



Greetings!

## Another Fabulous Summer on Pelican Lakes

### Calendar for balance of 2015

09/05/15 8:30 a.m. PLPOA Executive Board Meeting (location ??)

09/09/15 7:00 p.m. PGOLID Board Meeting (RMB Labs)

12/12/15 7:00 p.m. PGOLID Board Meeting (RMB Labs)

### Jeff Peltier Honored for Dedicated Service to PLPOA



Jeff Peltier was honored with a Certificate of Appreciation presented by Jim Prondzinski, President, at the August 21 PLPOA Board of Directors meeting. Jeff completed 12 years of distinguished service to PLPOA as Communications Chairman.

Jeff's dedication to providing news and information to PLPOA members has been a significant factor in evolving the organization and for the success PLPOA has achieved. Jeff will remain active in PLPOA with the Yacht Club, special projects and especially as head of the Pelican Lake Sailing School.

### Volunteer Appreciation Night 2015



PLPOA is extraordinarily fortunate to have conscientious, dedicated members who unselfishly contribute time, talents and donations to the organization. A "thank you" event was held at Fair Hills on August 21 to

express appreciation for their service. The evening was filled with good food and fun conversation.

### **Why are there so many weeds this year?**

We have had reports about increased aquatic plant growth in PGOLID lakes this year. This is likely due to a combination of factors including: 1) little snow cover on the ice last winter meant that sunlight could shine through the ice and allow plants to get growing earlier than normal; 2) early ice-out this spring helped early growth too, and aquatic plant growth was about a month ahead of usual in May; 3) increased clarity from zebra mussels allows plants to grow deeper than they could previously; 4) hot, calm, sunny weather in July was perfect for plant growth; 5) the rains in July were downpours, which causes runoff that feeds plants. So in summary, all the conditions were perfect this year for a bumper crop of plants. Residents are allowed to clear a small area in front of their property for swimming, although this requires a DNR permit.

Practices that can help limit plant growth in the future include 1) making sure you are not using phosphorus fertilizer on your lawn. Phosphorus fertilizer use on lakeshores is banned in Minnesota, but you are able to buy it in North Dakota, so make sure you check the label before applying it on your lawn. 2) Make sure your septic system is working properly. 3) Install a buffer of plants, trees, and shrubs along your shoreline or a rain garden to intercept runoff before it carries nutrients to the lake.

[Moria Rufer](#)

### **PGOLID Annual Meeting Summary**

PGOLID (Pelican Group Of Lakes Improvement District) held its 21st annual meeting at Fair Hills, 8/15. The meeting had an informational update from Nikki Kupser (888.931.3411) from Greater Minnesota Gas about the natural gas project's progress and intent to head East down Highway 31 and parts of Fish Lake Road in 2015, ahead of schedule. Notifying GMG of your interest and working with neighbors on any private road access agreements are key to keeping the momentum going.

A resolution was passed to re-classify the 2015 Operating Budget approving funds to proceed with a grant application to address the safety and aesthetic issues with the Fish Lake Dam on the Pelican River. The 2016 Operating budget was also approved. PGOLID Board vacancies were fulfilled through election: Bill Kelsven (Cha Rosa) [re-elected], Bert McDonough (Lakeview) and Melody Jensen (Fish Lake) were all elected to three year terms. Additional information can be found at [www.pgolid.org](http://www.pgolid.org)

A special thank you to Jim Beckstrom (Pelican Beach) who served as the meeting's Parliamentarian, and also the election officials, Mary Swanson (Little Pelican) and Janis Gustafson (Knollwood).

## **Pelican Lake Residents Survey**

The 2015 PLPOA Property Owners Survey is being prepared and will be conducted in September. All residents are encouraged to fill out the survey.

[Jim Prondzinski](#)

## **Muskie Initiative Update**

Dave Majkrzak and his dedicated muskie working group are continuing the battle against the DNR and muskie stocking in Pelican Lake. Dave hosted a group of association officers from numerous lake associations in Otter Tail County. The purpose was to get all of the participants on an equal footing regarding DNR plans and the methods used by them and to formulate plans for the way forward.

It is highly recommend that lake residents read the [Knapp Study](#) article written by the Perham Focus. The article was written in 2010 and is almost identical to the arguments that have been raised by the PLPOA. Hard to believe that nothing has been done since the article was published. It is a great summary of the efforts of the PLPOA, but also shows how difficult the journey will be as we move forward.

[Jim Prondzinski](#)

## **Muskie Editorial Web Page**

PLPOA Board and committee members have received a plethora of testimonials and editorials from Pelican Lake residents and a former MN DNR enforcement captain concerning the carnage of crappie, pan fish and downward trends of walleye caused by indiscriminate stocking of Muskies in the lake by the DNR. Some people have shared their experiences of being bitten, fears of dogs being attacked and being uncomfortable in the water. To maintain a permanent library of these testimonials and editorials a new web page is in the process of being created. [GO HERE](#) to see the new page.

## **County Road 9 Reconstruction Project**

This email was sent August 19:

To: Lake Association members Owning Real Estate on County 9

From: Gary Lawrence and Jim Beckstrom

Date: August 19, 2015

RE: Update Information Regarding County 9 Project

On August 12th we met with County Engineer Rick West, Assistant County Engineer Chuck Grotte, and County Commissioner Wayne Johnson. We have the following updates:

All property owners abutting County 9 should now have received a letter from the Otter Tail County Highway Department regarding improvement of the road. 59 properties abutting County 9 will require permanent or construction easements. You can examine your parcel by clicking on the Otter Tail County road construction map direct link: [GO HERE](#).

If your property is one that will require a construction or permanent easement, you will be contacted by Evergreen Land Services Company which is working with the County Highway Department. They will explain to you the procedure for the acquisition of your easement. If you are not a year round County 9 resident during this process, you need to notify Evergreen of your winter contact information as soon as possible.

Do not tamper with any surveying stakes on your property. A resurvey or restaking will be costly and will slow down the acquisition and construction process.

Each member must handle their own easement negotiations with Evergreen. The Lake Association cannot represent you, but will continue to provide you with update information.

The County Highway Department is working to finalize necessary approvals from other agencies, such as the DNR. If those approvals and all 59 landowner easements are completed by December 15, 2015, the Highway Department will seek bids for the road improvement project by February 15, 2016, with work to start no later than May 15, 2016. Please note: If eminent domain takings must be commenced by the County to obtain all the necessary easements, this will delay the project and extend this timeline.

We will continue to update our affected members as this matter progresses.

[Jim Beckstrom](#) 218-532-5177

[Gary Lawrence](#) 218-532-2664

### **Natural Gas Deployment Update**

Greater Minnesota Gas (GMG) is continuing to work on natural gas line burial around the lake. And just like the old expression "the squeaky wheel gets the grease," in the gas business the "easiest route gets done first."

Some areas with more private easement issues have slowed down the ability to route the gas lines, and GMG has changed some of their initial installation plans and is progressing this year further than initially planned on the east and south side of Pelican. If you are interested in natural gas in your area, be sure to work with your neighbors, and GMG to get details resolved. Go to the [GMG website](#), or call GMG at 888-931-3411 for more information.

[David Majkrzak](#)

Sincerely,

[John Kruse](#)

PLPOA Communications Chairman