes and river!

Donations

To make a targeted donation to ELRA for specific projects, please use the donation option from the ELRA web site. Targeted areas for EWM Control, Boat Inspections, Fish Stocking or Other are available. Go to the web site now to donate.

Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting is Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Contact us at elra@emilylakes.org if you have an issue you wish discussed at the meeting or you wish to attend.

Meet Your New Board Members

Two new board members were elected at last year's annual meeting. Three Board positions will be up for election at this year's annual meeting. Consider becoming a board member!

Debra Hansen

Hi, my name is Debra Hansen and my husband, Bill and I have been coming to the Emily area for the last 25 years. We purchased our in-laws little trailer (The Boxcar) the trailer was parked at the Emily Resort and we spent several years at the resort. Bill caught many a walleye back then!

On a rainy day, Bill and I started scouting out lots for sale and we found our perfect place on Mary, we hauled The Boxcar up to the lot, brought in electricity, Bill built an outhouse and we were set!

Or so we thought, we bought a much larger trailer and kept that for a few years and then of course, we had to build. Our cabin was built in 2000 and we've added a garage and made a few improvements, does it ever end?

Our son, recently bought the two lots next to us, and we couldn't be happier. We love having the kids, grandkids and friends stop in.

Hope to see you on the lake!

Russ Boverhuis

My wife and I purchased a partially built cabin on Lake Emily in 1997. Since then we finished the cabin and did our best to enjoy the lakes. I grew up in a small town near Albert Lea, MN, attended college in Mankato and spent the majority of my professional career doing IT work while living in Bloomington.

My wife and I raised three children and now have three grandchildren. In 2014 I retired and have since spent my time volunteering, babysitting the grandchildren and enjoying the outdoors. You can find me in the yard at the cabin or on my bicycle.

My wife and I have been a member of the ELRA for many years. I believe every lake user can benefit from the work being done by the ELRA. My goals as a board member would be to monitor water quality along with working with the City of Emily and the DNR to prevent the spread of other invasive species. I am looking forward to being part of the ELRA board and helping keep our lakes healthy and safe.

Thank You!

ELRA sends a big **THANK YOU** to the Emily – Outing Snowbirds snowmobile club. ELRA received a donation of \$700 for EWM control on Mary Lake. Be sure to thank a club member when you see them.

Thank you also to the City of Emily for providing funds for the Waters Funds for our treatment efforts for EWM. Make sure to let the City Council members know we appreciate their assistance.

2018 Crow Wing County AIS Plan

Crow Wing County has developed an AIS plan for 2018. Because of the infestation of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in Emily Lake, the lake access is classified as "very high risk" by the county. Under the plan, 300 hours of boat inspections will be provided by the County at the Emily Lake access which is a reduction of 150 hours from 2017. \$4,000 will also be available for EWM control which is a reduction of \$1,000 from last year. The County allocates funds to the ten lakes that are infested with EWM that have a public access. Since Mary Lake does not have a public access additional funds for Mary are not included. The County has allowed ELRA to use funds allocated for Emily for Mary as well however. While this is still a significant amount it is insufficient to cover the full treatment needs for Emily and Mary Lakes. The AIS plan also has \$250 for educational materials and includes funds for payment of lab fees associated with monitoring of zebra mussel veligers.

Fish Stocking

ELRA completed fish stocking in late October 2017. \$1600 of walleye fry were stocked in Mary from Mielke's Fun at The Lake's Resort access. ELRA is allowed to stock 2 out of 3 years – matching the program that the MN DNR does with stocking of Emily. The MN DNR does not stock Mary as there is no public access. We will be monitoring the DNR for their lake surveys .

