President’s Message — Is there Global Warming in Florida?

The picture is from a fishing/research pond at the facility where I have worked for the last 29 years and this is the first time I have seen it freeze. It would be easy to use this example to throw rocks at the global warming/climate change folks and say we are definitely not warming down here in the south. I cannot, however, do that because I have not truly evaluated all the available data for myself. What this event has done, is to remind me not to get set in my ways and to open my mind up to the fact that 29 years experience is just a speck in time and that I had better be ready to adjust to changing conditions that exist today.

NALMS is now 30 years old, and we also need to remember not to get set in our ways. If you read my last newsletter article, you are aware that our membership is declining for a variety of reasons. Regardless the reason, we need to get outside of our comfortable box and change some things so we can grow and better reach our goal of managing lakes and reservoirs. The President, Executive Board, and/or the Board of Directors alone cannot grow the membership of NALMS; it takes all members to getting involved. Please take Bev Clark’s President Elect challenge seriously and promote NALMS by adding friends that can benefit from a NALMS membership.

Getting outside of the preverbal box, I want to update you on two new NALMS initiatives that I think are exciting for the future of NALMS. First, I just spent three days in Springfield, Missouri representing NALMS on the Executive Committee of the Reservoir Fisheries Habitat partnership (RFHP). The mission statement of the Partnership is similar in ways to the NALMS Mission Statement and is as follows:

The RFHP is a national partnership established to promote and facilitate the conservation of habitat for fish and other aquatic species in reservoir systems through collaborative actions that contribute to:

- The ecological health and function of reservoirs and their associated waters and wetlands
- The restoration, protection and enhancement of reservoir fisheries
- The sustainability and enhancement of reservoir fisheries
Public awareness of the conservation issues and challenges facing reservoir and associated waters and watershed management in the 21st Century

The quality of life of the American people

The RFHP Executive Committee has agreed to come to Oklahoma and fill two sessions to inform NALMS members about RFHP, while also learn more about NALMS. I believe these two groups can greatly help each other, and I recommend you plan to attend these sessions in Oklahoma. Until then, please check out the RFHP web site (http://www.reservoirpartnership.org/).

The second new initiative that is proceeding well is the new NALMS Student Section. Immediately after the Annual Symposium in Hartford, a student section was started to get more students involved in NALMS. Ms. Dana Bigham was appointed to the Board to represent the NALMS student section. Since that time a student web site has been created (NALMSstudents.org) and a student facebook group was started. There have been 60 visitors to the new web site, which is now linked on the main page of our NALMS web site and there are 27 student members of the facebook group. If any of you know students that would be interested, please forward this information along and let’s get some young blood back into NALMS.

I hope these two initiatives, as well as others yet to be started, can reinvigorate NALMS! I am also always available to talk to any NALMS members that may have ideas to help bring NALMS charging into the future.

Thanks,

Mark Hoyer
President, NALMS

WITHIN NALMS

Membership in Motion - Sarah Unz
With our big year end membership renewal period over, I would like to thank every member who renewed, who purchased a gift membership, or who actively recruited a new member to NALMS. We truly appreciate the time you take to spread the word about NALMS and about the benefits of membership. Please keep up the good work! As Mark said, the President, Executive Board, and/or the Board of Directors alone cannot grow the membership of NALMS. We need your help! Please contact me to request brochures and other handouts to help you get others interested in NALMS.
As you will read below, there are many conferences and meetings coming up. Here in the office we are working on preparations for the National Water Quality Monitoring Conference (NWQMC) in Denver. Conference registration is now open, and we are actively recruiting exhibitors and sponsors. Please contact Philip if you are interested in exhibiting, and please contact me if you are interested in sponsoring, or go to www.nalms.org for information about the conference in general.

Speaking of conferences, I am attending the 2010 NALMS Southeastern Lakes Management Conference in May. The ability for me to attend this conference was made possible by the North Carolina Lake Management Society (NCLMS), NALMS Region IV Director Ann Shortelle, and the NALMS Board of Directors. I am very grateful for this opportunity and look forward to meeting new folks and talking about how NCLMS and NALMS can continue to grow and work together.

As always, please feel free to contact me with membership questions or concerns at 608-233-2836.

Take care,

Sarah
Membership Services Coordinator

UPCOMING CONFERENCES & EVENTS

2010 NALMS Southeastern Lakes Management Conference
Hosted by NCLMS in Winston-Salem, NC – Managing Extremes: Watersheds and Climate Disruptions

NCLMS SE2010 Conference planning committee is well underway with plans for the 19th Annual Southeastern Lakes Management Conference for another great conference. Join us at the Hawthorne Inn and Conference Center in downtown Winston-Salem, NC May 4-7, 2010 to enjoy the regional attractions and network with others in lake and watershed management. We will examine extreme weather and water quality strategies and other lake and watershed issues.

The conference is centrally located in North Carolina and accessible by I-40, I-85 and I-75 with excellent regional airport connections at the Piedmont Triad Regional Airport, serving the greater Greensboro, Winston-Salem, and High Point (Triad) area of North Carolina.

The program has been developed with broad support and interest from speakers throughout the SE and the US. The Program Committee is finalizing diverse and informative technical sessions that reflect the broad range of issues affecting lakes and watersheds in the Southeast. Topics will include – Drought and Flood management, Water Conservation, Water Quality, Storm Water Management, Stream and Watershed Restoration, Invasive Species and other topics of interest.
Two full day workshops will be offered on May 4th: Man vs Stats – A Survival Guide for the Statistical Wilderness by Dr. Dennis Helsel and Taxonomy and Ecology of Algae by Dr. Linda Ehrlich and Dr. JoAnn Burkholder. There will be two half day workshops offered on May 5th: Life and Death for Lakes, Basic Properties and Processes by Dr. John Hains and a Stream Restoration Walking Tour led by Darrell Westmoreland.

Registration fees will be the same as in 2005, with early full conference rate of $175 and daily and student rates will also be available as in past SE conferences. Additional workshop and conference registration information and registration forms can be found on the NCLMS website at www.nclakemanagement.org as it is developed – check back frequently for program updates and session topics. For exhibitor registration information, contact Cary Martin at cary.martin@aquacontrol.com.

Our thanks to our sponsors, including NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Duke Energy, Peroxygen Solutions, and Georgia Power.

If you have questions relevant to the program, please contact Conference Co-Chairs: Dave Buetow (704-336-3983), david.buetow@mecklenburgcountync.gov or Jef Morgan (336-707-1829) jmorgan10@triad.rr.com.

**Pond Design, Management, and Maintenance Course - April 30, 2010**

The Rutgers University NJAES Office of Continuing Professional Education is pleased to offer the following class in pond management. This course has routinely been attended by affiliate members of NALMS. While the course is New Jersey-based, the content is universal.

This one-day class is meant for pond owners, pond managers, landscape architects, engineers, and anyone involved with the design, management, or maintenance of ponds. The program is structured to help you make the proper decisions regarding the appearance, function, and up-keep of your pond.

Starting with design, you will learn how to build a pond through the construction of embankments and dams as well as the selection and installation of liners. Gain the knowledge necessary for creating and maintaining a stable shoreline. Develop new skills for building and aquascaping littoral benches. Discover ways in which to optimize your habitats for fish and aquatic wildlife. Long-term maintenance of ponds, whether constructed for stormwater, irrigation, fishing, or aesthetic purposes, is also crucial.

This course will also include multiple presentations on aquascaping and bioengineering techniques that combine landscaping and evolving engineering solutions to correct eroded shorelines, create and maintain stable and attractive vegetation shorelines, and integrate native, non-invasive, easy to maintain, yet attractive plant species into the design of new ponds or the retrofit of existing ponds.

Led by Dr. Stephen Souza, President of Princeton Hydro, LLC., with over 20 years experience managing and restoring lakes, including extensive work with lake associations. He is the Past President of both NALMS as well as the Pennsylvania Lake Management Society.

For featured topics and more information on how to register, please visit:
Lake of the Woods Water Quality Forum, March 10-11, International Falls, MN

This is an international science meeting where locals share science, concerns, and solutions relating to Lake of the Woods, the Rainy River, and their watersheds. This forum has been a tremendous success with respect to grass roots volunteer effort, international collaboration, and the application of science based management techniques on a watershed basis, and it has been sponsored by NALMS for several years.

This year’s symposium is intended for researchers and resource managers working and/or interested in research and management activities related to the Lake of the Woods and Rainy River Basin focusing on the nutrient budget and water quality modelling and on recent paleolimnological studies.

For all the details on this great opportunity to talk about lakes, go to http://www.lowwsf.com/index.php/press-a-events/2010-water-quality-forum.html

7th Annual Water Quality Monitoring Conference in Denver

This year YSI has generously contributed $20,000 in travel assistance for volunteer monitoring program coordinators to attend the April 25-29, 2010 National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC) Conference in Denver, Colorado. We are so grateful to YSI for their exceptional support of volunteer monitoring participation. Funding will be limited to $1000 per person and can cover registration, travel and lodging expenses. It will not cover food or other incidentals. The funding is not just for presenters, but for any volunteer monitoring coordinator who is interested in attending.

This seventh NWQMC conference provides a wonderful opportunity to learn the latest in water quality monitoring, interact with like-minded folks from many agencies such as USGS, EPA NOAA, the National Parks Service, regional, statewide, and community-based organizations, academic organizations, and of course your fellow volunteer monitor coordinators. From the conference website you’ll be able to check out the preliminary agenda, with field trips at the beginning and end of the conference, plenary sessions, workshops, oral and poster presentations, from Monday thru Thursday. There will be a special volunteer monitoring coordinator meeting, and our popular night out.

Please follow this link to get to information about the conference, http://www.nalms.org/nalmsnew/nalms.aspx?subcatid=44&Sid=3

On this page you will find the link to the quick and easy survey itself.

To apply for assistance please complete the application “survey.” The application period ends at 5 PM on March 1, 2010. We will not be able to consider any applications received after this date. Unfortunately completion of the survey does not mean a scholarship has been awarded. After the closing date all applications will be reviewed ASAP by a subcommittee of the National Water Quality Conference Planning Committee to select recipients. We will notify all applicants by March 9, 2010 and will keep a waiting list in case a selected applicant cannot attend.
OLMS Spring Conference – March 19th

“Ecological Integrity of Lakes and Shorelands” is the title of this year’s Ohio Lake Management Society’s conference. The all-day conference will be at the Exploration Gateway at Sippo Lake. There will be a special morning workshop with Jeffrey Schloss (University of New Hampshire) and Mary Blickenderfer (University of Minnesota) addressing shoreland functions, challenges, and ecological designs. The talks will cover functions of a natural lake shoreline, erosion control strategies, and ecological design principles for shoreland development and use. Other presentations will address hazardous algal blooms in Ohio’s lakes, coastal watershed management initiatives, and the story of Lake Sippo’s restoration. John Hoopengarner, Executive Director of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District—a co-sponsor of this conference—will give an update on the District’s new initiatives and direction.

On Saturday, March 20th, OLMS is offering Citizen Lake Awareness and Monitoring (CLAM) training for citizen volunteers assisting with lake monitoring throughout Ohio. There is no charge, but pre-registration is required. Training will be held at the Sippo Lake. The CLAM program provides an opportunity for Ohio citizens to take an active role in documenting the water conditions in Ohio’s lakes and learning about aquatic ecology, lake and stream water quality, and watershed management.

2010 Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Conference

The MAPMS conference will be held February 28 – March 2, 2010 at the Indianapolis Marriott North, Indianapolis, IN. For more information on the 2010 conference, or the Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society membership, please visit the website at www.mapms.org.

AFFILIATE TALK

To foster better communication amongst the diverse group of NALMS Affiliates, this section will feature a monthly topic or question which may be of interest to many affiliates. The goal is to help affiliate groups learn from each other, be more efficient with their time and resources, and better manage our lakes and reservoirs.

Can your State or Province environmental agency be an affiliate to NALMS? Most definitely YES.

Just this month the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) voted to join NALMS as an Affiliate. For just $250, the Oklahoma DEQ will now enjoy the benefits of having full access to NALMS.

Can this be true for your state or province? For the U.S., the states typically implement the Clean Water Act and have a department or division for lakes and reservoirs. NPDES permitting, nonpoint source grants, TMDLs and 303(d) listings, standards development, and monitoring are all governed at various levels by local government agencies. It makes perfect sense for these government employees to have full access to NALMS. Please see if your local agency wants to benefit from being a NALMS affiliate.
**Affiliate Websites – Check out this one**
A great way to see what other affiliates are doing is to check out their websites and see what they are up to and how fancy their web pages are.

Oklahoma DEQ website. With the upcoming 2010 NALMS symposium in Oklahoma City and their new Affiliate membership with NALMS, this is a good time to see what this state agency does to help protect its lakes and reservoirs.

http://www.deq.state.ok.us/

**LAKE NEWS & INFORMATION**

**News from the Federation of Vermont Lakes**
(A letter in response to the USEPA’s National Lakes Assessment Draft Report written by Elizabeth Perry Thomas, President, Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds)

The Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds (FOVLAP) is a federation of local lake associations from throughout Vermont dedicated to the protection of Vermont’s lakes and ponds.

We have reviewed USEPA’s National Lakes Assessment draft report and appreciate the opportunity to comment on the report. We would like to focus our comments in particular on the report’s finding that the degradation of lakeshore habitat cover is the most important stressor of lakes nationwide. Thirty-six percent of the nation’s lakes have poor shoreline habitat, and poor biological condition is three times more common in these lakes.

This finding does not surprise us. The protection and restoration of lakeshore habitat has been a priority issue for FOVLAP for the past several years. With grant funding provided by the state of Vermont, we are currently working to develop social marketing tools to assist our member associations in: (1) educating lakeshore property owners regarding the negative impact that shoreline development can have on lakes, and (2) motivating property owners to take action to restore and protect lakeshore habitat. We also recently testified in the Vermont Legislature in support of legislation that would establish a 50-foot buffer along all of Vermont’s navigable waters.

We feel this two-pronged approach of information/education and regulation is essential to protect Vermont lakeshores from further degradation and begin the process of restoring lost habitat. **But we need your help as well to bring this critical issue to the forefront on a national level.** Local lake associations have repeatedly told us of situations where new landowners, moving to Vermont from more developed states, immediately clear all vegetation from their lakeshore property in preparation for building their dream home. By the time the lake association and neighbors become aware of the situation, it’s too late. These newcomers are unaware that their actions are negatively affecting the lake they treasure.

In the past, the USEPA has focused major national educational campaigns on the environmental impacts of acid rain and nonpoint source pollution, turning these once little known issues into
The results of the National Lakes Assessment show that it is past time for a similar national educational campaign focused on the environmental impacts of shoreland development.

The attributable risk analysis of the NLA data suggests that eliminating the effects of poor lakeshore habitat cover could improve the biological condition in 40% of the nation’s lakes. In addition to a national educational campaign focused on protecting and restoring lakeshore habitat, states and local organizations need funding to adapt national educational messages to local situations, to provide technical assistance to communities and property owners seeking to protect or restore shoreland habitat, and to implement lakeshore restoration projects. Funding similar to that previously provided for acid rain research and monitoring and nonpoint source management, is needed to address this most significant source of lake degradation. Technical guidance to state lake assessment programs on determining how much un-buffered lakeshore development lakes can sustain before becoming impaired would also be helpful.

In summary, the National Lakes Assessment pointed out the relative importance of lake stressors for restoring and maintaining lake integrity. The degradation of lakeshore habitat cover is the most important stressor of lakes nationwide, affecting more than one-third of the nation’s lakes. We urge USEPA to act quickly to develop a national educational campaign and provide targeted funding and technical information to assist states and local organizations before any more of our lakes are degraded due to the loss of lakeshore habitat.

**Asian Carp on the Run**

New water samples reveal that Asian carp DNA has been found in Lake Michigan near the city of Chicago, the first indication that the giant leaping fish, which can upend entire ecosystems, has made it up the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal and into the world's largest freshwater system.

The newspapers learned of the apparent breach just minutes before the U.S. Supreme Court announced it had declined a request from a coalition of Great Lakes states to force the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to shut two lakeside navigation locks in a drastic attempt to protect the Great Lakes and their $7 billion annual fishery.

Biologists fighting to halt the invasion are not conceding defeat; they say there is still no indication the lake is home to a breeding population of silver or bighead carp. In fact, biologists have yet to land a single fish above an electric fish barrier on the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, about 20 miles downstream from Lake Michigan.

But the news was another distressing development in what conservationists and politicians alike have characterized as a slow-motion ecological disaster.
decades in the making.

The water samples, taken Dec. 8, showed the presence of carp DNA in Calumet Harbor near the Chicago shoreline as well as in the Calumet River just above the O'Brien lock, one of the structures the State of Michigan last month asked the Supreme Court to order shuttered. The hope was to buy some time in the fight to beat back the fish that have been migrating north from Arkansas since the 1970s.

The Army Corps said it is scrambling to figure out how to best protect the lakes, but the locks were built for navigation, and that is how the Corps must prioritize management of them.

**New Zealand Mudsail Guide: 2010 Version**

Fish & Wildlife Service just completed the revised (second edition) New Zealand Mudsail Guide. Some of the revisions include a new section on some look-alikes and a table outlining some disinfection treatments.

[http://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/sgpubs/onlinepubs/g10001.pdf](http://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/sgpubs/onlinepubs/g10001.pdf)

**NEW Algal Image Gallery**

A Visual Identification Tool - GreenWater Laboratories/CyanoLab has just finished updating the Photo Gallery section of their website. This extensive collection of algal images was photographed with an inverted phase/contrast microscope and is intended to help you to identify various algae samples. Also in the gallery section are some impressive photos of algal blooms. Visit the updated gallery at greenwaterlab.com.
**Expos NALMS to the Recreational World**

Here is a NALMS membership idea. It seems that all the major urban areas around the U.S. and Canada have a regular schedule of outdoor expos in the spring that focus on lake activities – mainly boating and fishing. How many folks would join NALMS during the expo if they knew what NALMS does to protect their lakes that they love so much? Maybe your local affiliate can help spread the word by getting a booth during the next outdoor expo. If anything, you will at least discover all the new toys and gadgets that you don’t need.

**New Open Access Journal**

A new international online, Open Access journal devoted to works related with Management of Biological Invasions is now available. It is open to potential contributions dealing with ecological-conservation, environmental, methodological, and social aspects on this subject. Contributions must be oriented to real practice, or show implications for wildlife management.

First issue is now being built. The contributions are being published upon acceptance and review. It is expected to launch two issues per number and year. First issue is open for contributors. Articles are published immediately after acceptance. Anyone interested may consult the scope, current editorial board, and style:

[http://www.managementofbiologicalinvasions.net/index.html](http://www.managementofbiologicalinvasions.net/index.html)

This journal may be an interesting platform for managers and researchers, as well as for technicians belonging different disciplines (ecologists, sociologists, mathematicians, professionals of informatics, economists, etc.).

**Featured Lake – Ancient Lakes of the World – Lake Lanao**

Lake Lanao, estimated at over 2 million years old, is the second largest freshwater lake in the Philippines. It is located in the Province of Lanao del Sur, in the heart of Mindanao at 701 meters above sea level. It has an area of 355 square kilometers and a mean depth of 60 meters, with the deepest part at 112 meters.

Lake Lanao is/was home to a highly unusual group of fish known as a "species flock". All 18 species are thought to have evolved from one species, the spotted barb but now are becoming extinct. This ecoregion is also home to 41 endemic freshwater crab species.

Lake Lanao has only one outlet to the sea, the Agus River. Before 1978, the National Power Corporation (NPC) has been operating five power plants along the Agus River since 1953. In 1978,
the fate of Lake Lanao changed for the worse. A regulatory dam constructed near the mouth of the river began operation, and it changed the lake elevation regime.

**Website of the Month – [www.yourwateryourdecision.org](http://www.yourwateryourdecision.org)**

The Source Water Collaborative has launched a new interactive tool to help organizations reach out to local officials and land use decision makers. The Your Water Your Decision tool at [www.yourwateryourdecision.org](http://www.yourwateryourdecision.org) helps users create a professional-looking guide that highlights their community or state’s specific source water protection needs by customizing subject matter, content, cover photos, contacts and resources. In addition, organizations can brand their guide by adding their own logo and contact information – making the guide unique for every organization. Use the guide to start a conversation with local officials about what can be done in your community by presenting best practices, people and resources that can help them protect their sources of drinking water.

Visit [www.yourwateryourdecision.org](http://www.yourwateryourdecision.org) to see how you can create your own customized guide that downloads to your desktop in under 15 minutes.

**Update Contact information:**

Please let the NALMS Office ([slunzi@nalms.org](mailto:slunzi@nalms.org)) know if you have or are planning to change your contact information, so we can make sure you do not miss any of the NALMS monthly newsletters, updates, or general NALMS announcements. NALMS appreciates this.

**Open Invitation to Add to the Next E-newsletter**

If you are having a conference, have a lake-related question, need advice, looking for similar lake problems/solutions, have an interesting story to share, or just want to be heard throughout NALMS, please send your material to Steve Lundt at [slundt@mwrddieco.us](mailto:slundt@mwrddieco.us). All e-newsletter material is due to Steve Lundt by the first Friday of each month to be considered for inclusion in that month’s e-newsletter.