

HUBBARD COUNTY COALITION OF LAKE ASSOCIATIONS

Committee Reports and Announcements

May 29, 2014

www.hubbardcolamn.org

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Strategic Actions 1, 2 and 3

By Dan Kittilson

1. Executive Committee

- a. We need your support and organizational capacity to reach our conservation goals and protect our water, woods and wildlife. Volunteer your time and talents. We need volunteers who have a passion for our resources to serve on:
 - i. COLA's Executive Committee
 - ii. One of COLA's Committees
 - iii. To assist with a special project
 - iv. To serve as our Treasurer or SecretaryTo volunteer please contact us at hccolamn@gmail.com

- b. Fostering Citizen Leadership in our Watersheds
 - i. Did you know that most of our lakes in Hubbard County are part of the Crow Wing Watershed? Are you interested in protecting and restoring your watershed? The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency with the Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District and the University of Minnesota Extension are supporting a citizen leadership program through a two-year, two-part program that fosters the leaders' work in their watershed communities through skills, processes, resources and tools that can help strengthen their current efforts and nurture new ones. Year one of the program has focused on citizen leaders in five workshops (in-person and online) that provide opportunities for growth and collaboration. Year two will focus on emerging leaders and will begin late summer in 2014. If you're interested in applying for the emerging leaders program or would like further information, please contact "Melissa Koebernick, Park Rapids, MN" <melissa.koebernick@mn.nacdn.net>; or at 218-732-0121.

- c. Check out **COLA's website** at www.hubbardcolamn.org and note the most recent updates and current events.
 - i. Photos for COLA's Website – COLA members are encouraged to send photos to Jeff for the website at "Mosner, Jeff" <jlmosner@gmail.com>;

- d. COLA presence at lake associations
 - i. Lake associations are encouraged to provide information about COLA at your lake association meetings. COLA Reps can provide updates on COLA happenings. COLA has a tri-fold available with COLA materials that can be displayed and is available for COLA Reps for their annual meeting. COLA leaders are available to discuss COLA's Vision, Mission, Values and Accomplishments.
 - ii. COLA invites lake associations to partner with COLA on various community events this summer such as Legend & Logging, Taste of Dorset and the Hubbard County Fair.

- e. COLA Speaker Phone
 - i. COLA members are encouraged to call in to participate in our COLA meeting if you are unable to attend our meetings in person. If you choose to participate via our conference call capabilities, please notify me so I can send you the calling information.
- f. 2014 Park Rapids Rotary Fireworks Fund
 - i. If you would like to support the July 4th fireworks display you can make a tax deductible contribution to the Park Rapids Rotary. Make checks payable to the Rotary Fireworks Fund / NMF (a charitable 501 (c) 3 charitable donation.
 - ii. Donate on line at <http://www.nwmf.org/>
 - iii. Or Mail to: Park Rapids Rotary
P.O Box 704
Park Rapids, MN 56470
- g. The Heavenly Seven Fellowship Hosts for the May 29th COLA meeting will include Ham, Belle Taine, 10th & 11th Crow Wing and Little Sand Lake. Each group is responsible for setting up the Northwood's Bank Community Room, providing and preparing the refreshments and treats, and doing the tear down and clean up after the meeting. You also need to pick up the key at the Bank a day or two before the COLA meeting. **Until COLA has a Secretary, the Heavenly Seven Lakes are responsible for taking minutes at the COLA meeting.**
- h. **MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates** (MLR) lobby for our lakes. Hubbard COLA has been working with MLR as a partner in their Prime Contact Strategy. MLR, Hubbard COLA and other lake groups have been successful in getting more dollars in the fight against aquatic invasive species. The Minnesota Legislature recently passed an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) bill that provides funds to Minnesota Counties for AIS prevention efforts. The formula for the funding was based on each county's number of watercraft trailer accesses as well as the number of watercraft trailer parking spots. As a result of our success in the legislature this year, we would encourage other lake associations in Hubbard COLA to join MLRA and participate in the Prime Contact initiative. Please take on this role by emailing Jeff Forester at jeff@mnlakesandrivers.org or call 952-854-1317.

2. **President's Report and Announcements**

- a. Mark your calendar and save the date.....Attend the next COLA board meeting on Thursday, June 26, 2014; social gathering at 6:30 p.m. and meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Northwood's Bank Community Room.
- b. Hubbard COLA meeting schedule for the remainder of the year include the following dates in 2014: June 26, July 31, August 28, September 25 and October 30. COLA meetings were added during the months of March and May to facilitate planning during the critical time of the year.
- c. Nate Sitz has been participating in a Blandin Community Leadership Training along with other Park Rapids Lakes Area leaders. Please contact Nate at 732-0121 if your lake association would like to participate with Nate in a Community Clean-up Campaign this summer.

- d. **What's happening on your lake?** Please provide updated contact information for your COLA reps, presidents and e-mail coordinators so we can keep our contact lists up-to-date. Lake associations are encouraged to send newsletters to John Hastings at johnhhastings@live.com and Dan Kittilson at drkittil@q.com
- e. Hubbard COLA's e-mail address: Correspondence and questions can be sent to hccolamn@gmail.com

Improve Internal Communications

Strategic Action #4

By Larry Roberts

No Report

Lakeshore Education Committee

Strategic Action #5

By Sharon Natzel

- 1) The Education Team has shared information on how you can each individually choose to participate, comment in the Sandpiper Pipeline Route Project. Update classes were held in Park Rapids during April and May to reach out to seasonal residents especially.

The new deadline for filing comments is Friday, May 30, 2014 at 4:30 PM for the Application of North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC for a Pipeline Routing Permit for the Sandpiper Pipeline Project in Minnesota.

Topics Open for Comment at this Time:

- √¹ **What human and environmental impacts should be studied in the comparative environmental analysis?**
- √¹ **Are there any specific methods to address these impacts that should be studied in the comparative environmental analysis?**
- √¹ **Are there any alternative routes or route segments that should be considered?**

Submit Public Comments:

Please include the PUC Docket Numbers (13-474) in all communications.

Email: larry.hartman@state.mn.us

Online: <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/#comment>

Fax: 651-539-0109

Persons without email access may send by U.S. Mail to:

Larry Hartman, Environmental Review Manager

Minnesota Department of Commerce

85 7th Place East, Suite 500

St. Paul, MN 55101

- 2) The MN Straight River Groundwater Management Area Project kicked off in Jan 2014. This area includes the town of Park Rapids and also HC COLA member lake – Long Lake. MN DNR Doug Kingsley and Darrin Hoverson are part of the project Advisory Team. There are 3-hour monthly team meetings in Park Rapids. The public is able to attend and observe the meetings. Public comments are allowed at the end. Follow the project by signing up for email notifications.

Go to <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/gwmp/areas.html> and select groundwater management area of interest from list at bottom of page.

To review the draft Strategic Plan for Minnesota DNR's Groundwater Management Program from Oct 2013 go to:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/gwmp/planning.html>

- 3) A Course on Basic Plant / Lake Ecology and Basic Aquatic Plant Identification with plant key, herbarium, and live plants is being planned for Friday, August 8TH from 4:30 PM to 9 PM at Northwoods Bank Community Room. Mary Blickenderfer, UMN will provide the training and the live plants. We are working with Sally Shearer, Hubbard County UMN Extension to coordinate and offer this training free of charge for the attendee. Pizza / Pop will be provided for students by the Hubbard County COLA Education Team.
- 4) Steve Hall, Boulder Lake has provided a template called "Tips for New Lakeshore Owners" that is available on the HC COLA site: <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/other-resources.html>. This template is for Lake Associations to tailor. It will help you start the conversation about lakeshore guidelines in the state and county. This "Tips for New Lakeshore Owners" template will help promote lake stewardship! Big thanks to Steve Hall!
- 5) Please provide your suggestions for speakers / topics for upcoming HC COLA meetings to the Education Team. Here is the list of speakers for our summer meetings. We have arranged the schedule so that it is conducive for you to invite others from your lake association that are interested in the speaker/topic area. The speakers will be available during the ½ hour social from 6:30 to 7 PM to chat. Then we will start the meeting at 7 AM and after introductions have the speaker present the topic area. Then we will take a short break so that the speaker and extra visitors can leave prior to the regular business meeting.

√¹ June 26, 2014: Paul Radomski: Author of new book: Lakeshore Living

√¹ July 31, 2014: Darrin Hoverson: Hydrology / Surface Water / Ground Water

√¹ August 28, 2014: Christine Herwig: DNR Non-Game Wildlife and the Lake

Manage Public Image Committee

Strategic action #6

By Larry Roberts

"Voices on The Water": We currently have six "Voices on The Water" articles on our COLA website. Several of these stories will be featured in our upcoming newsletters. The stories include the following:

1. "To The Last Loon on Little Sand Lake" by Vern Thompson
2. "Reflections on Spider Lake" by Marlene Weber.
3. "My Little Slice of Heaven" by Dave Fastenow from Eagle Lake.
4. "I Love Tripp Lake" by Theora Goodrich
5. "A Philosophical Pondering" by Jim Kelly from Lake Kabekona
6. "Restoration" by Peter Pierson from Big Sand Lake.

"The Last Loon on Little Sand Lake" was featured in our March COLA Newsletter. Other stories may be featured in our upcoming newsletters.

Membership Committee Report

Strategic action #7

By Hillary Stoltz

Members Present: Hillary Stoltz, Deb Rogers, Maryann Erpelding, Janine Weideman, Shirley Koltes, and Lynn Goodrich (Pres. Elect/Interim Treasurer COLA)

1. The Membership Committee is now in charge of collecting the COLA Member Lakes Dues each year. 2014-2015 dues will be based upon \$4 per Lake Association Member. Deb will design and the Committee will approve and email the Dues Statements and the Lake Association Information Sheets to all the Member Lakes in early July and a subsequent reminder will be emailed in September. Dues are payable by September 1, 2014 and are past due after November 1, 2014. Lake Associations will mail their checks and information sheets back to COLA at P.O.Box 746, Park Rapids, MN 56470.
2. All new Presidents and COLA Representatives names should be sent to Deb Rogers for the official List Updates and to Hillary Stoltz for new badges.
3. Information from Spider Lake was shared regarding their Docksider newsletter (which is mailed to all lake property owners) and their Membership Drive packet. These efforts by volunteers are focused on stewardship, education and increasing their lake association members. The Membership Committee has tasked itself to help our COLA Member Lakes Associations should they need assistance in increasing their membership. Our committee welcomes copies of Newsletters and Membership Drives from all our lakes, and will maintain a resource library for sharing ideas.
4. The new Lake Association Representatives are encouraged to get the out-going representative's blue looseleaf Notebooks. Information on obtaining new materials and supplements for these COLA Representative Notebooks will be brought up by the Educational Committee Chair at the next meeting. Future information will be transmitted electronically and through the COLA Website.
5. "Thank You" notes to be used by Committee Chairs, etc to acknowledge donations and volunteer efforts will be produced by the Membership Committee.

Finance Committee:

Strategic action #8

By Lynn Goodrich

This has been the shortest spring I have experienced in Minnesota. We had below freezing nights and very cold days just a week or two ago. Now we have jumped straight into summer with 80+ degree-days. It is time to get out and enjoy our wonderful "Up North" and all the activities it affords us.

- √¹ Plans are coming together for the "Water and Sports" themed Hubbard COLA Garage Sale. Based on your input, the sale will take place at the Environmental Building at the Hubbard County Fair Grounds on Friday July 11, 2014 from 9am to 6pm. Setup will take place the afternoon before Thursday, July 10, 2014 from 2pm to 6pm. We ask that you give us a list of your donations ASAP via email (tripplake1@mac.com) to ensure we can accommodate everything. Please bring your donated items to the fair grounds on Thursday afternoon pre-tagged with a suggested selling price. The committee does reserve the right to adjust pricing as is

necessary for the sale.

In order to make this a successful event, we ask you again to please look around and ask around for your no longer used sports themed items, in great condition, to donate to this fundraiser in support of HCOLA's Project Fund.

To ensure a well run sale we need some additional HCOLA members to help out during set-up and on the day of the sale. Please contact Lynn or Dan to volunteer your time.

- √¹ We have received only one request for Wild Rice and Artisan Pottery to sell at lake association meetings this summer. There is a limited selection of artisan pottery items and some premium wild rice on hand. COLA lake association representatives or presidents, please contact me with your needs for your lake association meetings this spring/summer.
- √¹ COLA is **still** in need of a treasurer. Your responsibilities as treasurer are spelled out in a document distributed to you all by Dan K. This office is NOT time consuming, difficult, or complex. If you can write a check and balance your checkbook you are fully qualified. If you have any questions please feel free to give me a call or email me about becoming a necessary and valuable member of the leadership team at COLA.
- √¹ There have been suggestions for other fundraising activities and I am looking for a few "Fun Loving & Talented" people to help take these ideas and turn them into successful fundraisers in support of HCOLA's mission today and in the future. As always feel free to contact me.

Our mission requires the commitment of us all. COLA needs you and asks you to step up, get creative, and be involved!

Please contact me Lynn Goodrich @ tripplake1@mac.com or (218) 652-3130

Impact Political Action Committee

Strategic action #9

By Chuck Diessner

1. The Environmental Service Office ("ESO") is continuing to provide lake associations with mailed notice of a matter on an association's lake that involves the Planning Commission or a variance before the Board of Adjustment. To receive the notice a lake association must send a request to COLA's President that sets forth the name of the lake association, the name of the person to receive the mailed notice and his/her mailing address. The President will then provide the requests to the ESO on June 15 and October 15 of each year.
2. The combined Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment is working well and a big improvement over the former system.

Civic Service Committee

By Peter Tuomisto

Civic Committee activities for 2014

1. Children's Freshwater Festival on [Wednesday, May 7](#) at Wilderness Boy Scout Camp [was a success](#).
2. Restore the Shore orders for 2014 [came](#) into the Fairgrounds in early May and were [repackaged and picked up](#). Our thanks to Theora Goodrich and her crew.
3. Veliger Water Testing will be done again in July and August. In 2014, Potato, Blue, Eagle, Big Sand, Little Sand, Long, Spider, the Crooked Lakes, [Ojibway, Belle Taine, Fish Hook and Kabekona will be participating](#). Please let Pete Tuomisto know if your lake would like to participate for the first time in 2014. I will be making blocks available (to hang on the end of docks) at each COLA meeting.
4. Hydro Lab SWCD will again have the Hydro Lab testing for those interested lakes in 2014. This is for monitoring the dissolved oxygen and the water temperature in your lake. Please see Julie Kingsley at SWCD if interested. There will be a charge for SWCD to perform this test. SWCD will also Veliger Sample and Map Vegetation for a fee. Contact SWCD if interested.
5. Water Monitoring Kits [were](#) handed out on [May 14th](#) at the Courthouse. [We could still use another person to help transport the samples to Detroit Lakes once a month on Mondays](#). Please let Pete Tuomisto know if you can help. Invoicing for the Monitoring will be sent out in June.

AIS Task Force Report

Strategic Action #10

By Ken Grob

1. County-wide watercraft inspection program is in full swing. Julie Kingsley will present details at the meeting. Nate Sitz reports that lake associations have committed to about 8200 hours (a 25% increase over 2013). 26 lakes with 30 accesses will be covered. The AIS watercraft decontamination station will be operating with dedicated staff on Friday afternoons and Saturdays starting on May 30. Location is on road to Waste Management facility in Park Rapids. No cost to users.
2. Minnesota legislature and Governor have signed bill to provide AIS funding to all counties in Minnesota. Total state-wide is \$10 million. This is a major step forward for AIS prevention and will provide some funding for Hubbard County. Lots of details and work to do by County AIS Task Force to develop plan. Although some funds will be available later this year, we do not plan to change any of the lake association or township commitments for watercraft inspection funds this summer.
3. There does not seem to be any interest in volunteer inspection training this year. Dan McCorry will update status at meeting.
4. The Resort Sub-Committee has assembled the resort visit folders and will be distributing them to the contact person for each lake at the COLA meeting. We plan about 60 visits again this year. Lots of new info and we will promote sending resort guests to the SWCD decontamination station. Contact persons are requested to attend the COLA meeting at 6:00 p.m. to receive their folders.
5. We have arranged for a special Lake Monitoring Training Session for Saturday, June 7 in Park Rapids. We have commitments for 27 attendees. Session will be at the Park Rapids Public Library 9-11 a.m. See www.conservationminnesota.org (Click on "lakes, rivers, and waters", then click on "2014 AIS monitoring trainings") for more information on the session. Meredith Keller of Conservation Minnesota will do the training. No cost to

attendees. I AM IN NEED OF A PERSON(S) TO HELP WITH THE MEETING (Get key and set up for meeting, as I will not be available). Looking for a volunteer!!!

6. We have received a Public Awareness Grant from the DNR again for 2014. Bob Berdahl has completed arrangements for radio public service announcements on local radio stations and for the road side billboards in the area. Grant also helps pay for the resort folders
7. Dates to remember:
 - √¹ UMISC Conference in Duluth October 20-22. This is an excellent conference on AIS. It is the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference that is sponsored every other year.