

# SHORELINES

April 2009

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual NLA Lake Management Conference

*Shorelines* is a publication of the Nebraska Lakes Association, a nonprofit organization of private lakes.

**Our Mission** is to provide a forum for information and resources to educate members so their lake experience is safe, healthy and enjoyable.

Our Associate Members are businesses that provide products and services to lake associations and/or lake residents.

### Highlights Inside

President's Message	Page 2
New Member Benefits	Page 3
Board of Directors	Page 3
Associate Members	Page 4
Website Highlights	Page 4
2009 Dues Statement	Page 5
Conf. Reg. Form	Page 7
Member Lakes	Back cover

Membership and Conference Registration forms are all available on our website:

[www.nebraskalakes.org](http://www.nebraskalakes.org)

### Mahoney State Park May 2, 2009

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Management Conference of the Nebraska Lakes Association is being held on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Kiewit Lodge, Mahoney State Park. You won't want to miss this great day of networking and learning from the experts. Topics will range from lake management to people management, all with an eye toward keeping your community safe, clean and fun for all.

Nebraska's premier boating safety expert, **Herb Angell**, will update us on important boating issues and then announce the new grant program (see page 3 for details) that will reimburse NLA lake members for monies spent on boating safety.

**Mike Rierden**, Attorney at Law and NLA Board Member, will provide advice on dealing with the challenges of governing a lake community and teach you ways to make your lake a safer place for everyone to enjoy. Lake contamination including the threat of zebra mussels invading our lake waters will be the important topic presented by **Jeff Blaser**, Private Waters Specialist at NE Game & Parks. We'll even have an expert from DEQ who will discuss how important proper sewage practices are for maintaining good water quality for your lake.

The question and answer session at the end of the program is always a great opportunity for attendees to

share ideas, voice their concerns and quiz the experts on ways to improve their lake environment.

One more highlight! Associate Members will sponsor display tables for attendees to visit and learn about services that are available to them for lake management as well as the enhancement of their individual lake homes. Associate Members represent broad ranging services including water conservation and fish stocking, erosion control, dredging, seawalls, landscaping and boating needs.

Registration begins at 8:30 and the conference will officially run from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The conference is open to anyone interested in the quality of lake living and recreational uses of Nebraska's private lakes. Pre-registration is necessary for your participation. (Registration Form enclosed on inside back cover). The conference fee, including lunch and the required Park Permit is \$20 for NLA members and \$30 for non-members. Couples attending are \$30 or \$40 respectively.

Come join us! We look forward to sharing a great day of learning and networking with you on Saturday, May 2.

*Nebraska Lakes Association  
Board of Directors*

## President's Message

### The Brother-in-Law Boat

Yes, spring is here and time to put *your* boat in the water, *not* your brother-in-law's, or your buddy's from work. Oh, yeah, just think how much more fun you can have with their boat – it's bigger, faster, nicer – real class! Geez, what a spoil sport I am! I know! But look what you can avoid by just using *your* boat on *your* lake.

Experience has shown that foreigners/visitors boating on your lake don't know the rules of the lake, little things like, no wake zones, wake damage, which direction to travel, what to do when a skier is in the water, who has the right of way, drinking and boating, use of life preservers, age restrictions, etc. Most lake dwellers hardly know the covenants and safety/ boating rules of their own lake – how can you expect a visitor to know them? I'll quote Herb Angell, Boating Safety Director, Nebraska Game and Parks—where can you drive something with a couple of hundred horsepower and NO brakes? Yup, boats *are* fun! Boats are also dangerous for the violators and risk takers as well as innocent victims. And you gotta ask yourself, what makes you think *you* are immune to the antics and injury caused by a rogue boater? Just a thought!

What if you required *all* boat drivers on *your* lake to pass the state's accredited Boater's Safety Course? What would happen if every boater had to re-read the state and local boating regulations before they go out on the water? Why of course, pandemonium would break out! Or would it? I won't even ask about requiring liability insurance.

Oh, those aren't the only reasons *not* to invite your Brother-in Law or buddy to bring *their* boat or jet ski to *your* lake. I'll just touch on the subject but at the NLA Lake Management Conference on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jeff Blaser, NE Game & Parks will show you the effects of the damaging animal life forms and biological contaminants that are transferred from one lake to the next by boating in multiple lakes. If you want your lake contaminated and are ready to pay the expensive costs to clean up your lake (if you can) then disregard this caution. I know, now I am a real spoil sport, but unfortunately this is just one of the things that happen to lakes, unless someone is smart and courageous enough to protect them.

Here's the real problem – and it is universal to almost all lakes that I know of – most lake/homeowner associations are unable and/or unwilling to enforce the covenants/ bylaws/safety regulations, etc. to protect their lakes or restrict those that violate the local rules. Now, on the flip side, I know many lakes are continually worried about rewriting their covenants/ bylaws/safety regulations. Usually, this is a fool's errand because: (1) they try to do it without an attorney that *understands the laws and lakes* and end up with rules that are unenforceable in the courts; (2) the lakes are scared to death of a lawsuit because they don't have the money to defend themselves in court; (3) the lakes don't have the ability or desire to enforce the rules they already have on their books (which much of the time are more than adequate) and (4) they don't have a list of consequences or penalties to be applied to the violators.

You know what I am going to say next! NLA has a superb attorney in Mike Rierden. He has frequently addressed NLA conferences with absolutely superb legal guidance – and it has all been FREE!! He will be speaking again on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Do come just to listen to him, if for no other reason.

One other important point. Lake communities suffer from identical problems. Come to the conferences. Do some networking, meet other lake dwellers, see how they handle their lake's problems. Many may just be overwhelmed by the wealthy loudmouth that does what he wants and threatens to sue if he (or she) is disturbed in their illegal and dangerous activities. Find out how to avoid being held hostage by the few scofflaws that are putting you and your lake in serious legal and financial jeopardy. Also come see the exhibitors, they may be able to help you solve some of your other lake problems, too!

In fact, we invite you to join our afternoon panel to discuss both common and unique lake situations. We're not looking for experts, but for people that are experiencing the challenge of governing a lake community.

Lakes are places for fun. Unique! Very few people have the luxury of living on a lake. Count your blessings for being able to. Make sure it stays a fun and safe place for all the residents.

“Last one in the water is a...!”

*Woody*  
President NLA

## New Benefits for NLA Members!

### Boating Safety Grant Program to be Announced at Lake Management Conference

The Nebraska Game & Parks Commission is initiating a new program this year that will give NLA members the opportunity to receive reimbursement on part of their monies spent on boating safety efforts.

According to Herb Angell, Boating Safety Administrator for NE Game & Parks, this program is financed partly by a Federal grant from tax on motorboat fuel. NE Game & Parks is anticipating some left over monies that they may be able to "pass through" to non-profit agencies like the Nebraska Lakes Association to assist members with some boating safety efforts. The pass-through grant will consist of a 35% refund of what has already been spent for boating safety on their lakes. Examples might be buoys and buoy placement costs, boat ramps, and construction of access. Herb will be discussing the mechanics of how this will work at the Lake Management Conference on May 2. Attend the conference and be among the first to learn of this great new benefit for NLA member lakes!

### 2009 Nebraska Lakes Scholarship

Nebraska Lakes Association (NLA) is proud to announce the first annual Nebraska Lakes Scholarship. The 2009 NLA Scholarship Amount is \$500.00.

The goal of the scholarship program is to invest in the future of Nebraska's developing minds, along with the promotion of the stewardship of our precious surface water.

Members of NLA are eligible to nominate a college student (2-4 year College/University) for the cash award. The student must have a degree emphasis that is constant with the goals of NLA. i. e. natural resources, environmental science, safety, law enforcement, criminal justice or other related fields.

By submitting the NLA Scholarship application the prospective recipient will become eligible for screening to receive the award. The NLA Scholarship screening committee will evaluate the completed applications.

Details of the scholarship offer will be announced at the Lake Management Conference on May 2 at Kiewit Lodge, Mahoney State Park. Join us there to learn more!

### 2009 NLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT:**  
**Woody Thelin (09)**  
Hawaiian Village  
402-593-7200  
[wthelin@aol.com](mailto:wthelin@aol.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
**Glenn Hillhouse (09)**  
Capitol Beach  
402-475-0566  
[glenns@inebraska.com](mailto:glenns@inebraska.com)

**SECRETARY**  
**Mike Dodge (10)**  
North Lake Park  
402-944-2684  
[Rydodge001@aol.com](mailto:Rydodge001@aol.com)

**TREASURER**  
**Pat Fuxa (10)**  
Fuxa Lake  
402-234-4547  
[bpfuxa@hotmail.com](mailto:bpfuxa@hotmail.com)

**BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE**  
**J. Michael Rierden (11)**  
North Lake Park  
402-476-2413  
[jjrierden@aol.com](mailto:jjrierden@aol.com)

**ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
DIRECTOR**  
**Mike McBride (09)**  
Ripple Environmental  
402-438-0806  
[mjmcbride@aol.com](mailto:mjmcbride@aol.com)

**NE GAME & PARKS ADVISOR**  
**Herb Angell**  
Boating Law Administrator  
Game & Parks Commission  
402-471-5579  
[herb.angell@nebraska.gov](mailto:herb.angell@nebraska.gov)

**NLA ADMINISTRATOR**  
**Joanne Harse**  
402-438-2221  
[jmharse@windstream.net](mailto:jmharse@windstream.net)

## NLA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

### **DREDGE AMERICA**

Dan McDougal  
816-330-3100

[www.dredgeamerica.com](http://www.dredgeamerica.com)

### **FRESHWATER CONSULTING, INC.**

John Holz, Ph.D  
402-450-3114

[www.freshH2Oconsulting.com](http://www.freshH2Oconsulting.com)

### **NEBRASKA LAKE MANAGEMENT**

Rob Hofpar  
402-784-6005

[www.nelakes.net](http://www.nelakes.net)

### **OLMSTED & PERRY**

James Olmsted  
402-399-8552

[www.olmstedperry.com](http://www.olmstedperry.com)

### **OLSSON ASSOCIATES**

Ben Day  
402-474-3611

[www.oaconsulting.com](http://www.oaconsulting.com)

### **RIPPLE ENVIRONMENTAL**

Mike McBride  
402-438-0806

[www.rippleenvironmental.com](http://www.rippleenvironmental.com)

### **THOMAS DREDGING & EXCAVATING**

Dennis Thomas  
402-944-7852

[www.thomasdredging.com](http://www.thomasdredging.com)

## Visit Our Website

Discover more about who we are and what we do. Visit [www.nebraskalakes.org](http://www.nebraskalakes.org)

- Boating safety resources
- Water quality issues
- Environmental issues
- Discussion of lake rules enforcement
- List of member lakes
- Links to member lakes websites
- Links to Associate Members websites
- Additional links to expert advisors
- Grant program for boating safety expenses
- College Scholarship opportunities
- Membership Dues Statements
- Conference Registration forms and details

[www.nebraskalakes.org](http://www.nebraskalakes.org)

## JOIN TODAY

Your 2009 Lake Membership Dues Statement is enclosed on the following pages of this newsletter. For Associate Member and Individual Member forms, please visit our website.

If you would like further information about joining our Association, please contact any of the Board of Directors listed on Page 3, or contact:

### **Nebraska Lakes Association**

PO Box 80771  
Lincoln, NE 68501-0771

### **NLA Administrator**

Joanne Harse  
Phone: 402-438-2221  
Fax: 402-438-2231

[jmharse@windstream.net](mailto:jmharse@windstream.net)

**NEBRASKA LAKES ASSOCIATION**

2009 Annual Dues Statement

Remit to: NLA  
PO Box 80771  
Lincoln, NE 68501-0771

**Total Amount Due: \$100.00**

**Lake Association Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Lake Website:** \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like your lake website linked to NLA website? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

([www.nebraskalakes.org](http://www.nebraskalakes.org))

**Permanent Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**If no permanent address, provide current contact and mailing address:**

Contact (Name and position): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Space for additional contacts provided on back of this form.)**

I / We consent and authorize Nebraska Lake Association to maintain the above information for publication and distribution in their annual membership directory, website database, or like information source and hold the Nebraska Lake Association harmless from the publication and/or distribution of said information as authorized herein. If at any time I desire to revoke this authorization, I must do so in writing to the office of the Association more than 90 days prior to any planned publication.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Representative(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Geographic location of lake within Nebraska:** Please help us locate your lake on a Nebraska state map. Define using directionals and mileage to nearest town, highways, etc.

i.e., 4 miles S. of Central City on Hwy 66; ¼ mile east of intersection of Hwy 14 and Hwy 66

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Additional Contacts

Please list additional names and addresses of lake residents who wish to receive the NLA *ShoreLines* newsletter and/or be part of an e-mail directory for networking among member lakes.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you know of **other lakes interested in membership**? If so, please provide a contact name and address below and we'll send them information on membership.

Lake Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**NLA Lake Management Conference  
Peter Kiewit Lodge, Mahoney State Park  
Saturday, May 2, 2009**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Association / Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

NLA Member: \$20 per person - \$30 per couple (Includes lunch & parking\*)

Non Member: \$30 per person - \$40 per couple (Includes lunch & parking\*)

Additional Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please remit to:  
Nebraska Lakes Association  
PO Box 80771  
Lincoln, NE 68501-0771**

\* Note: NLA will pay for the daily entrance fee for anyone attending the meeting that does not have a current State Park Permit.

Question for the afternoon session Panel of Experts: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## *Shorelines*

Nebraska Lakes Association

PO Box 80771

Lincoln, NE 68501-0771

### **MEMBERS NEBRASKA LAKES ASSOCIATION**

BEAVER LAKE  
BRANDENBURGH LAKES  
CAPITOL BEACH  
CEDAR CREEK #1  
CHRIS LAKE  
DOCTORS LAKE  
DUNCAN LAKES  
FUXA LAKE  
HANSON LAKE #2  
HANSON LAKE #3  
HERON POINT  
LAKE VENTURA  
LEGGI LAKE  
MIDDLE ISLAND LAKE  
MORNINGSTAR LAKE  
NORTH LAKE PARK

OVERLAND LAKES  
PINE LAKE  
PIONEER LAKE  
RIVERSIDE LAKES  
SACK'S LAKE  
SUNDANCE LAKE  
TURTLE BEACH  
WAGNER LAKES  
WHITETAIL LAKE  
WILLOW POINT  
WILLOW WOOD  
WOODCLIFF

#### **Individual Members**

Woody Thelin  
Ed Sekera, Jr.