

Spring, 2023

Diamond Lakers Newsletter

Volume 27, #1



Loon Family, Aaron Crawford

Greetings Diamond Lakers.

You directed your board to take action and we did. At the July 2022 annual membership meeting you unanimously directed us to take action to prohibit large boat wakes on Diamond Lake. The board worked diligently gathering scientific and research information and studies, conferring with other lake organizations and the DNR, attending seminars and a Wisconsin Natural Resource Board meeting, and worked closely with the Town of Grand View Board (GVTB).

On April 12 GVTB made effective an ordinance prohibiting the creation of large wakes on Diamond Lake. That means no wake surfing. Water skiing is permitted. [Here is a link to the ordinance and to the 9-page Condition Report](#) that was required to accompany the ordinance request.

There is more about the ordinance inside the newsletter. My thanks to the board for making this happen!

An audit of our financials was made by board members John Rosebush and Raye Lahti and Diamond Laker Jeff Burke. This was conducted to make sure our financial books were in proper order and to protect our treasurer. [Here is a link to the audit report](#) showing that all is well. Job well done-thank you!

This year's annual meeting on July 15th will be a two-part event, education and business/social. An educational talk and discussion will be held at Rivers Eatery beginning at 11 AM. Please see the article

about Ted Rulseh, his books, and the presentation he will make. Ed Wallen is to be thanked for making this timely and informative event happen. Thanks Ed!

Part two to be held at Grand View Town Hall beginning at 3 PM will start with a brief business meeting and the introduction of Madelaine Rekemeyer, our Bayfield County District Eleven Supervisor, who will talk about her responsibilities and how she can be of service to us, her constituents. This will conclude with a social time with potluck appetizers and beverages. More information as we get closer to the event.

This has been a year that much has been done to protect and preserve Diamond Lake for users today and for generations to come. The coming year promises to be filled with more activities that build upon the success of prior activities as you will read about in the newsletter.

Get involved, stay involved to keep Diamond Lake the gem that it is. As Matt Berg said about Diamond Lake, "it is good for the soul".

On a final and fun note the board is pleased to announce two long-time Diamond Lakers, sisters Dianne Klump and Jessie Meschievitz, have stepped forward, volunteering to be our Diamond Lakers Social Committee, lovingly known as the "Social Gems".

Looking forward to being with you all at the annual meeting. Scott



ANNUAL DUES

Annual dues for 2023 of \$50 may now be paid any time. As in the past, one option is to send a check to Diamond Lakers, Box 543 Cable, WI 54821. Also, if your bank offers a “Bill Pay” service or an ACH external transfer option, you can have a check deposited directly to the Diamond Lakers account. The routing number for our account at the Chippewa Valley Bank is **091509468** and the account number is **227256**. In addition, if you happen to have an account with any branch of Chippewa Valley Bank, you/we can arrange an internal transfer, even if you do not have the Bill Pay option.

As the DL Association is a 501(c)(3) private non-profit corporation, your dues (and any additional contributions you choose to make!) are tax-deductible. There are also several practical benefits to membership, in addition to knowing that your contributions are 100% supporting efforts to preserve the natural qualities of the lake and surrounding environment. The winter propane buy-ahead discount can more than pay for the cost of membership, and members receive an updated copy of the DL Directory and an image map showing names with cabin locations, available only to Diamond Lakers.

LOGO CONTEST

We are so grateful to Trish Leaf for getting the ball rolling on a Logo Contest for Diamond Lake! WOW... we had so many wonderful logo designs to choose from. It was very difficult to decide on just one. A ballot was distributed via email on April 14. The deadline to vote, with one vote per property, was April 30...followed by a run-off!

We are now thrilled to announce that the winning logo, shown here, was created by Derek Wallen. Congratulations, Derek!



Stay tuned for information regarding clothing orders (or distributor) with the new logo.

Many thanks to the *many creative artists* who submitted logos:

- Kristie Derendinger - (daughter-in-law of Larry and Cindy Johnson) N. Diamond Lake
- Jeff Facklis - Chapinwood
- Charlie Farrow - (son of Randy and Jean Farrow) Chapinwood
- Sara Frick - Twin Pines Lane
- Tara Inge - (daughter of Sally Moser) Pioneer
- Anastasia Jacklitch - (daughter of Jim and Sally Pathos) Chapinwood
- Beth Johnson - Chapinwood
- Trish Leaf - Twin Pines Lane
- Beck Lorenz - (daughter of Ray and Kathleen Lorenz) Twin Pines Lane
- Ian Simonson - (son of Brad and Barb Simonson) Canterbury Trail
- Susan Trankel - Canterbury Trail **2nd PLACE**.....
- Derek Wallen - (son of Ed and Monica Wallen) N. Diamond Lake
3rd PLACE.....



UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES:

- Saturday, May 27 Board Meeting
- Wednesday, June 28 Board Meeting
- Friday, June 9 “On-Water Volunteer AIS Training Session” (pg. 7)
- Saturday, July 1 Boat Parade (pg. 14)
- Saturday, July 15** (see below)
- 11 a.m.— Educational Talk at Rivers Eatery**
- 3 p.m.— Membership Meeting / Social at Grand View**
- Wednesday, July 19 Board Meeting

Our **Annual Membership Gathering**

is two-fold, this year. The first portion is an educational event for our members (with the public also invited). Author, Ted Rulseh, will give a talk on “Protecting Your Lake: the Ultimate People Business”, at Rivers Eatery on Saturday, July 15 at 11:00 a.m. He will also be available to sign his books, *Ripple Effects* and *A Lakeside Companion*.

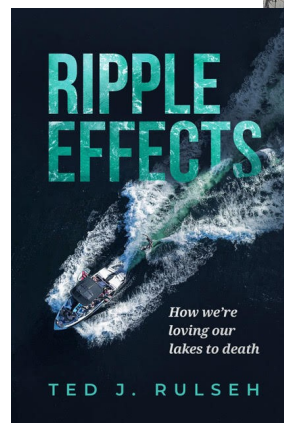
In his engaging and conversational style, Ted Rulseh will draw on personal experience, interviews, academic research, and government reports to describe the state of our lakes, the stresses they are under, and avenues to successful lakeside living for a sustainable future.

At 3:00 p.m. we will meet at the Community Room of Grand View for our Annual Membership Meeting and social time. Special dignitaries have been invited. Bring a ‘nibble’ to share.

Please plan to attend both events, if at all possible!



Ted J. Rulseh



YOUR DIAMOND LAKERS MEMBERS AND BOARD AT WORK

Many Thanks to the concerned members of the Diamond Lakers Association!

Hours and hours have gone into the development of the Ordinance to regulate boating upon the waters of Diamond Lake. Your board of directors began its research in 2021 and early 2022, prior to the

July 23, 2022 Annual Membership meeting, when there was a Large Wake discussion, after which the membership directed the Board to explore with the Town of Grand View a possible ordinance regarding the creation of large wakes. See the subsequent **TIMELINE** below.



August 4 — Survey sent to membership on whether to pursue an ordinance.

38 households voted YES.

4 households voted NO.

1 household voted NEUTRAL.

September 14—Bob Jacobel, Scott Johnson and Raye Lahti met with Grand View Town Board (GVTB) to present the desires of Diamond Lake property owners to regulate high wakes.

October 14—Bob Jacobel and John Rosebush (and four Diamond Lakers) participated in GVTB meeting.

Oct. through Dec.— DL Board met regularly. Bob Jacobel took the lead on a Condition Report and Dave James took the lead on creating the Draft Ordinance.

January 23, 2023— Special called meeting by GVTB for the sole purpose of hearing public comments for or against the proposed ordinance. Presentation by Pat Arndt, Dave James (via phone), and Scott Johnson.

February 8— GVTB voted to send the Ordinance to the DNR for review. Pat Arndt, John Rosebush, Ed Wallen, Frosty Palmer and Scott Johnson represented the Diamond Lakers at the meeting.

March 8 , 2023— John Rosebush and Raye Lahti represented the Diamond Lakers at the GVTB meeting.

April 12— GVTB signed the ordinance after a 60-day required waiting period. Ed Wallen & Raye Lahti attended the meeting.

[CLICK HERE for CONDITION REPORT.](#)

[CLICK HERE for WAKE ORDINANCE !!!](#)



Shown above (**January 23**)... Grand View board member, Paul Gilbertson (left) and chairman, Jack Iverson (right) listened intently to the two cell phones on the table, through which Dave James conversed with Lieutenant Darren Kuhn, Voting Law Administrator with the DNR. [This followed an in-person presentation by Scott Johnson and Pat Arndt to the GVTB.]

WATER QUALITY SAMPLING and LAKE LEVEL VOLUNTEERS, 2022

During the summer of months of 2022, Ed and Monica Wallen had several Diamond Lakers assist in the **water quality sampling** procedure which was done twice monthly from June to September. All who were interested signed up for a scheduled outing and enjoyed assisting and learning how it is done while out on the lake. The volunteers were Scott and Beth Johnson, Al Forness, Tom Kraker, Cathy and John Rosebush, Dianne Klump, and Jesse Meschievitz. Volunteers assisted with testing water clarity, obtaining samples for processing, taking measurements of oxygen and temperature at five feet intervals in the deepest part of the lake (83 ft). Ed then prepared the water samples, packaged them, and sent them to Madison for analysis of chlorophyll and phosphorus. All of the above data are used in the DNR's Citizen Lake Monitoring program and as part of a 2022 DNR grant awarded to Diamond Lake.

Also, as a part of our summer 2022 DNR Water Quality grant, several DLers served as volunteers for monitoring **weekly lake levels**. These measurements were



achieved by recording lake level fluctuations taken from a lake level gage near the 18 Mile Creek outflow. The following volunteers took turns checking water levels weekly and recording their measurements online: Pat Arndt, Scott and Beth Johnson, Dianne Klump, Tom Kraker, Raye Lahti, John Rosebush, Ed and Monica Wallen, and Mark Wilhelm.


MORE NEXT PAGE. . .

THE WATER QUALITY GRANT CONTINUES IN 2023

The 2022 DNR funded water quality grant (DNR Grant Liaison, Pat Arndt) will continue for summer, 2023 through a no-cost extension. Field coordinator, Ed Wallen, is again requesting volunteer help with data collection much the same as 2022. Volunteers will assist in water sampling and analysis for clarity, temperature, phosphorus, and chlorophyll, lake stage, and rainfall amounts. Flow measurements at critical sites will be collected by Steve Schieffer, who is performing the analysis and assessment of all the results. Click the sign-up sheets below. They will also be on the DL website. Please consider assisting!

[SIGN UP FOR LAKE LEVEL VOLUNTEERS](#)

[SIGN UP FOR WATER QUALITY VOLUNTEERS](#)



CLICK TABS
ABOVE!

ON-WATER VOLUNTEER AIS TRAINING SESSION

EVENT: "On-Water Volunteer AIS Training Session"

WHEN? June 9, 2023. TIME: 10am-1pm (approximate-could go longer).

WHERE? Starting point TBA, but will cover the whole of DL.

WHO? Andy Teal, Bayfield County AIS Coordinator plus another AIS expert TBA.

WHO IS INVITED ? Anyone interested in gaining the ability to search for, retrieve, identify, and report on DL AIS. This training is a preface to the formation and inception of a DL AIS surveillance crew.

REGISTER: if interested, please send your intent to participate to Ed Wallen by June 7, 2023.

Send Ed an email at wallenm888@gmail.com

Please contact Ed soon since space will be limited to 15-20 participants.

Tools will be provided to participants.

Why Do Our Lake Levels Vary?

Bob Jacobel

At the end of last fall many DL residents were commenting on the low lake water levels we experienced, seemingly against the trend of generally high water over the past decade. As you have read elsewhere in the newsletters, we are in the midst of a DNR-sponsored study of our water budget (precipitation, inflows and outflows) that will quantify these fluxes and shed some light on the question of water level. As it turned out, our water fluxes were so low last summer/ fall that our consultant on this project advised us to extend the study for an additional year to get a second season of data. So we have no results to report just yet.

Regional Studies

But the issue of lake levels generally prompted me to wonder about a couple of things: (1) do our lake levels reflect local or even regional trends, and (2) ultimately, what is the cause of lake level variation? It turns out that we are fortunate to have a scientist nearby who has been studying exactly that question.

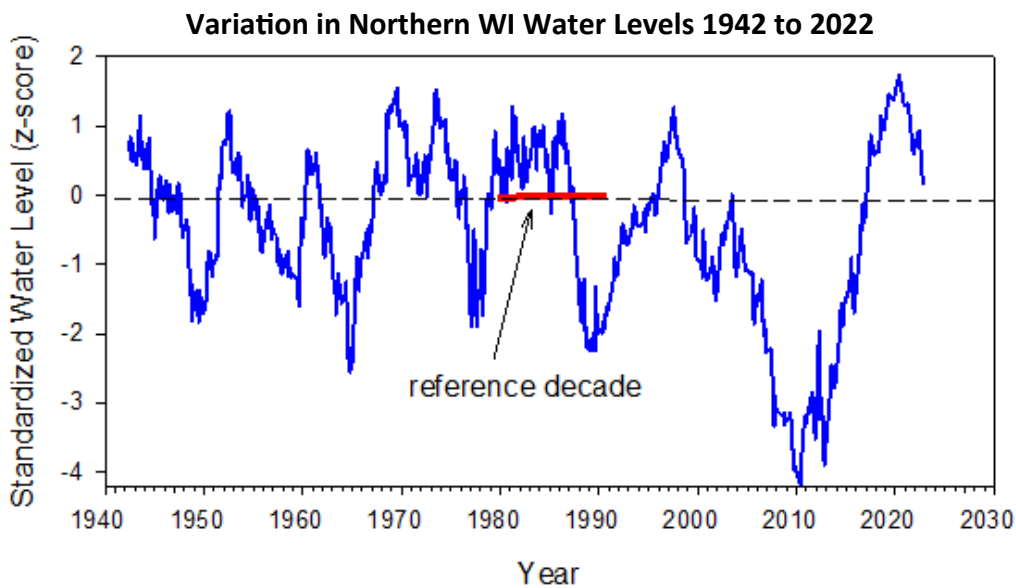
Dr. Carl J. Watras is a limnologist working at the Trout Lake Research Station, Center for Limnology, UW-Madison in Vilas County, northcentral Wisconsin. Watras has compiled an 80 year history of northern WI lake water levels, in the early years starting from a few seepage lakes in Vilas county, in 2010 expanding the data set to a larger network of 15 citizen-monitored lakes (like ours), and recently in a published paper linked to the behavior of the surrounding great lakes, Michigan and Superior.

It turns out, over a remarkable range in lake size and variations in hydrology, water levels in the upper Laurentide Great Lakes Region vary very similarly. The figure below of combined data over this 80 years shows a trend of lake level variation with a periodicity of roughly 13 years over the first 6 decades. This has been followed in the last two decades by a fall to record low levels in 2010, then a rise to maximum values in 2019, followed by a decline in the last three years. The 13 year cycle has been replaced by a larger amplitude oscillation of longer duration.

While we have no quantitative data for Diamond Lake, this pattern accords with what many residents recall about their dock height relative to water levels over the past two decades, and photos I have collected from Diamond and nearby lakes seem to bear this out. In short, Diamond Lake appears to be part of this overall pattern, recently reaching a decade-long high water level and now decreasing.



Pond Ryberg Rd September 2006 (left) at a time of near-record low water levels and in 2017 (right) near the peak.



Plot of the variation in lake levels in a collection of lakes from north central WI. Data from Watras et al., 2022, see text and references for further discussion.

Why Lake Levels Matter

DL residents know well the impacts of lake levels on swimming and boat entry and exit from our docks, but periodic oscillations in the water levels of lakes and aquifers are known to have biogeochemical, ecological and human consequences. For example, during periods of low water, reductions in precipitation or groundwater inflow can cause a rapid, transient acidification of lakes and changes in water chemistry. Fish and invertebrate habitat is lost when coarse woody material in littoral zones is

exposed during periods of drawdown. Mercury contamination in fish increases when the exposed shoreline sediments are re-inundated, stimulating methylmercury production. So these variations in water level are of more than passing interest.

So What's Behind Changes in Lake Levels?

A coordinated oscillation among water systems at such a large range of scales suggests a common governing factor. Water level variation in North American lakes (adjusting for stream inflow and outflow) is caused principally by changes in the balance between precipitation and evaporation. Ground water input and loss is a secondary factor but is also related to precipitation on longer time scales. In general, years of high precipitation are correlated with years of less evaporation, so the difference between the two is enhanced and becomes the dominant factor.

Until recently, variations in evaporation have been under-appreciated as a factor in the periodicity of water levels in the upper Great Lakes due to their constancy relative to precipitation over most of the historical record. However, recent correlations between a longer ice-free period (milder winters), increased water temperature, and increased evaporation suggest a stronger influence of evaporation on water budgets across the region than previously thought. This might explain at least part of the changes in periodicity and amplitude seen in the last two decades.

The difference between precipitation and evaporation represents the net atmospheric flux of water to the earth. This is controlled by the passage of high and low pressure systems and storms that move over us daily, but which vary regionally on time scales of years to decades. In the upper Great Lakes region this "storm track" is controlled by large scale atmospheric circulation, wave trains originating in the central North Pacific and extending across North America to the western North Atlantic. Like the El Nino oscillation in the southern hemisphere (ENSO), there are large-scale organizations of weather patterns on continental scales in the north as well, though their mechanics are different and they are not as strong or of as widespread impact as ENSO.

Identifying and tying these large scale atmospheric connections to the lake level trends we see is of great interest to hydrologists but is a work still in progress. Also of great importance will be understanding how these patterns are changing in response to a warming planet. Anyone wishing to read more about Dr. Watras' Wisconsin lake research may be interested in one of his recent publications here:

[https://npr-brightspot.s3.amazonaws.com/legacy/sites/wxpr/files/watrasetal2020estletters_1 .pdf](https://npr-brightspot.s3.amazonaws.com/legacy/sites/wxpr/files/watrasetal2020estletters_1.pdf).

For more information about 'teleconnections' between upper Great Lakes precipitation patterns and the Pacific Decadal Oscillation, see here: <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1029/2009GL041707>

For the
Loon Family
 From the
Allan Kind Family

“Spring is on it's way??? I received approval from Betsy Kind to have the Loon signage made. Shown at the left is the image. It's made of aluminum and will be 18" tall by 12" wide. We will place it on a post somewhere on the property of Paul Brown and Susan Walker (N. Diamond Lake Road).”

Mark Wilhelm



LOON NESTING ISLAND

The new loon nesting island was put in place in loon cove on Saturday, April 29, 2023 as a replacement for the aging nest island cared for by Stan and Jessie Meschievitz. Mark Wilhem and Ray Lahti built the replacement using cedar logs. Ed Wallen and Tracy Veillette assisted them in placing the new nest in the water and covering it with vegetation, all on a very moist, cold day. It is now awaiting a pair of nesting loons.

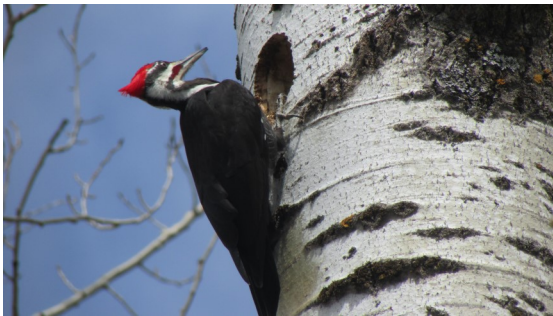


Already checking it out! 5-2-23



THANK YOU!!!

Raye Lahti, Tracy Viелlette, Mark Wilhelm



"I got these photos the week of April 23, along Diamond Point Road. Hoping for a nesting pair of Pileated Woodpeckers." Raye Lahti



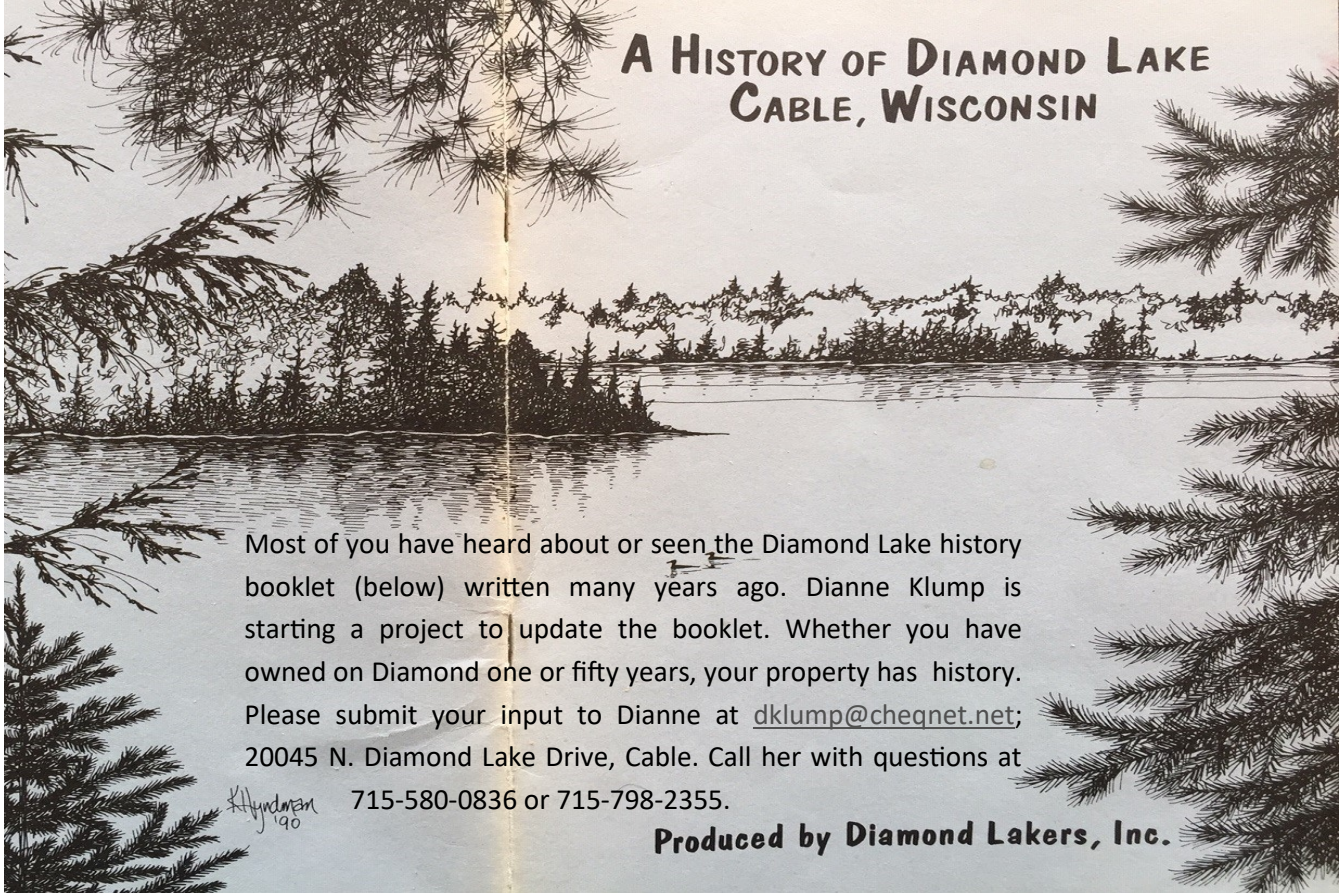
TURKEY— Caught in the act at our window...a peeping Tom!!

DEER— Some down time for 2 deer in our front yard during this past rough winter.

Monica and Ed Wallen



Al Forness ~ February 28, 2023



A HISTORY OF DIAMOND LAKE CABLE, WISCONSIN

Most of you have heard about or seen the Diamond Lake history booklet (below) written many years ago. Dianne Klump is starting a project to update the booklet. Whether you have owned on Diamond one or fifty years, your property has history. Please submit your input to Dianne at dklump@cheqnet.net; 20045 N. Diamond Lake Drive, Cable. Call her with questions at 715-580-0836 or 715-798-2355.

*Hindoran
1990*

Produced by Diamond Lakers, Inc.

READ OTHER REFLECTIONS FROM YESTERYEAR

- **A HISTORY of Diamond Lake Cable, Wisconsin**, Booklet by Diamond Lakers, Inc. 1990
- **Cabin Property History**, By Beth Johnson
- **The Property of Harris and Frances Palmer**, By Cary (Frosty) Palmer
- **The Year was 1949**, By Ron Parker
- **History of Diamond Lake**, By Marge Homer
- **Nettie Fox**, By Marge Homer (with addition by Gladys Heppard)
- **Margaret and Arthur Hartman**, By Marge Homer
- **John and Lillian Witt**, By Gladys Heppard
- **Jim and Marg Fibert**, By Marg Fibert
- **Cindy and the White Towel**, By Mary ('Cindy') Goeltz Palmer



What Happened to Our Sign???



2022 BOAT PARADE

Winner, Mike Goeltz & Toola



SAVE the DATE: Saturday, July 1, 4:00 p.m. Diamond Lake Annual BOAT PARADE in celebration of the 4th of July. Decorate your boat in the theme of your choice. Gather at 4:00 in the middle of the lake towards the SE side of the lake. As an added event this year, we will have a gathering of boats on the lake after the parade at the location we began the parade. It will be a “potluck” of appetizers to share. Bring your own beverage of choice. **No boat-- but you wish to participate in either the parade or after- gathering?** Please call Dianne at 715-798-2355 or Jessie 970-324-1550 and we will arrange a spot on a neighbor’s boat for you. Rain date for the parade will be Sunday, July 2, 4:00.

Jessie Mischievitz and Dianne Klump
DL “Social Gems”



Scott Johnson



Ed Wallen



Dave James



Bob Jacobel



Pat Arndt



Tom Kraker



Raye Lahti



John Rosebush



Mark Wilhelm

Our Current Officers are:

President: Scott Johnson
Vice President: Ed Wallen
Secretary: Dave James
Treasurer: Bob Jacobel

Directors at large:

Pat Arndt
Tom Kraker
Raye Lahti
John Rosebush
Mark Wilhelm

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Send future newsletter articles to [Beth Johnson](#).