



Photo: Tom Moser

Sandersons Will Bid a Fond Farewell to Diamond Lake

For anyone who doesn't know them, Audrey and Larry Sanderson have been the heart and soul of the Diamond Lakers Association for more than two decades. Founders, Board Members, Treasurer (Larry) and DL *Newsletter* writer (Audrey), they have both been central to our organization. Below is their story as compiled by neighbor Dianne Klump who interviewed them and wrote this story.

Audrey and Larry Sanderson have been enchanted by Diamond Lake for a long time. Audrey's father, Herb Dutton, bought property and its red cabin on Diamond Lake in 1986. Herb divided the property between his daughters Audrey, Anne and JoEllen in 1993. Prior to that, the Sandersons vacationed at Byrd's Twin Pines Resort, also with Anne and Seddie Cogswell who had a home on the south end of the lake.

The Sandersons started the construction of a home the fall of in 1993 and spent their first Christmas there in 1994. The first purchase in their new home was a

tandem kayak to explore the nooks, flora and fauna of the lake and they explored the area's backroads on their bicycles.

For all of their discoveries, Audrey felt something was missing – a sense of community. According to the booklet "*A History of Diamond Lake*," in the early twenties there was a close community amongst the lake's 15 property owners, brought about by neighbors helping neighbors. The area was truly remote and the only roads were logging trails.

Audrey's idea was to visit the mid 1990's fifty-some property owners on the lake and give them an information form asking for the history of their property, a bit about themselves and why they were attracted to DL (the favorite answer was, and still is, the natural setting, peace and quiet). "Larry thought I was crazy but he went with me to all the owners. Most of the people answered the questions and returned the forms to me," says Audrey. From the information she received, Audrey published the first *Diamond Lake Newsletter* in fall of 1996 that she and Larry distributed door to door in plastic kitchen bags.

Larry Sanderson carried on a commitment established by Audrey's dad Herb, a retired research chemist, of monitoring the water quality of Diamond by taking secchi disk readings for water clarity and meter readings of oxygen levels and water temperature. "I am pleased to report the quality of DL water has not changed much, if at all," said Larry. The information is given to scientists at the DNR who combine it with satellite-derived measurements and distribute it to the appropriate agencies as part of a long-term study of area lakes. Ed Wallin and Frosty Palmer took over the monitoring last fall.

We have the Sandersons to thank for nesting loons on DL as well. While building their home, contractor Jim Jenkins and his carpenters (Joe Papp among them) found cedar logs and constructed an island big enough for the loons to nest. It was placed in the small bay abutting the Sanderson property. Loons nested that year but the nest was ruined by a storm. The next year a pair of loons successfully raised two chicks that hatched on Loon Island and loons have nested there every year since. A few chicks have been prey to eagles and owls. This year the island and a nest were again destroyed by a storm, but it will be rebuilt by Stan Meschievitz, Scott Burns and Carl Vilmann, residents on the north end of the lake.

As noted, the Sandersons have also served the Diamond Lakers Association in several capacities, Larry most recently as treasurer, Audrey as the newsletter creator. Both have helped organize the association annual meetings and served many terms on the DL Board. In the larger community, both Audrey and Larry served on the board of the Cable Natural History Museum for six years. Larry helped establish the Farmers Market in Cable.

Both have been active members in the UCC church in Cable.

The Sanderson's extended family includes their daughter, Beth, her husband Tom, and grandchildren Hadley and Porter; their son Eric and his wife Caroline, and their children Abby and Molly. All visit Diamond Lake each summer. The families live in the state of Washington where Audrey and Larry have a home as well, and where they spend winters. Their plan for the future was to downsize their DL home this summer and put it on the market next spring but both experienced health problems this year and will likely relocate to Washington next summer.

Larry takes comfort in the fact that the realtor handling the sale of their DL home talks of the lake as one that promotes quiet water sports and features clean water, natural settings, peace and quiet – just as it was when the Sandersons found it. Audrey feels a sense of community now, steeped in tradition, serenity and common goals. Thank you dear folks for your guardianship of this extraordinary lake.

- *Dianne Klump*

At the DL annual meeting in July, the Sandersons were presented with a plaque granting them a lifetime membership in



DL Association President, Frosty Palmer presenting a Lifetime DL Membership Plaque to the Sandersons.

the DL Association. The plaque reads as follows:

Larry & Audrey Sanderson:

In recognition of your many years of leadership and devotion to our beloved Diamond Lake, the Diamond Laker's Board of Directors hereby grants you the first Honorary Lifetime Membership Award. Granted this day, July 15th, 2017 by the Diamond Laker's Association.

An Invitation to Join Diamond-Lakers

Greetings to all from your new DL Association treasurer, Bob Jacobel. I am taking over duties from Larry Sanderson who is retiring after more than two decades of service to the association as noted above. For those new to the lake, or just new readers of *the Newsletter* who have not yet joined the association, I'd like to extend a welcome and ask you to consider becoming a member. As your new treasurer, one of the things I hope to accomplish this year is to increase the Association membership. Currently we have 51 paid members and another 10 for whom we have e-mail contact information and who receive this newsletter but have not paid membership dues this year.

The Bayfield County property website shows that there are 70 developed properties around the lake, though a half-dozen or perhaps a few more appear to be used only infrequently. So a realistic goal for our membership is probably a few more than 60, which means we currently stand a bit above 80%. That's an impressive number I'm told by other lake associations, but I am hopeful **we can add a few more.**

We have a website www.diamond-lakers.org where viewers can find

information relevant to lake property owners and guests and read about some of our recent activities. Our main objective is creating and maintaining a sense of community and a common interest in preserving the lake's natural beauty, conserving it as a resource for all to enjoy in the future. Other benefits include a substantial saving on the Association propane buy-ahead program (more than 20% this year) available to DL members only. We also have a map of the lake with cabin owner's names that we make available exclusively to members (not posted on the internet) so you can identify new neighbors and help build community. If you are not already a member, **please consider joining us.** Dues are only \$20 per cabin per year. You can make checks payable to Diamond-Lakers and send to PO Box 543 Cable, WI 54821.

2017 Independence Day Boat Parade, a Grand Success

This year the July 3rd Independence Day boat parade featured 14 entries, the largest number thus far, and provided a colorful armada and great fun for participants and spectators alike (photos follow). Participants celebrated afterwards at the home of Juels and Sally Carlson. Awards for float design were presented at the annual DL Association meeting later in the month, held this year at the Namekagon Town Hall.

The award for most patriotic float went to Tom and Jeanne Kracker (photo). Josh Stivland received the award for the most creative entry.



Most Patriotic Float, Tom & Jeanne Kracker and family



Most Patriotic Float award presented by DL Association President Frosty Palmer at the annual meeting to Tom & Jeanne Kracker.



Ed and Monica Wallen with Ruth and Herb Lauritzen



The Stivland/Carlson Clan in their joint entry.

Which Way Is Down?

Or: Why there is a new culvert under Crystal Lake Road

Most of us credit ourselves with knowing “which way is up.” But when it comes to finding which way is down, it sometimes makes good sense to consult a water droplet. Both Diamond Lake and our neighbor to the south, Crystal Lake, owe their sparkling clear waters, at least in part to the fact that they are located almost at the crest of the Great Northern Divide, the boundary between waters flowing northward into Lake Superior and southward into the Mississippi. A glance at the map shows that Pioneer Road is a pretty good approximation of where that watershed divide is located in our area. With a few exceptions, lakes on its north drain toward Lake Superior, and those on the south drain to the Mississippi. One of those exceptions is right here in our neighborhood where outflow from Crystal Lake passes underneath Pioneer Road and into Diamond Lake near the boat launch.

The outflow from Crystal into Diamond Lake until recently has been constrained in two older culverts that had become clogged. Sharp-eyed lake resident, Jerry

Robotka, saw water backing up behind the DL inflow culvert on Pioneer Road in July this summer and threatening to flood the roadway. Jerry called Bayfield county maintenance crews who undid the hard work of some beavers. The upper culvert carrying the outflow from Crystal Lake beneath CL Road was in worse shape and needed to be replaced with a larger structure. That's the construction project you see there today with a new and larger pipe, oversize rocks for flood control, and hopefully some new pavement before the snow flies. We can all thank Bayfield County (and the beavers) for the new culvert and a reason for this short lesson in local hydrogeography.



Photo: Pam Jacobel, Sept. 2017

What Is That Bright Red Mushroom?

The mushroom in the above photo often provides a splash of color brightening a walk through many forested trails here in Bayfield County. Seen in late summer and throughout the fall, its common name is the *Scarlet or Crimson Waxy Cap*. Last week, September 7-9, the North American Mycological Association (NAMA) hosted its national annual fall Foray here in southern Bayfield County. Over 300 mushroom enthusiasts from all around the United States spent several days walking the nearby trails and staying at The

Lakewoods Resort. Locals also had a chance to participate and to take in the final event on Sunday, a "walk around," where over 500 species of locally collected and identified mushrooms were displayed. For each mushroom family, one of the mycological professionals in attendance gave a short talk about the representative species in that family found locally and discussed its characteristics and evolutionary history.

For those 'dying to know more,' the specimen in the photo is officially in the genus *hygrocybe*, the species is *punicea*. Four species in the *hygrocybe* genus are found here in the Northwoods, all of them are bright red to red-orange. Two were identified in the Foray last week. Though some members of the genus are considered edible, none is listed as choice, and some have been known to cause gastric upset. Best enjoyed on the trail and not in the pot!

Preserving the Beauty of the Night Sky - Sensible Shoreland Lighting

Here on Diamond Lake it is often possible to sit on a dock or a cabin deck on a clear dark summer night, and see the Milky Way stretched across the sky or a meteor tracing its path through the constellations. Unfortunately this experience can be disturbed or made impossible by outside lights carelessly left on at a neighboring cabin or even lights shining across the open space from another side of the lake or reflecting from the water.

Fortunately for lake homeowners, there are easy solutions for providing lighting for safety and security around our property while preserving the darkness and clarity of the night sky – in all seasons. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has a pamphlet available [here](#)



Photo: Pxfuel free use

with the same title as the above lead (and from which inspiration for some of our message here has been derived). The pamphlet discusses these issues and offers a number of simple solutions, including new and inexpensive motion-detecting lamps and ways of reducing glare.

This issue was raised again at our July 2017 annual meeting, so it is of more than hypothetical interest. Perhaps the simplest thing of all is just for each of us to be more aware of the status of our outdoor lights, and to turn them off when not needed. Our neighbors and everyone on the lake will benefit from this simple courtesy.

2017 Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting this year was held on July 15 at the Namakegon Town Hall. Attendees enjoyed a traditional Great

Lakes fish boil put on by Kenny Becker with delicious deserts made by association members. We also heard an engaging and informative talk given by Emily Stone of the Cable Natural History Museum about loon behavior. As noted above, Audrey and Larry Sanderson were honored for their many years of service to the Diamond Lake Association and awarded an honorary life membership. Bob Jacobel also presented them with a framed photo of an August DL sunset.



Bob Jacobel presents a photo of a DL August sunset to the Sandersons

Minutes for the meeting can be found on the website and in the page below.

Send Us Your Photos

Webmaster, Bob Jacobel, reports that Norvado, our website host provider, has increased the storage quota allowed for our account! He says this means that our archive of newsletters, meeting minutes and current items on the website is no longer in danger of overflowing our allotted space, and that we can be more generous with things like photos in the future – at least for a while. So, please, send us your photos of wildlife, landscapes, people, whatever you'd like to share publicly, for the DL website to: (webmaster@diamond-lakers.org) or for the newsletter: (newsletter@diamond-lakers.org).

Diamond Laker's 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2017 Secretary Michelle Veillette Recording

1	Introductions	New to the meeting: Scott Clark & Beverly Patronis, Sally Moser
2	Motion to approve last year's minutes.	Seconded and approved
3	Treasurer's Report:	As of 7/16/16 the beginning balance was \$4320.17 Deposits: \$1420; Disbursements: \$268.71; Balance today: \$5471.46 The Treasurer's position is changing from Larry Sanderson to Bob Jacobel
4	Lake water quality monitoring	Larry Sanderson: no significant changes from last year's report which was very good. Frosty & Ed are taking over the monitoring responsibility.
5	Website Report	Bob Jacobel reported that the site is well used and the storage quota has been increased; so please send more images for the site and newsletter.
6	Jessie Meschievitz, nomination report: 2018 DL Committee	Frosty Palmer – President Ed Wallen – VP Bob Jacobel – Treasurer Michelle Veillette – Secretary Diane Klump - Director Tracy Veillette – Director Jessie Meschievitz – Director Raye Lahti – Director at Large Sara Stivland – Director at Large
7	Newsletter	Dianne Klump is taking over writing the articles. Bob Jacobel will be working on the layout and formatting with her.
8	Northwest WI Lakes Conference Report	Frosty & Mary attended this event at the Hayward High School. Listened to a talk about Eurasian water milfoil long-term trends. Frosty suggested that others may want to attend this event next year. He will make sure he sends out the notice once he receives it.
9	Lake management	It was suggested that we work on creating better signage at boat landing regarding milfoil. One possibility is getting a solar-powered monitoring device with a recording about removing invasive species from boats.
10	2017/2018 Propane Co-op Contract with Midland	To get the deal, people must be a member of the Diamond Lake Assoc. with current dues paid. Summer price is 99 cents/gal; \$1.16 buy-ahead.
11	2017 Boat Parade	14 boats were entered this year.
12	2018 Boat Parade	July 3, 2018 at 6 pm
13	Ladder sign at south end of lake	One spot available
14	Fish & Wildlife report	Sightings: bears, bobcat, bear, more deer than normal, rabbits, wolves
15	Old Business	There was a call to reinforce nighttime lighting standards on the lake (light pollution). There is a county ordinance about this that is noted on the website. Bob Jacobel will write a reminder to all in the newsletter.
16	Labor Day Boat/Corn bash	No takers
17	Presentation to Sandersons	Larry and Audrey Sanderson were recognized for their many years of work and dedication to our association and were presented with a plaque awarding them with the "First Honorary Lifetime Membership Award to the DLA."
18	2018 Annual DL Meeting	Ed & Monica Wallen volunteered to host the meeting in 2018.
19	Annual Membership Dues	A question was raised as to whether we should increase our dues to help pay for new signage at the boat landing. It was agreed to leave the dues at \$20 for the time being.
20	Question about nets seen on lake	This is a graduate student doing fisheries research.
21	Presentation	Emily Stone from the Cable Natural History Museum provided an Excellent presentation on loons and their social behavior, and entertained numerous questions from the audience.