

FOLKS Business Members

Anchorbank, SSB	877-4100
Barber's Bay	873-6121
Coldwell Banker Sveum Realtor	873-7731
Crown Point Resort	873-7833
Dean Thomas Homes, Inc	873-1935
Evergreen State Bank	873-5363
Jim's Tree Service	838-8118
Kegonsa Cove	838-6494
Mike Jensen Taxidermy	838-4862
Quam's Motor Sports	873-3366
Quick Stop - Mobil	873-5321
RE/MAX Preferred	877-0871
Sonny's Bar & Grill	873-4422
Springer's	205-9300
Stark Company Realtors	873-8181
Stoughton Country Club	873-7861
The UPS Store	877-2679

We thank everyone that has renewed their membership so far this year. In addition, we like to acknowledge our new 2006 members:

Kellyt Buss
James & Lynne Pope
Barbara Broves & Tony Merlok
Patricia Unterholzner
John & Kim Van Brooklin



Friends of Lake Kegonsa Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 173
Stoughton, WI 53589-0173

July 2006

President's Message July 2006



Yes, FOLKS will take all of the credit for the simply delightful July 4th holiday on Lake Kegonsa. With the perfect weather, the Lake was alive with outdoor activities with guests and family visiting to enjoy the benefits of our lake living.

A comfort to the Executive Board is to find needed resources available within our very own membership. FOLKS member Steve Grant, a consulting engineer, has been commissioned to reengineer the Fish Camp Breakwater design to cause no increase in upstream flooding while preventing future shoreline and marsh erosion and be aesthetically pleasing. These are all necessary objectives for obtaining the DNR permits. We appreciate Steve's acceptance of this challenge.

Please logon to www.kegonsa.org and view FOLKS' new web page. Refinements will continue to be made to improve its user friendliness, but it is a "one stop shop" for Lake Kegonsa. Current features include: weather forecasts, lake levels, lake level histories, activities, calendar of events, lake history, lake maps, and FOLKS membership information. By using the links contained in the web page, you can obtain the latest DNR and Dane County regulations concerning piers, shoreline erosion control, fishing, boating, while seeing where the weed harvesting equipment is being operated. Interested in recreation on Lake Kegonsa? Just link to the State Park and Sailing Club web pages for their latest activities. FOLK's member Alan Carlson designed our new web page.

I am happy to report that we have 15 young boaters who successfully obtain their boater safety certificates at Saturday's July 8th class. In addition, 6 adult boaters attended the all day safety course. Course materials covered classification of boats, legal requirements, navigation rules, safety/emergencies, and enjoying water sports. I found this course to be a good refresher, and recommend it for even seasoned boaters. Congratulations to our young boaters on Lake Kegonsa!

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P.O. Box 173
Stoughton, WI 53589

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Open Letter to the Dane County Lakes & Watersheds Commission, May 24, 2006

The FOLKS Executive Board has reviewed the matrix entitled "Dane County Waters Action Plan" prepared by your office. The listing of activities is very comprehensive because it encompasses the plans and actions of many agencies which are subject to staffing availability and funding within their respective organizations. This is generally reflected in the lack of specific timelines and expected results in the column headed "Priority Needs/Next Steps". Achieving intergovernmental coordination in addressing water issues is a noble goal but difficult to fully accomplish.

Since Lake Kegonsa is primarily under the direct jurisdiction of Dane County via the Lakes & Watershed Commission for lake matters, I will limit my remarks to only those activities which primarily relate to county matters.

Agricultural Runoff

Currently, the entire area surrounding Lake Kegonsa except for the shoreline zone is in agricultural. Dane County Land Conservation has been active in addressing and reducing agricultural runoff on going basis with success. In a major rainstorm scenario, runoff conditions change drastically with significant sediment deposits resulting in the Lake as shown with the Miller farm situation a few years ago. FOLKS was very active in the coordination of the retention ponds for this storm runoff.

In the past, area private pilots have seen the sediment plumes entering into the Lake following major storms. FOLKS suggest that documentation (aerial photos) of major rainstorm agricultural runoffs be added to storm water control regulation control activity by 2007.

In-Lake Management

This entire area has the greatest impact on the Yahara Lakes' desirability both to the riparian land owners and the recreational users. It is surprising that no APM plan was previously developed for Lake Kegonsa and harvesting was conducted on a haphazard basis for all of these years. Given this situation can hopefully be corrected with the completion of the contractor's work in 2006, and the issuance of the required DNR harvesting permits. Continued adequate funding levels for harvesting operations remains a serious problem area. It is suggested that APM Study Committee develop and implement plans to ensure future adequacy of these funds in light of the administrative pressures on department heads for reductions in operating budgets.

One approach could be the establishment of segregated accounts in the County budget for lake level management and harvesting operations. With a stable funding base, necessary minor equipment purchases i.e. GPS units for the harvesters, would probably be made to improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of any APM plan. This area has been one of the most vocal issues for the FOLKS membership.

Recreation Management

FOLKS support the 2006 reminder mailing for the Lake Property Numbering Program. Although considerable effort was made in the development of the Program, prior implementation approaches have not met with success based on the limited number of signs being displayed. A small investment in marketing this Program again could provide surprising dividends.

Boating safety is a remains an ongoing concern to FOLKS members. The new boater safety certification requirement will place added demands on the Marine and Trail Enforcement Bureau within the Sheriff's Office. Compliance with the new requirements is anticipated to reduce the amount of coverage available by the Sheriff's boat patrols. For years, the adequacy of the funding for the lake patrols has been questioned with the net effect of fewer actual lake patrols on Lake Kegonsa being conducted. FOLKS request actions to be taken to ensure at least maintaining the previous years' level of lake patrols on Lake Kegonsa in light of the new state mandate.

Invasive Prevention & Management

Although APM is a primary concern of the FOLKS membership, Asian carp is definitely not an acceptable solution. Due to continuing concerns with draining Mendota and Monona, the lower dams have routinely been maintained in their wide open conditions. If Asian carp are not prevented from entering Stoughton, we anticipate an extensive invasion by Asian carp in all of the Yahara Lakes within a relatively short period of time.

Continued on Page 5

FOLKS OFFICERS 2006

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Editor Wanted:

FOLKS is looking for someone to take over some of the Editor's responsibilities. Currently, Kris Heckman is both Treasurer and Editor and is looking for some assistance. FOLKS would send you the Word documents and photos for you to prepare and typeset the newsletter. Then you would e-mail it back Kris. She will take care of the rest! Please let us know if you are interested or have any questions. You can reach Kris at kheckman@charter.net or her home number of 608-877-8750.

Send news of interest to FOLKS to:

P.O. Box 173
Stoughton, WI 53589 or
FOLKS1@charter.net

2006 Board Members



(Pictured From Left To Right)

1. Bob Arndt, 1960 Barber Dr. 877-8540
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5. Doug Pfundheller, 3354 Quam Dr. 873-3611
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6. Ed Heckman (not pictured), 2078 Barber Dr. 877-8750
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Pictured above is our 2006 FOLKS volunteer board members. This year we have established a new system where our board members will work on various committees and projects. **All FOLKS Board Meetings are open to the public** and we encourage you to attend and become involved in any project. The more of you involved, the more proactive we can become for Lake Kegonsa. Some areas we are looking at this year include: Aquatic Plant Management, Northern Pike Rearing Ponds in Door Creek Wetlands, Fish Camp Boat Launch Breakwater, Tracking Acts, Rules, and Ordinances.

FOLK's remaining Board Meetings will be held at the Stoughton Country Club on 7/31, 8/28, 9/25, 10/30 and 11/27 all beginning at 5:30PM.

Published five times yearly by The Friends of Lake Kegonsa Society, Inc.

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History of Stoughton Country Club
By Doug Pfundheller

In the late 1800's a group of railroad executives from the Chicago area came to Lake Kegonsa and started a camp called Camp Collins on what is now Tracy Lane. Some of the men were golfers and they made an arrangement with a local farmer named Thor Olson to use his meadow. Armed with scythes they cut the long grass and played golf in the stubble. Olson's meadow would later become the first nine holes of the Stoughton Country Club.

In 1914, O.J. Forton and Elmer Falk both local businessmen, had an idea that a golf course on Lake Kegonsa would be a great thing for Stoughton and a real extra draw for lake visitors. They approached H.W. Scott a local tobacco broker and the only man they knew in town that played the game, to see if he was interested in their idea. He was interested as were many public spirited citizens in town however; World War One got in the way so nothing more transpired.

The war ended and in 1920 the golfing spirit redeveloped again and the group decided to finance a visit by Mr. William Watson of Chicago. Mr. Watson was a golf course architect and was famous for some of America's outstanding courses. This action showed the foresight of the group but at that time the land values in the area were inflated to \$300-\$500.00 per acre so once again, things were put on hold. In 1922 the land prices started to decline and the group decided to work on the project again headed by Mr. Scott. Mr. Scott purchased a lake lot from H.T. Anderson that would connect the Olson farm to the lake. An option was taken on the Olson estate which included meadow, some wild lands and a wood lot which are now the 9th & 10th holes. Mr. Watson designed the course and Mr. Harry Smead a Chicago golf course contractor, was engaged to supervise the local crews who did the work. The money was borrowed from the bank and 24 local businesses and professional men signed the note. Stock was sold at \$100.00 per share and there were 234 stockholders, not all of them were golfers.

In 1928 Directors started planning a new club house that would cost about \$15,000.00. Work began in 1929 and the dedication of the building in June of 1930. The local paper reported that 130 dinner reservations were made that week! Music was played by Hoel's Orchestra of Janesville plus Miss Jean Hedemark played piano selections, Paul Skinner sang and Randy Coughlin was the speaker. The new two story clubhouse was beautiful. The men's lockers, lounge and pro shop were located on the first floor and on the second floor was the ladies lounge, locker room, kitchen and a 250 capacity dining room. The dining room was open to the public on Sundays for dinners.

In April of 1954 on Easter morning around 4:00AM the club housed burned down and nothing was saved. The replacement value of the property and its contents was estimated around \$75,000.00. There was a balance on the mortgage of \$7500.00 and the total insurance coverage was just \$30,000.00. In 1956 there wasn't enough money to do an adequate job of replacing the club house so the directors did the best they could and ended up with a cement block, one story structure that faced the golf course and ignored the lake side. The dance floor doubled as the dining space.

1968 saw things going a lot better so the board of directors decided to spruce things up a bit. A beautiful new dining room was added with lots of windows facing the lake. The downstairs was left unfinished however; there was room for expansion which is now the Lake Kegonsa room. A new pro shop was added and the locker rooms enlarged. 150 trees were planted and a fairway watering system was completed.

In the late 1980's Don Wheeler a board member, started a discussion with Shirley and Oscar Linnerud about adding an additional nine holes. It took a few years to work out the details but an offer to purchase was signed on September 8, 1993 for .92 acres of land east of Country Club Road. The back nine was dedicated in July of 1995.

Times were good, the memberships were growing and bills were able to be paid. However; on August 18, 2005, the Stoughton tornado hits and blows down the roof over the dining room and does \$20,000.00 worth of tree damage. This time though, the board of directors had enough insurance to cover most of the costs. The club house was restored once again better than in 1954. I could have mentioned over 100 or more names of folks who made all of this happen but many you may not know. However; if you drive through a little subdivision just south of the old nine holes you will see Giehler Drive (the first club pro), Scott Circle (the first club President), Duncan Drive (the second club President) and Lynch Circle, a long time golfer and friend of the above.

FOLKS suggest a proactive approach with DNR to secure the lower Yahara River from Asian carp below Stoughton be implemented in 2006/2007.

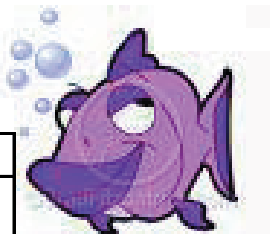
In summary, FOLKS suggest the completion of some lake projects in 2006/2007 with tangible results which demonstrates to the general public a continued commitment to the Yahara Lakes. To this end, FOLKS is equally committed to maintaining and improving conditions on Lake Kegonsa; and offers its support and/or assistance in the lake projects. Thank you for the opportunity to express our suggestions to the Dane County Waters Action Plan.

Sincerely,

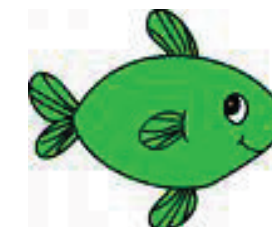
FOLKS Executive Board

Planned Fish Stocking for 2006
By Dave Luellwitz, Fishery Committee

On April 6, 2006 the FOLKS Fishery Committee met with Kurt Welke, Fisheries Biologist of the Department of Natural Resources, Dane County, to discuss issues concerning Lake Kegonsa fisheries. One of the topics discussed was the planned fish stocking for Lake Kegonsa. In 2006 there are plans to place approximately 50 Walleye fingerlings per acre and 10 Northern Pike per acre. 2007 estimates are to stock 50 Northern Pike fingerlings per acre.



Lake Kegonsa Fish Stocking Data			
Year	Species	Number Stocked	Length (in)
2000	Northern Pike	2,500	7
2000	Walleye	93,059	1
2001	Northern Pike	400,000	0
2001	Northern Pike	1,500	7
2001	Walleye	50,000	2
2002	Northern Pike	2,500	8
2002	Walleye	161,253	1
2003	Walleye	138,170	2
2003	Walleye	47,969	2
2004	Walleye	67,511	1
2004	Walleye	92,989	2
2005	Northern Pike	3,210	9
2005	Walleye	144,877	2
2005	Walleye	15,760	2
* 2006	Walleye	60,000	fingerling
* 2006	Northern Pike	2,500	--
* 2007	Northern Pike	50,000	fingerling
* estimated			
Information and estimates provided by Kurt Welke, DNR			



The First Catamaran on The Lake
Article Submitted by: Doug Pfundheller

In the summer of 1961, my sister Barb and her husband Roger Amundson went to California to visit Roger's sister. One afternoon down at the beach, Roger saw this very unusual and very fast sail boat. He asked a few questions from various people and found out it was built by a local man named Skip Krueger. Roger looked him up and found out that Skip was interested in selling plans for his boat which he called the "Saber Cat". Roger decided he would purchase a set of these plans and bring them home to Stoughton to see what he could build.

That fall Roger, Don Helmke and I started to build the boat in Don's basement. We crafted this boat of marine plywood and fiberglass. The mast was purchased from Buddy Melgas of Zenda, Wisconsin from an old A Scow he had. The full baton sail and job was purchased from a sail maker in Oshkosh. When the boat was finished it was 20 feet long, 8 feet wide and 33 feet to the top of the mast. This boat was extremely heavy! Prior to using our boat, we all had read a short book on how to sail as none of us had ever tried it before. We finished our prize possession in May of 1962 and all we needed was a place to moor it. So, I went shopping for a cottage or a lot on Lake Kegonsa (how we bought this is another story!). We ended up with a cottage on Quam Drive where I still live today. Next we needed a way to get the boat to the lake so we made a trailer out of four 2x6 planks and some steel wheels we had found in the local dump. We built our trailer and then fastened the boat to it and started heading for the lake driving about 10 MPH.

We arrived that day to Amundson Landing and pushed the boat into the lake. We were all very anxious and excited as it was a perfect spring afternoon with a great breeze. Ready for the perfect day, we raised the sails and nothing happened! It just sat there and making clunking noises! We were all just sick that the boat wouldn't move and couldn't understand why. So, Don jumped over the side to take a look under the water. As he surfaced with a smile on his face he announced that we had forgotten to take the boat off of the trailer. So, we proceeded to move the boat off the trailer and give it another whirl. From that day forward we sailed our beautiful catamaran for the next 27 years.



Krueger may have called the boat the "Saber Cat" however; the local folks here called it the "Wooden Shoe" because that is what the boat looked like. No one on this lake had ever seen a boat like this including members of the Sheriff's department. On the first Sunday we had it out they came by and told us to get into the boat. We asked where that was and they just drove away. I have to say my wife truly loved this old boat because she felt safe in it and didn't think it was very tipsy.

Susan A. Jones - Watershed Management Coordinator - Office of Lakes & Watersheds

Dane County Aquatic Plant Management Committee Meeting
July 6 – Town of Dunn Hall

The Dane County Aquatic Plant Management Committee Held a public information and input session regarding development of aquatic plant management plans for Lake Mendota, Lake Kegonsa, Lake Wingra, Indian Lake, Fish and Crystal Lakes, and Lower Mud Lake on Thursday July 6 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Town of Dunn Hall.

The meeting was led by Susan Graham from the DNR, Sue Jones from the Dane County Lakes and Watershed Commission, and Dave Marshall of Underwater Habitat Investigations, the consultant hired by the county to develop the plan. They provided an overview of the ecological value of aquatic plants, and described the work underway for plan development which includes a survey of aquatic plants, identification of areas with sensitive species, and identification of areas of heavy infestation of Eurasian Milfoil. They have finished work at Indian Lake, are half done with Mendota, and plan to start on Kegonsa in the next few weeks.



Interview with Alan Carlson, by S. Luellwitz



Mr. Carlson has very generously volunteered to donate his time and expertise to develop a web site for FOLKS! Check it out at: www.kegonsa.org

Q: Please tell us a little bit about yourself. Are you originally from the area? How long have you lived on Lake Kegonsa?

A: Born in Chicago, lived in Wisconsin Dells area and Wisconsin Dells from age 7 through high school. Attended Wisconsin State University, Stevens Point, Brown Institute, Minneapolis, MATC (Madison). Moved to Lake Kegonsa April, 1989.

Q: You are the owner and operator of Web-Net. Please tell us about your business. How long have you been in business? What do you specialize in? What other sites have you developed?

A: Web-Net develops (designs), markets and hosts web sites. Web-Net started in 1996. Web-Net focuses on small to medium size businesses – retail (e-commerce), wholesale, organizations, associations...if you need a web site, call us. We have over 120 clients we do design and/or host web sites for that are primarily in Southern and Central Wisconsin as well as Chicago. Some of the better known sites include: Stoughton Chamber of Commerce (stoughtonwi.com), Lake Kegonsa Sailing Club (lksc.org), Skaalen Home (skaalen.com), Schroeder Insurance (schroederins.com), Stoughton Area Foundation (stoughtonareafoundation.org), Pedro's Mexican Restaurant (pedromexicanrestaurant.com), Wisco Industries (wiscooven.com), New Glarus Hotel (newglarushotel.com), Chalet Landhaus (chaletlandhaus.com), Northwood's Cheese (northwoodscheese.com), Ginza of Tokyo (ginsamadison.com), Jamerica (jamericanrestaurant.com), Christy's Landing (christyslanding.net), Trakside Charities (traksidecharities.org), and many more.

Q: Did you major in Computer Science or did you learn to do this on your own? Where did you earn your degree?

A: My computer education comes from MATC – Associate in Electronic Technology. My major at Stevens Point was communication/speech. I was in radio and television since 1968 as an air-talent (KSTP-Minneapolis, WBAY-Green Bay where I produced and hosted the Packer pre-game show for 4 years, WIBA-AM-Madison, WOLX-Madison), copywriter, commercial production, and account executive. I taught myself about the Internet.

Q: During our first meeting, I got the impression you are quite an environmentalist. What do you think are the most important issues facing the lake residents?

A: Run-off. We have to STOP putting manufactured, commercial "fertilizer" on our lawns. Corn Gluten Meal works just as well and is totally natural. It even works like Scott's Halts in the spring, preventing crabgrass – personally I believe its better. It has nitrogen so it can also be put on the lawn in mid July and again in fall. It can be purchased locally at the Oregon Farm Store on Hwy 38 just outside Oregon. It cannot, however, be used if you plan to seed since it prevents germination of seeds...both grass and weed.

Q: How far along is the web-site? When do you anticipate it will be up and running?

A: The site is up now – www.kegonsa.org - with modifications and additions as they are suggested



Students hard at work in the classroom



Measuring 200 foot wake zone

Boater Safety Course was a success!!!

On July 08th FOLKS hosted a private Boater's Safety course at the Town of Dunn Hall in conjunction with the Dane County Sheriff's department. The course was designed especially for Lake Kegonsa owners. We had just over 20 people sign up for the course with many of the participants being teenagers. The cost was only \$10.00 per student and FOLKS supplied the lunch and snacks. While the 8 hour course was a bit long on a beautiful warm sunny day, many left smiling as they received their certificates and headed home to enjoy the remainder of the weekend (hopefully on the lake!) For those of you wanting to attend a boater's safety course, check out the Wisconsin DNR website for the next available time in your area.