

▪ **May/June 1999**

**Potters Lake Newsletter**

September 10, 2000

Dear Potters Lake Homeowner,

The Annual Meeting of the Potters Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District was held Saturday, September 9, 2000. Thirty-one residents, representing 25 properties attended the meeting. In this newsletter, we'll provide you with a summary of the Annual Meeting and we'll also provide some feedback from the survey of District residents that was sent out earlier this year.

All in all, it's been a great summer on Potters Lake and we want to thank everyone for their cooperation on the lake. Have there been a few busy days? Sure. Have there been violations of lake rules. You bet. Is there room for improvement in water quality? Certainly. On balance, though, we're moving in the right direction and things are looking up for Potters Lake!

Thank you for the trust you place in your Board of Commissioners. We will continue to listen to all of you and to do our best to balance the needs of everyone that lives on and uses Potters Lake. In the end, our success really depends on all of you. When you complete the homeowner survey, attend District meetings, call one of your Commissioners with information or a concern, or read and share our newsletters with your family, you are helping us to help Potters Lake.

With that said, the newsletter follows. Have a great fall and a great winter on Potters Lake.

Sincerely,

Potters Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District,

Karen Winkelman, Chairman

W911 Cedar  
East Troy, WI 53120  
(262) 363-4930

Tom Jordens, Treasurer

Secretary  
N2476 Highway 67  
Neosho, WI 53059-9703  
(920) 625-3294

Jeff Beiriger,

W1085 Spleas Skoney Road  
East Troy, WI 53120  
(262) 642-8742

# POTTERS LAKE NEWSLETTER

September 2000

Volume 2000, Number 4

## **MEETING SUMMARY**

- The Minutes of the 1999 Annual Meeting were approved as presented.
- The District currently has more than \$87,000 in an interest-bearing money market account and more than \$400 in checking. For the year, expenses will be approximately \$12,000. The balance accumulated by the District is in anticipation of several lake projects, including the purchase of a piece of property that affects the lake's watershed.
- The District Commissioner recently received a summary of the homeowner survey (the results of which will be presented later in this newsletter).
- The District now owns the Love and Torpe properties, approximately 31 marshy acres on the west side of the lake. The properties were to be surveyed this summer, but will be done this winter instead, as the ice on the lake provides greater access to the area.
- The parking lot for the public launch has been striped for 8 parking spaces. Signage has been requested to indicate that the spaces are only for vehicles with trailers and that boaters should seek another lake when the spots are filled. No parking signs will be requested for the grass and other areas around the launch and the District is exploring no parking signs along Highway L.

- The ramp at the public launch is in bad shape and will be replaced in either 2002 or 2003. In the interim, the DNR is looking for spare ramps to hold us over. Gravel has already been added to the area to try to improve the launch.
- Water clarity is below average – in part due to the rains, in part due to the lack of filtering weeds, in part due to boat traffic, in part due to the very nature of Potters Lake. The current depth readings are between 2.5 and 3.0 feet. We continue to monitor clarity and other aspects of water quality on a regular basis.
- Despite predictions for a dry summer, the lake level was higher than average, especially late in the season, in large part due to increased rainfall. Most residents indicated that the lake level this year was ideal. Another reason for higher levels -- there was no vandalism on the dam. The District owns the dam property and the dam will be repaired – again – later this year.
- We are still seeking to purchase a property in the watershed that adversely affects the water quality because of silt and fertilizers that run off into the lake. If and when we purchase the property, the District would need to do some remedial work to redirect the water flow away from the lake.
- Although not yet known to be on the lake, residents were reminded to contact any Commissioner in the event they discover zebra mussels when removing piers this fall. If possible, keep a sample of the zebra mussels.
- By almost all measures, the buoys were a success. A couple of the buoys have been damaged by boaters who have – either accidentally or intentionally – struck buoys with their boats. Anyone known to vandalize a buoy will be asked to replace or repair the buoy. No additional buoys are planned for 2001.

- The Town of East Troy promised more frequent patrols on the lake this summer and delivered on that promise. More than 25 hours were spent patrolling Potter Lake. 29 warnings and 6 citations were issued. Boaters also report that the police also provided information about lake rules without issuing either warnings or citations.
- The weed survey had both good news and bad. The good news? The “good” or native weeds are coming back. The bad? So is the milfoil – at least in one, 300-foot, isolated area near Lake Lane. A permit to treat the area with 2-4-D was requested and the affected area has probably already been treated.
- The resolutions regarding the 2001 Annual Meeting (tentatively scheduled for August 25), the District depository (F & M Bank), grant applications and borrowing were all approved as presented.
- The District budget of \$50,000 was approved as presented.
- Tom Jordens was elected to a three-year (2001-2002-2003) term as a Commissioner.

Got a new neighbor?  
Make sure they're on our mailing list.  
Call us or have them call us so they can get all the latest news!

### **Homeowner's Survey**

- 81 of 143 surveys were returned (57%).
- 88 percent of residents said that their recreational experiences on Potters Lake were "pleasurable" or "always pleasurable."
- 81 percent feel the lake is not crowded on weekdays. 51 percent believe the lake is crowded on weekends.
- 88 percent of the residents said they could remember the major provisions of the existing boating ordinances. 54 percent felt the rules were strict enough but 64 percent felt the rules were not adequately enforced.
- 58 percent feel that fishing quality is "fair" to "good."
- 88 percent of the residents felt the whole-lake treatment for Eurasian milfoil was a success. In 1997, 90 percent of those surveyed felt the lake had an aquatic weed problem. In 2000, 67 percent felt that the lake has no aquatic plant problems.
- 75 percent rated the water quality as either "good" or "fair." 20 percent felt there was an algae problem.
- Asked to identify the greatest problem facing Potters Lake, 77 percent indicated that personal watercraft were either a serious or significant problem.
- 51 percent felt the lake level was just right.

Several actions were suggested by the survey:

- An assessment of fisheries,
- Continued monitoring of aquatic plants,
- Continued monitoring of water quality,
- Continued enforcement of lake rules and boating ordinances,
- Distribution of newsletters and information about lake/land use,
- Participation in the Sugar Creek & Honey Creek Watershed Project.

Your Commissioners are pleased to report that we are following through on all of the suggestions listed above as well as a number of other projects mentioned in the Meeting Summary above.

Thank you to all of you who completed a survey! Your input helps us to know more about your priorities and needs and your feedback tells us if we're on the right track.