



BELLE PLAINE NEWS & EVENTS

Fall 2015

Cloverfest event gets a new sponsor

By Linda Hosking

The Cloverleaf Lakes have been fortunate to have had amazing fireworks to celebrate the Fourth of July each year. As we reminisce on those glorious firework displays, it is fitting to talk about the history of the Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks Committee and one of their important fundraising events – The Cloverfest Run/Walk, which is celebrating its 12th annual event on Oct. 4.

Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks, Inc. was established in 1998. The focus of this group was to raise funds for the annual display. You may remember various fundraising events from the past – Halloween dances, poker runs, raffles, golf outings, ice golf (complete with “Christmas tree hazards”), brat- and steak-fry events and candy sales. Do you remember the Ski-Sharks performing? How about **Pete Kristof**, **Paulie Gruetzmacher** and **Tuffy Yaeger** as Drag Queens? Needless to say, our Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks Committee certainly was a creative bunch.

In 2003, members of the **Jaskolski** family and their friends decided to start a walk/run. Those early beginnings would become the Cloverfest Run/Walk, which became an important fund raiser for the humane society and the fireworks committee.

The Run/Walk is focused on the beautiful Cloverleaf Lakes area, with the course covering a 3.5 mile course around the perimeter of our lakes. Records show the race evolved from 36 participants in 2003 to 180 participants in 2014.

“This event is a great community event, with great prizes donated from local sponsors,” says **Pete Kristof**, who has been

Cloverfest Run/Walk

Date: Sunday, Oct. 4

Place: Rustic Resort site under a tent

Time: Registration at 9 a.m., run/walk at 10 a.m.

Sponsor: Belle Plaine Sportsman’s Club

Activities: Food, raffle prizes

Sign-up: Email to Linda Hosking at Lindro78@yahoo.com or call (715) 823-8319

coordinating the event for many years. Pete added, “We also have delicious free food planned for the participants and (for a small fee) for spectators.”

“Last year, it became clear the only thing we cannot plan on is the weather,” **Debbie Kristof** noted. “It was so cold we had to add hot chocolate to the menu.”

There are so many people that have been involved in the fundraising over the years, and our community sends a special thank you to everyone involved. There is still plenty of time to register, but to be guaranteed a tee-shirt, we need to hear from participants by Sept. 24.

This year’s proceeds will again support the humane society, along with the Belle Plaine Sportsman’s Club.

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Diver Alex Harp, left, takes a break while diving on Round Lake to pull up Eurasian Water Milfoil in July as volunteer Tom Stueck waits to bag up the weeds. More than 9,000 pounds of milfoil was removed by the divers on Round and Pine Lakes. For details, turn to page 4.

Fair exhibits bring a blue ribbon to Belle Plaine

By Alvin Bartz

Another Shawano County Fair has come and gone. We had a good year at our food stand together with the FFA Alumni. I would like to thank the team that worked in the kitchen, up to 65 hours for some. It was very hot!

I would also like to thank **Rich and Judy Pahlow, Bonnie Olson and Jeff Kroenke** for their work in the Belle Plaine booth in the Farmers building. We received the blue ribbon.

We had a good number of entries but we need more people to consider entering exhibits at the fair. We need some young families to step up and keep the tradition going.

We finished roadwork for the year with blacktop on Spruce Road and on Capitol Drive. We fell under the prevailing wage law because the cost was more than \$100,000. This usually adds a little cost to the projects.

As a reminder, when there is a holiday before Thursday,

Belle Plaine chairman's message

house-to-house garbage pickup is on Friday rather than Thursday.

New technology needs to be developed for the disposal of garbage. Since about the early 1980s when towns no longer disposed of solid waste, garbage has gone into plastic-lined landfills that cover acre after acre of land that will not be used again in most cases.

Future generations will pay the perpetual care on these landfills. We need to do what we can to reduce waste until better technology is developed.

It would be interesting to hear from folks if you see uncommon wildlife. I have had reports of sightings from area folks in the town of bears, wolves, bobcats, fishers, cougars, coyotes and other wildlife.

Belle Plaine town notebook

* Fall and winter hours for the Collection and Recycling Center on Cloverleaf Lake Road are Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

People with large items such as furniture, TVs or building materials are encouraged to take the items to the Shawano City Landfill. There is a small fee. Hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays. The Belle Plaine Recycling Center does not accept those items.

Property taxes will be collected by Treasurer **Heather Krueger** on two dates in December and three in January. She will be available at the Community Center on Highway 22 on Dec. 28 from 8:30 a.m. until noon, and on Dec. 31, from 1 to 6 p.m. She will also collect taxes on Jan. 11 from 8:30 to 11 a.m., on Jan. 21 from 5 to 7 p.m., and on Jan. 29 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Taxes can also be mailed in. The address is Heather Krueger, W9660 River

Bank Road, Clintonville, WI 54929.

* Reservations are being taken for the Community Center. The facilities can be rented for \$30 for residents or \$40 for non-residents. See the town clerk for details.

* The Belle Plaine Card Club meets weekly on Thursdays at the Community Center from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

* Town clerk **Kristine Vomastic** holds regular office hours from 5 to 7 p.m. Mondays and 8:30 to 11 a.m. Saturdays. Treasurer **Heather Krueger** is available at the Community Center Mondays from 8:30 to 11 a.m.

Check for lake/town news at
www.CloverleafLakes.com and
www.BellePlaineWI.com

Belle Plaine officials

Alvin Bartz, chairman

Harold Polzin, supervisor

Dennis Thornton, supervisor

Kristine Vomastic, clerk

Heather Krueger, treasurer

Vivien Hoffmann, constable

Newsletter editor: Dennis Thornton



Belle Plaine Community Center

N3002 St. Hwy. 22

Clintonville, WI 54929

(715) 524-2690

Town clerk's hours:

5 to 7 p.m. Monday; 8:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday or by appointment

Regular Town Board meetings:

Second Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m.

Committees:

Planning, Zoning, Gibson Island Stewardship

Population estimate: 1,855

Local groups cooperate to benefit all of us

By Dennis Thornton

Collaboration is a wonderful word to describe what has been happening to make our lakes community better.

Just flip through the pages of this newsletter for the latest examples. The year-old Belle Plaine Sportsman's Club has waded into community affairs in a big way. It helped the Cloverleaf Lakes Triathlon by serving food and drinks, and it will be doing the same for the Cloverfest Run/Walk in early October.

The club provided half of the volunteers to help out the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association's Eurasian Water Milfoil removal project. And it is collaborating with the town and the CLPA on the Healthy Lakes project that will add "fish sticks" this winter and plant shoreland native plant gardens.

The Town of Belle Plaine has a long history of collaborating on projects benefiting the lakes including Healthy Lakes, milfoil treatment and, of course, obtaining Gibson Island. The town has successfully sought grants from the Department of Natural Resources, another collaborator, for all of those projects.

We can add the annual Jim Aumann Golf Outing, the Fire-

CLPA president's message

works Association and Clover Bares into the mix of cooperating groups.

*We still have a few months to go in 2015, but the CLPA board is starting to work on our annual fund-raising drive. Next year will likely bring an extremely expensive chemical treatment on Grass and Pine Lakes to combat our ever-growing milfoil.

We have one more year on our aquatic invasive species grant and the town will likely budget some financial help. But the whole-lake treatment with a new chemical mix will be much more expensive than in previous years.

As a thank you to our loyal members and donors, every household that joins the lake association in 2016 will receive an update of the lake Directory. That will contain names, addresses and other details about lake residents as well as other lake information.

Look for an envelope from the CLPA in your mailbox in November and please consider joining and donating.

Great expectations forge our lake-living experience

By Jan Thornton

My husband and I have lived on Cloverleaf Lakes for more than 16 years. It had been our lifelong dream to someday live on a lake. Since our arrival, we've noticed how many of us come here with great expectations of how things will be. I know we certainly did. Not surprisingly, when one thinks about it, these expectations can differ. Below is a short list of some of these categories observed over the years:

Anglers. We want a robust and healthy fishery.

Environmentalists. We want to preserve and improve the health of the lakes.

Peace, quiet and nature lovers. We want to hear and see



A water skier and a personal watercraft operator pass on Grass Lake, just two of the many uses of Cloverleaf Lakes.

Letter from the lake

the birds, observe wildlife and waterfowl, smell the flowers, and commune with nature.

Recreation enthusiasts. We want to have fun. We want to play music, waterski, tube, snowmobile, and buzz around in motor boats, personal watercraft and pontoons.

Silent sports devotees. We want to swim, sail, kayak, canoe, paddle, row, cross country ski, snowshoe and skate.

Traditionalists. We remember how it used to be and believe low water levels are beneficial.

These categories overlap with each other in many cases and do not offer an exhaustive list. This is just an attempt to share a perspective that has helped my husband and me understand the unique dynamic created in a lake community among people whose deeply felt desires might sometimes conflict with those of others. It makes it easier, for us at least, to understand why folks can feel frustrated and sometimes even angry with our volunteer organizations and state and local governments. And with each other.

We try hard to find peace with other points of view and understand that we who live on our lakes are all in this together. Otherwise, we tell ourselves, if we don't like (fill in the blank), we shouldn't live here. Life is too short. And we feel we are *so lucky* to be living here.

Pulling weeds: Divers harvest tons of milfoil plants

Divers from Lake and Pond Solutions, aided by lake volunteers, DASHed to pull out Eurasian Water Milfoil by the roots in July and August in Round and Pine Lakes.

DASH in this case stands for Diver-Assisted Suction Harvest of the invasive weed. Two divers working from a barge pulled up milfoil and fed it into a water suction tube. The volunteers on top bagged up the weeds, weighed them and brought them to shore to be sent to the town compost site.

Total harvest: 9,126 pounds of milfoil.

Volunteers put in 126 1/2 hours that count for \$12 an hour toward the town's share, matching a 50 percent DNR grant. Cost was about \$20,000.

The CLPA and Belle Plaine Sportsman's Club split morning and afternoon shifts over 11 days of harvest. Workers from the CLPA included Joe Mass, Dick Thurow, Dave

Above, Dick Thurow loads up milfoil to be composted. Below, DuWayne Novak, left, and Joe Mass check out a day's production in drainable bags.



Diver Alex Harp grabs an Eurasian Water Milfoil plant and guides it into a suction tube to be bagged aboard the raft.

Rosenfeldt, Dennis Krubsack, DuWayne Novak and Dennis Thornton.

Sportsman's Club volunteers included Craig Ford, Connor Ford, Dan Stueck, Pete Kristoff, Tommy Stueck III, and Don Rogalski. Dick Hesse and Thurow carted the weeds to the compost site on Range Line Road. Joe Mass coordinated the effort.

DASH is a new weapon the DNR is encouraging in the fight against the invasive plant.

The consulting firm Onterra LLC has taken a survey of aquatic plants and invasives. It is expected to recommend 2016 whole-lake treatment of Grass and perhaps Pine Lakes with a combination of chemical.



Volunteer Don Rogalski watches as a bag fills with milfoil brought aboard the raft by a suction tube.

Sportsman's Club sets a brisk pace

By Donna Ford

The Belle Plaine Sportsman's Club has been busy with many community activities. They assisted the Embarrass Volunteer Fire Department with the 5K Run/Walk where they helped with registration and time keeping, and FUN DAZE, where they cooked and served food, as well as tended bar.

Club members cleaned up Highway Y for the Adopt a Highway Program, and collected nine bags of garbage. The club supported the Jim Aumann golf outing and Shadows on the Wolf's golf event and annual meeting.

They worked the EconoFood Brat Barn and have several fall fundraising events:

- Clintonville Area Swim Team (CAST) Triathlon: Concession Stand: Sept. 5 – Rustic Resort
- Horseshoe and Korn Hole Tournament: Sept. 12 - Break Away
- Cloverfest 5K Run/Walk: Sunday, Oct. 4 – Rustic Resort (see page 1)

The Club is sponsoring a Youth Pheasant Learn to Hunt program on Saturday, Oct. 3. This is an all-day program featuring **Mark Schraufnagel**, DNR warden, teaching the kids classroom style about the pheasants and their life cycle and hunter's safety tips. The club finished building six fish sticks cribs over the winter. Members have been working with **Al Niebur**, DNR fish biologist to plant 2,100 5- to 7-inch walleyes in the Cloverleaf Lakes this fall. The DNR also will be planting 1,900 fish.



Jenni King takes her dog, Ricoh, for a ride on a paddle craft in Cloverleaf Lakes during a warm early September night. Jenny lives in the Town of Belle Plaine.



Linda Hosking stands by her new native plant garden on the shoreline of Pine Lake. The garden was planted as part of the Healthy Lakes program.

Native plant gardens added along shorelines

Linda Hosking smiles when she admires her new native plants along the east shore of Pine Lake.

Her shoreline garden was prepared and planted by **Lisa J. Reas**, a state expert on native plants and shoreland restoration. Three shoreland gardens have been planted so far, including the **Rosenfeldts** and the **Breuers**, with five or six more to come this fall including one rain garden. Reas said she is waiting for cooler, wetter weather for those properties where someone is not available to water the new plants frequently.

The project is part of the Healthy Lakes grant from the Department of Natural Resources. The grant provides 75 percent funding for a 350 square foot native plant area along a shoreline. The CLPA pays an additional 15 percent, leaving property owners just 10 percent, usually around \$100. The grant also includes money for the "fish sticks" habitat improvement that the Sportsman's Club plans to expand this winter.

Hosking said she loves her new garden and is encouraging her neighbors to join the program. Some of the plants used include coneflowers, black-eyed Susans and wild geranium.

The Healthy Lakes program will continue in 2016 and 2017. For more information contact **Dennis Thornton** at thorngb@frontiernet.net.

Town's 'Belles' have a Bizi agenda of meetings, service

By Joan Sousek

The Shawano County Association for Home and Community Education (HCE) has a three-part mission: offer educational opportunities; improve leadership skills of members; and provide service to communities.

Those are key elements for the Bizi Belles, an HCE club, based in the Town of Belle Plaine. But there's one more essential component: Socializing.

"It's a nice gathering of neighbors, interacting, learning new things and socializing," said **Judy Pahlow**, the Bizi Belles' first president. "It was mostly farm wives from the start, and it was our night out."

Verdell Krueger, a charter member from the Town of Pella, agreed, and cited another strong club focus.

"Community service is important, too," she said like the blankets members make for Shawano Medical Center and center-pieces for Pine Manor Health Care Center.

Both women said crafting once was a major club emphasis, but it has waned. "We used to be able to stay up later to do projects," Krueger said.

The club formed on Jan. 31, 1977. Pahlow hosted the first meeting at her Belle Plaine Avenue home; other charter officers were **Barbara Riesenber**g, vice president, and **Mae Retzlaff**, secretary-treasurer.

Pahlow had learned about the organization – then called Shawano County Extension Homemakers – from agent Pat Scott.

Other charter members are **Ruth Pahlow, Inez Mur-saki, Amy Hodkiewicz, Donna Hodkiewicz, Bev Jablonski** and **Barbara Schneider**.

The club had a high of 13 members. Current members are the two Pahlows, Riesenber, Retzlaff, Krueger, Muraski, Sandy **Smith, Miriam Durkey** and **Mary Zahn**. Four members live in the Town of Belle Plaine, four in the Town of Pella and one in Shawano.

With a small group, everyone gets involved.

"I think all of us have been president one time or another," said Ruth Pahlow who is currently at the helm. Serving with her are Krueger treasurer, JudyAnn Pahlow secretary, and Muraski vice president.

Ruth said the club participates in many fundraisers, including working at the brat stand at Charlie's County Market and bake sales which help support community outreach.



Bizi Belles include, front row: Inez Muraski, Judy Pahlow, Barb Meyer, Sandy Smith, Ruth Pahlow; back row: Mae Retzlaff, Mary Zahn, Mariam Durkey, Verdell Krueger, Barb Riesenber.

October through May club meetings often include a lesson with information that a member obtains from a county workshop and brings back to share. Recent topics included crockpot meals, communication, problem solving and decision making and couponing. A lesson on cranberries is slated for November.

If there is no interest in the monthly topic, members usually do a craft or work on blankets. Business might include discussion of fundraisers and possible donations.

Meeting focus has shifted a bit from homemaking skills, such as baking bread, to educational topics like health and aging, Zahn said.

The Bizi Belles have two annual social events: a Christmas party with spouses at an area restaurant and a family picnic in the summer.

Popular countywide events are the Learn-In held jointly with Waupaca County in fall and the Spring Event in May. The 2015 Learn-In will be at the Main Event, Cecil, on Oct 27.

Annual county dues are \$11. Bizi Belle members donate \$1 per month to a cheer fund that is used for things like buying a plant for someone in the hospital or a gift for a significant anniversary.

The club has given many hours and donations to projects like the BIBS car seat safety program, Jaws of Life, Farm Progress Days, Dollars for Scholars, Shawano Area Food Pantry and Resource Center (SAFPARC) and many more.

Shawano County has 10 clubs and a total of 96 members.

The Wisconsin Association HCE (WAHCE) is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. The association's Central District will host the state conference and anniversary party in Stevens Point Sept. 14-16. Fifteen Shawano County women who have been members 55 years or more will be among the special honorees. That includes 57-year member **Marcalene Rosenow of Belle Plaine** who was in the Country Neighbors club from 1958 to 1998 and now has an individual membership.

The organization's heritage dates back to World War I, when emergency home demonstration agents taught the use of wheat, sugar and meat substitutes. Its statewide formation began as the Wisconsin Home Demonstration Council in 1940.



Wisconsin's Recreation Center
The Place for Health, Rest & Pleasure
CLPA incorporated in 1936

CLOVERLEAF LAKES
PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 288
Embarrass, WI 54933-0288

If you haven't paid your dues, please make your check for \$25 payable to Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association, fill out and clip this form, and send it to CLPA, P.O. Box 288, Embarrass, WI 54933-0288. The membership is for the calendar year 2015. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation.

"Preserving our lakes for future generations"

Name: _____

Lake Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Home Address (if different): _____

Dues \$ 25.00

I would like to make a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Board of Directors

	Pam Bruecker, treasurer (715) 823-3917 brueckerp@gmail.com
Dennis Thornton, president (715) 823-9151 thorngb@frontiernet.net	Dave Rosenfeldt (715) 823-6604
Joe Mass, vice president (715) 823-3758 jandmass@frontiernet.net	Dick Thurow (414) 430-9067
Carol Wegner, secretary (715) 823-6270 cawegner@frontiernet.net	Francie West (715) 823-4059 frwestpilot@charter.net

2015 CLPA Protectors

The following have made donations to the CLPA Protectors and/or became dues-paying members for 2015 since the summer newsletter, as of Sept. 10.

Business (\$100)

Associated Bank, Embarrass
Nelson Services

Pine (\$100)

Mike and Patti Fletcher
Barry and Linda Hosking
Marvin and Esther Letven
Cindy Lillge and Jeff Harold
Lisa and David Pierre/Mary and Mel Johnson

Kim and Mark Raymond
Sandra Tomashek

Ash (\$50)

Peggy and Mike Bevernitz

Memberships (\$25)

Peggy and Mike Bevernitz
John and Mary Born

Gerald and Darlene Breuer

Buth Family Lakehouse

Mike and Patti Fletcher

Dale and Connie Fruendt

Keith and Janet Haskins

Paul and Kim Hendricks

Mary M. Horn

Barry and Linda Hosking

David and Karen Krubsack

Marvin and Esther Letven

Cindy Lillge and Jeff Harold

Nick and Leeann Little

Mike and Stacey Nelson

Jim and Sally Norder

Mike Petruzates

Lisa and David Pierre/Mary and Mel Johnson

Kim and Mark Raymond

Edward and Adeline Stuebe

Sandra Tomashek

Roy and Kathy Weiner

Thomas and Bonnie

Weniger



The McMahon family took first place in the July 4 Pontoon Parade with a "Thank you 4 the fireworks, Love the Nuthouse" theme.

Lakes celebrate Independence Day

The traditional Kiddie Parade, Art Fair, Pontoon Parade and the finale of the fireworks drew huge crowds to Cloverleaf Lakes July 4.

Mike and Patti Fletcher of the Corner Store donated the popsicles for the Kiddie Parade and Barry and Linda Hosking helped out.

Marv Letven organized the Art Fair at Round Lake Park.

There were 12 boats in the Pontoon Parade with the McMahon family in first, Tom Rosenfeldt family second and Bob and Judy Tomczyk family third. Steve and Molly Joosten organized the events.

Belle Plaine Community Center
N3002 St. Hwy. 22
Clintonville, WI 54929

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Swimmers start the Cloverleaf Lakes Triathlon Sept. 5 on Pine Lake as a crowd watches. About 100 athletes participated in the event.

Bikers to view town's barn quilts

The Town of Belle Plaine will be one of the routes for bicyclists for the third annual Bike the Barn Quilts Ride on Saturday, Sept. 26.

All of the routes start at Memorial Park in Shawano and the Belle Plaine route will be marked. Maps will be provided, along with a

continental breakfast, lunch and incentives.

Cost is \$25 per person or \$50 per family. All ages and skill levels are welcome. More information is available at www.ShawanoPathways.org.

Shawano County is considered the Barn Quilt Capital with more than 300 barn signs.

Belle Plaine calendar

Oct. 4: Cloverfest Run/Walk, 10 a.m., former Rustic Resort site.

Oct. 12: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center

Oct. 12: Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Community Center

Nov. 9: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center

Nov. 9: Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Community Center

Dec. 14: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center

Dec. 14: Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Community Center

Second Tuesdays: Belle Plaine Sportsman's Club, 6 p.m., Butch's Archery