



PO Box 80771, Lincoln, NE 68501-0771
www.nebraskalakes.org

11TH Annual Lakes Management Conference

Saturday, May 1, 2010
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium, Schramm State Park

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.

It's time for NLA's Lakes Management Conference and this year we're meeting at the Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium at Schramm State Park. You won't want to miss seeing this wonderful aquarium while networking with fellow lake residents and learning from our experts. Conference topics will range from lake management to people management all with an eye toward keeping you lake community safe, clean and fun for all:

- Governing your lake – Mike Rierden, Attorney
- Boating safety – Herb Angell, State Boating Administrator
- Lake restoration – Mission Lake project in Horton KS
- Stop Aquatic Hitchhiking – New Beaver Lake program to control invasive species
- Causes and cures for current problems at area lakes
- Dealing with winter fish kill
- NE Game & Parks Grant to reimburse NLA members for boating safety related expenses
- NLA College Scholarship
- Quiz Our Experts – Question and Answer time with our NLA Associate Members Panel

Our NLA Associate Members will sponsor display tables in our exhibit hall

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Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium

21502 W. Highway 31
Take I-80 to **Exit 432** – NE-31, US-6/Gretna

The Ak-Sar-Ben aquarium is headquarters for the statewide aquatic education program. It showcases approximately 60 of Nebraska's freshwater fish species as well as native turtles, salamanders, a snake and frogs.



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

www.nebraskalakes.org

2010 NLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President's Message

By Woody Thelin *

Not only can I see the grass, it is already turning green. Whew, what a long winter – even for Nebraska!

I hate to appear repetitious but in the past month two court decisions were made on boating accidents that happened last year. In both cases, drunken boat drivers killed their innocent friends and were found guilty of manslaughter. One got 180 days and 3 years probation; the other could get 20 years. Sentencing won't be until June 23rd. Everybody tends to feel sorry for the guilty – long after the fact—forgetting or forgiving what they actually did, and under what circumstances. When you look at the victims though, you see pain and lifelong agony forced upon them by the premature, absolute and final destruction of family relationships.

Boating is a fun experience for a lot of people. Let's just keep it that way. For yourself, be prepared to be a safe boater. On your lake, promote safe boating with you neighbors – because they may be the one who hurts you and your family. Get a Boater's Safety Class on your lake. Listen to Herb Angell and to Mike Rierden at our Spring Conference and throughout the year... promoting boater safety and enforcing your lake's boating rules cost a lot less than an attorney for your defense.

Speaking of boating safety, NLA has been considering many logos and finally found a perfect one...a life preserver. We have unsuccessfully tried to include a lake, sailboats, a scenic view, etc., but when you distill it to the essence there is nothing more important than safety. Emphasizing boating safety – because it is so important and something we can control – is the right thing to do.

We all need to talk to people whose lakes have been invaded by invasive species. It's real agony and horrendously expensive – if they even *can* clean up the lake. Most invasive species are plants and animals that have been introduced to attack a specific problem. Well, after the original problem is addressed (and may or not be cured) remains a species who has NO natural predator, consequently, multiples infinitely. Sometime we just get too smart for ourselves. We'll address this at the Conference by highlighting real solutions that our lake members have developed to deal with zebra mussels.

We are offering our college scholarship again – really proud to do this. Have your students send in their resumes to compete. Education has proven to be the gateway **to success and we're glad to contribute in our small way.**

Just a final comment on our website, www.nebraskalakes.org. As we get more organized, we need to pay more attention to it. We have an excellent webmaster in Scott Eveland – we just need to put him to work more. We need a volunteer to collect and shuffle information to Scott to expand our website. Ultimately we would like it to include a library of reference data of all things NLA related. Interested? Contact Joanne Harse or any of our board members shown at the left here.

Here's to an exciting summer on the water and at the beach: family, friends, BBQ, a new bathing suit, suntan lotion, rubber duckies, sand between your toes, beautiful sunsets... we do live the "Good Life".

Boating Safety Grant Program

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission has initiated a new program that gives NLA members the opportunity to receive reimbursement for some of the money spent on their boating safety efforts. 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 Lake Association to assist their members with some boating safety efforts. The pass-through grant will consist of a 35% refund (or maybe more!) 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 Angell, Boating Safety Administrator for NE Game & Parks, will be discussing the mechanics of how this will work at the Lake Management Conference on May 1. Attend the conference and be among the first to be able to take advantage of this great NLA member benefit!

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for attendees to visit and learn about services available to them for lake management as well as enhancement of their individual lake homes. Associate Members represent a broad range of services including water conservation and fish stocking, erosion control, dredging, seawalls, landscaping, legal advice and boating needs.

Conference Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 1, and the conference will officially run from 9:00 a.m. to 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). The Conference fee, including lunch, is \$20 for NLA member and \$30 for non-members. Couples attending are \$30 or \$40 respectively. Parking is free in the Ak-Sar-Ben aquarium parking lot.

If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Harse, NLA Administrator, at 402-438-2221 or email at jmharse@windstream.net

Come join us! We look forward to sharing a great day of learning and networking with you on May 1.

Nebraska Lake Association
Board of Directors

NLA Members

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Individual Members

Woody Thelin
Ed Sekera, Jr.

Membership and
Conference Registration
forms are attached and
are also available on our
website:

www.nebraskalakes.org

NLA Associate Members

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

ABSOLUTE NATURAL RESOURCES, LLC

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JOIN TODAY

Dues Statements for Lake Members, Associate Members and Individual Members are all available on our website at www.nebraskalakes.org. Dues Statement are also attached with this newsletter for your convenience.. .

If you would like further information about joining our Association, please contact any of the Board of Directors listed on Page 2, or contact:

Nebraska Lakes Association

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NLA Administrator

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