February 2011

President’s Message – Winter Tasks

This winter seems to be passing quickly which is normally a good thing, but this year I have a sense that I have too much to do and not enough time to finish it. There is enough time, of course, to perform the critical tasks that need to be done (like getting the compost out of the house), but I can’t seem to get around to the stuff that I really want to do. You know – going for a walk in the bush, going to the gym, working on a carving, or renovating my 1960’s bathroom. Soon the winter will be over and if I’m not careful the plans that need to be worked on today for events that should happen in the summer will somehow slip my attention and ‘poof’ the summer will be gone. Then that long canoe trip or the need to practice rolling my kayak or, yes, the bathroom renovation - they will get put off. At the end of the day nothing will be on fire - it won’t matter that much that it didn’t get done - but it won’t get done. Opportunities will be missed and then I will have to wait for another summer to roll around.

There are parallels in the way that NALMS operates. Our excellent staff and volunteers make the day-to-day operation of the Society pass smoothly from one month into the next. At this point it seems like there are no major problems, no fires to put out, few (if any) do or die situations – or so it would seem. In reality we are tasked each year with the same imperatives. We need to increase membership, we need to increase our membership benefits, we need to maintain the excellence in our publications so that we can defend our status as the best professional lake management group in North America, and we need to keep our conferences and our science transfer capacity second to none. Many needs indeed…but the time tends to roll quickly forward. Our board meets twice a year to plan and to recap and to tidy up the business of the day and in between meetings the same stalwart set of die-hard NALMS members work to keep the wheels greased until the next meeting. I wonder though whether that bathroom renovation is going to get started. I have a feeling that our well planned initiatives won’t grow their own wings in between board meetings – we need to give them a hand. The lakes here are still frozen – but that’s no excuse to relax.

We have a few tasks that are super important that are coming along nicely – things like building our new website. But there are other tasks that are ongoing that need to be attended to on a weekly basis. OK so here we go again, NALMS needs to expand its membership. But it’s a mistake to imagine that we can easily or quickly double our membership. For now it would be reasonable if
we could grow as much this year as we did last year. We have some nice momentum in 2011 with gift memberships for students and there are a growing number of professional gift memberships that I have heard about – all very encouraging. So we have a few new members. But we need more. That is why I am maintaining my challenge for all NALMS members to mentor one new member. This thing is officially a broken record, but there is a way that you can get it stopped. So lets get it done – find a new member, we’ll put your name in a hat and maybe, at this time next year, I’ll be whittling you an isopod – don’t ask. We would be in great shape if 25% of the members rose to this challenge.

There are many other things to do, and I will be contacting the committee chairs about these items very soon – but first things first.

Bev Clark
President - NALMS

WITHIN NALMS

Membership in Motion - Sarah Unz

We survived the blizzard! The picture of me celebrating was taken after I shoveled my driveway but before my back started hurting. I have lived in Wisconsin almost my entire life; you would think I would be used to this by now, but 22+ inches of snow is still a lot of snow, even for a local.

As you may have heard, one of our Life Members put out a call saying he would sponsor a few students to receive a NALMS membership. He was willing to pay for student memberships as a way of getting students involved with NALMS. Well, the response was tremendous. We had 41 students reply wanting a NALMS membership! After calling on the Board of Directors to help in the cause, I am now calling on the membership as a whole – please consider supporting one of these students. They are the future of NALMS. At $35.00, a NALMS Student membership is a great deal and will put students in the NALMS communication loop.

By sponsoring a student, you will also be entered in the President’s Membership Challenge. Bev Clark will be whittling prizes again for the winner who will be announced at the Symposium in Spokane. There is plenty of time to put your name in the hat! Please contact me if you would like to sponsor a student, slunz@nalms.org or 608-233-2836.

Calling all professional members! If you have not selected which complimentary professional journal you would like to receive from Taylor & Francis, please let me know as soon as possible. All professional members were contacted via email on 12/30/2010 regarding a special offer from Taylor & Francis. If you did not receive this email, have lost it, or would like additional information on this offer, please contact me at slunz@nalms.org or 608-233-2836.
The last membership renewal period ended on 12/31/2010. I am still compiling the results and will have some statistics for you in the next NALMS Notes. If you have not renewed yet, please consider doing so now online or via our membership form.

Lastly, have you changed jobs recently? Moved? Got a new email? Please keep the office updated of your contact information. We do not want you to miss out on any of our publications or special announcements, so please keep us informed!

Take care,

Sarah
Membership Services Coordinator

NALMS Office Notes
I’ve been asked to pen a new feature for the newsletter covering events in the NALMS office. As I write this, Madison has just been buried in almost 2 feet of snow, but luckily for me, I’m in Colorado visiting family.

Recently I’ve been reminded of how much NALMS is like a family. Sure we have our occasional disagreements, but in the end we support each other and, when necessary, we comfort each other. As you probably know, long-time NALMS members Tom & Elinor Eberhardt died in a plane crash at the end of December. I travelled up to Aitkin, Minnesota a few weeks ago for their memorial service where NALMS was well-represented. I travelled up to Aitkin with Jeff Schloss, Dick Osgood and Steve McComas (thanks for driving!) on a bitterly cold Saturday morning. Joining us in Aitkin were Alan Cibuzar and his wife along with Gina and Jane Dauffenbach. We were all there to honor a couple who were not only very active members of NALMS, but also active members of their community. It seemed like all of Aitkin was there to pay tribute to Tom & Elinor. They were truly extraordinary people and will be missed.

When plans for the memorial service were announced, Dick Osgood and Alan Cibuzar stepped forward to help any and all NALMS members who wished to attend. Alan coordinated things in the Aitkin area, while Dick graciously provided lodging for me and Jeff in the Twin Cities and was an all-around great host.

In comparatively more mundane office news, we’ve been in the process of wrapping up a 2-year audit of our books. These semi-annual audits are important tools that allow us to take a look at our financial management practices and internal controls and identify areas where we can improve on them. We haven’t received the final report yet, but preliminary indications are that, overall, we’re doing a pretty good job with only relatively minor areas for improvement.
Even though our symposium in Oklahoma City just ended, we’re already hard at work on the next one in Spokane, Washington next fall. The call for papers has just been released (you should have received an email and a brochure in the mail) and registration will be open sometime in late spring. We have a very active and well-organized host committee working on this symposium and what should be an excellent program. Keep an eye on your email and the NALMS website for more details as they become available.

Until next time, as Tom Eberhardt would say, “Here’s to our good fortune!”

Philip Forsberg

Lake and Pond Manager Opening
New England Environmental, Inc. (NEE) is seeking a full time Lake and Pond Manager to oversee our active Lake and Pond Group in Amherst, MA. Interested candidates must have extensive experience managing lake and ponds of various sizes and methodologies. Individuals must plan, execute, and initiate lake and pond management projects throughout the Northeast, as well as have the ability to secure additional projects. Applicant should possess significant experience developing innovative management plans for the control of nuisance, invasive aquatics and algae that will include chemical, biological and physical control techniques. Persons should currently hold Aquatic Herbicide Licenses in one or more States in the northeast, and have knowledge of applicable state permits and regulations.

Interested candidates please contact Mickey Marcus (mmarcus@neeinc.com).

CLM Question
(From Jennifer Graham)
Hi fellow cyano-fans.

A colleague of mine recently asked if ultrasonic algae control would be a viable management option for stormwater retention ponds. In the Kansas City area, there are many developments that are built around these ponds. The ponds often are used for recreational activities even though they were never intended for that purpose. I have heard some success stories about this approach but have not heard any first-hand accounts. Do any of you have experience (or know anyone who has experience) with this type of management approach?

Please send comments directly to Jennifer at 785-832-3511 or jlgraham@usgs.gov.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES & EVENTS

Call for Papers – NALMS 2011
The Call for Papers is now open! The NALMS 31st International Symposium - Diverse and Sustainable Lake Management will take place on October 26-28th, 2011 in Spokane, WA.
Go to:

to get all the details on how to submit your abstract for the symposium. Please e-mail, events@nalms.org if you have any questions.

LAKE NEWS & INFORMATION

The Science Behind Lake-Effect Snow
Imagine driving on the New York State Thruway south of Buffalo, N.Y., on a bright winter day as the skies darken and ominous clouds build in the distance. Suddenly, a “wall of white” appears several hundred yards ahead and a blizzard of heavy snowfall obscures everything in your path. You inch forward through the blizzard until you arrive on the other side – where skies once again turn sunny.

Anyone who lives in the Great Lakes region (especially those living along the eastern and southern shorelines) is familiar with this unique type of winter weather. This heavily localized snowfall, known as lake-effect snow, is most common from November to February. The winter weather phenomenon is capable of whitening out large sections of the Great Lakes region, from South Bend, Ind., to Buffalo. Towns and cities at higher elevations can expect even larger amounts of lake-effect snow.

Lake-effect snow forms in the winter when cold air masses move over warmer lake waters. As the warm lake water heats the bottom layer of air, lake moisture evaporates into the cold air. Since warm air is lighter and less dense than cold air, it rises and begins to cool. The moisture that evaporates into the air condenses and forms clouds, and snow begins falling.

Snow clouds most often form in narrow bands where the size and orientation are determined by the shape of the body of water and the prevailing wind direction. In the most extreme cases, the heaviest bands of snowfall may be 20 to 30 miles wide and extend over 100 miles inland from the lake.

Within the band, snowfall rates may exceed 5 inches an hour and be accompanied by lightning and thunder, a phenomenon known as thundersnow. A band of snow can hover over one location for
several hours, dropping several feet of snow; however, 10 to 15 miles on either side of that narrow band skies may be sunny with no snow at all.

Lake-effect snows are not confined to the Great Lakes region, although they are most common and heaviest there. Any large body of water can generate lake-effect snow downwind if it remains free of ice. The Great Salt Lake in Utah produces significant lake-effect snow. There’s also bay-effect snow that forms in the same manner as lake-effect snow, only over the ocean. Cape Cod Bay in Massachusetts and Chesapeake Bay in Maryland and Virginia will occasionally produce bay-effect snow.

To learn more about lake-effect snow in the Great Lakes region, visit the NWS Buffalo, N.Y., Forecast Office.

Great Lakes Hits the IMAX Screen
It takes a drop of water nearly 400 years to travel from the headwaters of Lake Superior to the edge of Lake Ontario. Along the way, the water passes by towering cliffs dotted with early Native American pictographs, caribou and moose grazing on the shores, over giant prehistoric sturgeon lurking among thousands of shipwrecks, and past nearly 40 million people who live along the more than 10,000 miles of coastline. It is a dramatic journey through some of the most spectacular scenery in the world. Now, you can witness the Mysteries of the Great Lakes on the only screen large enough to reveal them – IMAX! See if NALMS is mentioned during the film and if not then stand up and yell it out loudly.

On a cold, winter’s night, what better thing to do than to find a local IMAX theatre near you and see this amazing movie. Currently, there are 11 theatres in New England, Canada, and Japan that are showing this film, and it will be heading west soon. There are educational resources that accompany this movie.

Arizona Boating and Watersports free Online Issue
Here is an opportunity to check out a recreational water sports newspaper online. It is interesting to see the different articles and items that lake users are attracted to. This free February/March issue can be viewed online at http://azbw.com/AZBW_FebMar_2011.pdf.

This issue covers everything from regattas and dragon boat festivals to boat safety and sensitive fish species. There is even a lake monster article worth checking out on page 6. The print version of Arizona Boating & Watersports / Western Outdoor Times is distributed throughout Arizona and Southern California as well as several other states and countries. Maybe NALMS should place an ad!

White House Asian Carp Director Hopeful of a Solution
The man President Barack Obama has charged with managing the Asian carp threat is hearing criticism that the government is not moving fast enough to prevent the invasive fish from infiltrating the Great Lakes.

John Goss, Asian carp director for the White House Council on Environmental Quality, is in the midst of 12 public meetings scheduled around the Great Lakes region to discuss the federal strategy.

Asian species (bighead and silver carp) have migrated up the Illinois River. They are being stopped from entering Lake Michigan by an electric barrier 25 miles south of Chicago.

Biologists have warned that if they reach the Great Lakes they could out-compete other fish and harm the eco-system.


Ice Fishing at its Finest
**Study Finds that Lakes are a Big Source of Climate-Changing Gas**

OSLO (Reuters) - Lakes and rivers emit far more of a powerful greenhouse gas than previously thought, counteracting the overall role of nature in soaking up climate-warming gases, a study showed on Thursday.

A review of 474 freshwater systems indicated they emitted methane equivalent to 25 percent of all carbon dioxide (the main greenhouse gas blamed for stoking climate change) absorbed by the world's land areas each year.

Emissions of methane, released by decaying vegetation and other organic matter in rivers, reservoirs, lakes and streams, have not previously been properly built into models used to understand global warming.

**While it is Winter Up Here, We Forget that it’s Summer Down Under**

Hazardous blue-green algae is expected to keep watersport thrill-seekers and fishermen away from Camperdown's Lake Bullen Merri in Australia during the summer months of December and January.

Corangamite Shire has urged the community to avoid all contact with the water at the lake due to high bacteria levels, which can cause a range of physical ailments. Analysis of the lake determined that the algal bloom will persist until the end of January (the middle of summer for the southern hemisphere).

Warning signs have been in place at the lake since mid-December to caution lake-users about the bloom, and the council has advised that contact with the water can cause minor symptoms such as skin irritations and, in more extreme cases, liver failure.

Corangamite Shire sustainable development director Ian Gibb said water tests conducted in November had confirmed high levels of the toxic algal species Nodularia spumigena.

Residents have been encouraged to view the Corangamite Shire website (http://www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/) for further information regarding the blue-green algae bloom. Since late January, Lake Bullen Merri has reopened, but algae counts are still on the high side.

**Water, Winds Encase Lake Erie lighthouse in Ice**

Days of unrelenting gale force winds in December churned up white caps on Lake Erie. Those monster waves crashed across the Cleveland Harbor breakwall and West Pier lighthouse. The Arctic temperatures did the rest. The spray froze instantly and layer upon layer accumulated on the lake shore structures until they appeared to be solid ice. Sunshine coming through breaks in the clouds then illuminated the ice wonders giving them a seemingly divine, otherworldly appearance. Photo-journalist George Payamgis braved the near zero wind chills to capture these moments. You can see the video if you go to http://www.wkyc.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=164226&catid=91.
**EPA Webcast on Nutrients and Harmful Algal Blooms in Lakes**

Our very own NALMS past president, Ken Wagner, teamed up with Russ Gibson from Ohio EPA on January 26th to give a very informative 2 hour webcast about lakes, nutrients, and how they respond. Ken Wagner gave a nice overview of nutrients in lakes and the issues with cyanobacteria blooms followed by a case study of his work on Lake Waco. Russ then talked about the recent efforts on Grand Lake St. Marys in Ohio and how they tested alum to help reduce the NPS impacts that have quickly deteriorated the lake in recent years.

The Webcast was a first in a series of Watershed Academy Webcasts on the important issue of nutrients and their impact on water resources. Over 4,000 people viewed the webcast and asked several good questions for both speakers to answer. If you missed this webcast, it is archived on the EPA watershed academy website where you can download the presentations (http://water.epa.gov/learn/training/wacademy/webcasts_index.cfm).

**Illinois River Asian Carp Selling to China and for Prison Food??**

NPR story – All Things Considered

Instead of making lemons into lemonade, people along the Illinois River are making carp into, well, carp. National Public Radio did a great story about how some people fishing the Illinois River have switched over to catching Asian carp and are making a profit by selling about 2 million pounds a year to Asian-American communities near and far. On a given day, a person can harvest 10,000 to 12,000 pounds of Asian carp from the Illinois River and make about 14 cents to the pound. That’s just over $1,400 a day.

The next markets being explored include prisons in the U.S. (carp three times a day might be the best deterrent yet) and hungry consumers in China. With the right freezing and transportation process, carp might be sent to China for a profit. As crazy as it sounds, people are looking into these two options.

We will have definitely gone full circle when the day comes that we are shipping invasive Asian carp back over to China. Who knows, maybe we will over fish the Asian carp here and alter their habitat enough to put them on the endangered species list like we do with our native fish. That’s one way to control the invasive carp, treat them like our very own.


Here’s another clever smart phone application that is good for the environment. By going to this website, you can learn how to locate invasive species by using your Android or iPhone.

What will they think of next?

**Update Contact information:**

Please let the NALMS Office ([slunz@nalms.org](mailto:slunz@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

Please send your material to Steve Lundt at slundt@mwr.gov, if you:

• are having a conference,
• have a lake-related question,
• need advice,
• are looking for similar lake problems/solutions,
• have an interesting story to share,
• or just want to be heard throughout NALMS.

All e-newsletter material is due to Steve Lundt by the first Friday of each even month to be considered for inclusion in that month’s e-newsletter. The newsletter goes out electronically during February, April, June, August, October, and December.