



FRIENDS OF THE EAU CLAIRE LAKES AREA

Annual Meeting

July 18, 2020 – 10:00 am via Zoom

AGENDA

Welcome, Introduction of Board Members and Zoom Orientation

➤ Business Meeting

1. Minutes of 2019 Annual Meeting
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Report of Board of Directors
 - ❖ 2020 Student Scholarship
 - ❖ Lake Ecology Education Program (LEEP)
 - ❖ Shoreline Monitoring & BAISS Boat
 - ❖ Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW)
 - ❖ Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN)
 - ❖ High Lake Levels
 - ❖ Healthy Lakes & Rivers Grant Program
4. Election of Board of Directors
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment

➤ Educational Program

Andrew Teal, Bayfield County AIS Coordinator/Surface Water Conservation Specialist –
"Erosion and High Water: Landowner Options for Mitigating Shoreline Damage."

Check out our expanded and
updated website!

friendsofeauclairelakesarea.com

Friends of the Eau Claire Lakes Area
Annual Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2019

Attendance: 64 people attended.

The meeting opened with a welcome by President Kevin Shriver.

Minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting:

Secretary Barbara Possin announced that the minutes were available to attendees at the registration table and previously e-mailed to members. She informed those present that the board approved the minutes on August 13, 2018.

Motion by Scott Columb and seconded by Nancy Walsh to approve minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Jeri McGinley gave a summary report including:

- Expenses January-June totaled approximately \$11,000 with \$7,000 towards program support and \$4,000 for administrative and membership expenses.
- Jan-June revenue is approximately \$14,000 with the majority from membership dues and donations.
- The Special Fund balances of Clean Boats/Clean Waters and AIS includes money that will ultimately be paid to the Town of Barnes to supplement grant dollars related to programs that help preserve our waters

Report from the Board of Directors:

- Ingemar Ekstrom gave update on the Town of Barnes AIS Committee that receives financial support and member participation from the FOECLA. He also made a plea for additional volunteers and encouraged people to contact him if interested.
- President Shriver reviewed other activities that support our mission including:
 - o Financial and volunteer labor support for the Clean Boats/Clean Waters program
 - o The purchase of new water testing equipment for the WI DNR Citizen Lake Monitoring Network
 - o Financial and labor support for LEEP (Lake Ecology Education Program). This award-winning program partners with the Drummond Area School District to provide education and encouragement for students to become life-long lake stewards.
 - o Funding of a \$1,000 student scholarship for a Drummond Area High School graduate enrolled in an education institution that promotes our mission.
 - o Annually hosting Adult Education Programs such as a presentation on Walleye and Large Mouth Bass at last year's annual meeting and one on Furbearing Mammals in August.
 - o Premier sponsor of the Vatten Paddlar Canoe Race that set attendance records in 2019.

- President Shriver summarized environmental impact activities including:
 - o The Barnes Town Board elimination of the town ordinance that restricted water ski/jet ski hours to 10 am - 5 pm. Subsequent to this action a Water Safety Committee was formed by the Town of Barnes consisting participation by a FOECLA board member, Barnes town board members and other interested citizens.
- Shriver also reported on a new initiative titled “Be Safe on The Water”, supported by the FOECLA board. Wallet-sized cards with reminders of common safe boating rules as well as contact information of regulatory agencies to notify if water safety violations occur, were distributed.
- The Board is considering participation in the Wisconsin DNR Healthy Lakes Improvement project. Shriver explained that Healthy Lakes is a grant program that supports and assists homeowners improve habitat and water quality with simple and inexpensive projects for lakeshore property. Examples include Fish Sticks, Native Plantings, Diversion, Rock Infiltration and Rain Gardens. DNR and County conservation specialists will attend the August 2019 board meeting to discuss how/what the FOECLA organization can do. Shriver told those present that information and a sign up list was available at the registration table.
- Members were reminded of the organization’s participation in the “Adopt a Highway Program”. Information on volunteering to help is available at the registration table.

Election of the Board of Directors:

The Nominations Committee proposed Jeri McGinley, Denny (Denise) Scharlemann, and Kevin Shriver continue their terms on the board. Cris Neff moved approval and Ron Jansen seconded. A vote by members elected all unanimously. Nominations opened from the floor. There were none.

Water Quality Report:

Thom Storm shared that Eau Claire area lakes are in the top 10% of clear lakes in Wisconsin. Tests by volunteers using a secchi disk indicate that Lower EC Lake has a clarity of 18 feet, Middle 27 feet and Upper 24 feet. There are no volunteers participating in the testing of other lakes in our area.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned.

Prepared by Barbara Possin, Board Secretary

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Educational Event following Annual Meeting:

Presentation entitled “The Ecological Consequences of Boldness in Bluegill Sunfish” was presented by Melissa Kjelvik, PhD.

Treasurer's Report

Our fiscal year (and membership year) is January – December. While we expected to spend more than we brought in last year, we broke even primarily due to a surge in memberships late in the year. We ended 2019 with 267 member households; so far, our 2020 memberships total 249 households.

Because events this year have been either cancelled or converted to online events due to COVID-19 (conferences, the Vatten Paddlar, our annual meeting, some LEEP activities, our August educational program), we expect to see revenues exceed expenses in 2020. Our revenues consist primarily of memberships and donations, and one member's former employer provides funds based on the number of hours he volunteers with LEEP. **All of this is deeply appreciated.** We continue to maintain our 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status, so contributions are tax-deductible.

As of June 30, our cash on hand totaled \$55,031.91, with liabilities of \$144.14 (payroll taxes). Included in our cash balance are our special funds that members contribute to and for which we maintain running balances:

As of June 30, 2020:

Clean Boats Clean Waters - \$855.00 (in 2019, we provided \$4,000 to the Town of Barnes to help cover increased wages for boat landing monitors)

Aquatic Invasive Species - \$5,993.70 (in 2019, all of Barnes's expenses were covered by a DNR grant; this year, we have committed \$1,000 cash match for the 2-year grant that is funding the new Douglas County AIS Coordinator)

Education (LEEP/Adult Education) - \$0 (we cover any "overages" from our operating funds)

Student Scholarship - \$0 (we cover any "overages" from our operating funds)

For people who like numbers: on the following page are our revenues and expenses for the first half of 2020 and all of 2019. Columns are also provided for the 2019 and 2020 budgets. If you have any questions, please contact me at eauclairefriends@gmail.com.

Thank you for keeping us strong,
Jeri McGinley
Treasurer

Friends of the Eau Claire Lakes Area

Revenues & Expenses

First Half 2020 and All of 2019

	Jan - Jun 20	2020 Budget	Jan - Dec 19	2019 Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
4010 · Undesignated Donations	325.00	0.00	930.00	0.00
4015 · Designated Donations	1,945.00	2,750.00	4,270.00	3,600.00
4200 · Grants	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
5110 · Membership Dues				
5114 · 2019 Membership Dues			13,520.00	13,000.00
5114 · 2020 Membership Dues	13,800.00	12,000.00	640.00	0.00
Total 5110 · Membership Dues	13,800.00		14,160.00	
5510 · Interest	49.28	0.00	127.45	0.00
Total Income	17,119.28	15,750.00	20,487.45	17,600.00
Expense				
6900 · Payroll Expenses	954.73	5,700.00	5,012.50	4,500.00
8110 · Food & Supplies	0.00	675.00	241.42	775.00
8130 · PO Box Rental	0.00	72.00	76.00	72.00
8140 · Postage	817.64	950.00	850.05	900.00
8170 · Printing/Laminating	1,228.50	1,350.00	1,265.96	1,250.00
8180 · Speaker Fees (incl. mileage)	0.00	250.00	224.00	250.00
8210 · Facilities/Equip Rental				
8211 · Storage Unit	336.00	336.00	336.00	336.00
8212 · Portable Toilets	0.00	200.00	195.00	200.00
8213 · Buses	0.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
Total 8210 · Facilities/Equip Rental	336.00		731.00	
8310 · Travel (meals/lodging/mileage)	0.00	1,260.00	181.86	810.00
8320 · Meeting Registrations	0.00	1,140.00	500.00	620.00
8520 · Insurance				
8521 · D&O Insurance	0.00	560.00	560.00	560.00
8523 · WC Insurance	322.00	313.00	313.00	487.00
Total 8520 · Insurance	322.00		873.00	
8530 · Dues & Subscriptions	667.50	850.00	847.50	850.00
8540 · Financial Support				
8541 · COW (Canoes on Wheels)	0.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
8542 · AIS (Barnes, Bayfield Co.)	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
8543 · CBCW	0.00	1,000.00	4,000.00	2,000.00
8544 · Student Scholarship	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total 8540 · Financial Support	1,000.00		5,200.00	
8560 · Outside Computer Services	132.50	1,000.00	1,292.89	1,000.00
8570 · Advertising/Publicity				
8571 · Advertisements	0.00	500.00	266.00	500.00
8572 · Sponsorships	0.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
8573 · Banners & Signs	0.00	1,000.00	1,063.80	1,000.00
8574 · Print Materials	681.30	1,100.00	463.30	1,770.00
Total 8570 · Advertising/Publicity	681.30		2,293.10	
8590 · Miscellaneous Expenses	0.00	200.00	933.51	0.00
8670 · Nonstock Corporate Report	0.00	10.00	10.00	20.00
8675 · Business Tax Registration	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8680 · PayPal Fees	63.10	50.00	51.04	50.00
Total Expense	6,213.27	21,416.00	20,583.83	21,850.00
Net Ordinary Income	10,906.01	-5,666.00	-96.38	-4,250.00

Report of the Board of Directors

2020 FOECLA \$1,000 Student Scholarship



Bode Rasmussen

Bode Rasmussen is this year's recipient of our \$1,000 student scholarship. Bode graduated from Drummond High School this spring and will be enrolling in the College of Natural Resources at UW-Stevens Point this fall.

Lake Ecology Education Program (LEEP)

2019-2020

LEEP Chairperson Cris Neff & LEEP Coordinator Melissa Kjelvik have been and are currently meeting to update the FOECLA Website LEEP Documents.

Goal: Have the WI State Standard Aligned LEEP Program fully updated and user friendly via our website for statewide dissemination ASAP and through future Lake Conventions.



2019-20 Drummond 7th Graders: 22 students (with staff/volunteers)
(2018-2019: 32 students)

2019 LEEP Fall Program Indoor/Outdoor Modules (6)

- Critical Habitat, Water Quality, Aquatic Native/Invasive Plants, Plankton, Fish Sampling, Canoeing Safety/Skills
- Fall Field Trip Host: Carol LeBreck
- Location: Bony Lake

2020 Spring Program Cancelled due to Covid

2020 Fall Program Possibly Adapted or Cancelled

Tentative Plans: Have an 8th grade Spring LEEP Program in 2021 along with the 7th grade Spring LEEP Program.

AIS: Shoreline Monitoring & BAISS Boat

Town of Barnes AIS Committee

Volunteers needed for Shoreline Monitoring and the BAISS Boat!

Contact Ingemar Ekstrom, ije@cheqnet.net (715-795-2183)

Eau Claire River	Banded Mystery Snail Curly-Leaf Pondweed Purple Loosestrife	Robinson Lake	Banded Mystery Snail
George Lake	Freshwater Jellyfish	Sand Bar Lake	Eurasian Water-Milfoil
Lower Eau Claire Lake	Banded Mystery Snail Purple Loosestrife Rusty Crayfish	Tomahawk Lake	Banded Mystery Snail Eurasian Water-Milfoil
Middle Eau Claire Lake	Banded Mystery Snail Curly-Leaf Pondweed Narrow-leaf cattail Rusty Crayfish	Upper Eau Claire Lake	Chinese Mystery Snail Curly-Leaf Pondweed Rusty Crayfish

Source: <https://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/invasives/AISByWaterbody.aspx>

AIS contacts:

Town of Barnes AIS Committee – Ingemar Ekstrom (715-795-2183)

Bayfield Co – Andy Teal (ATeal@bayfieldcounty.org or 715-373-3417)

Douglas Co – Jill Jacoby (Jill.Jacoby@douglascountywi.org or 715-395-1571)

The BAISS boat is used to remove Eurasian water-milfoil and curly-leaf pondweed from area lakes.

From Ingemar:

- 3 top-notch divers working for the program: one teaches diving on Lake Superior, one has dived all around the world, and one is our very own Cris Neff!
- Program got started late this year due to Covid-19 but is now on track with dive times occurring 10 am – 4 pm.
- The program really needs volunteers to go with the divers on the boat. We always need volunteers but especially this year.

AIS: Clean Boats Clean Waters

Town of Barnes AIS Committee

Boat Landing Volunteers needed!

Contact Sally Pease, sally.pease.uec@gmail.com (715-559-0614)

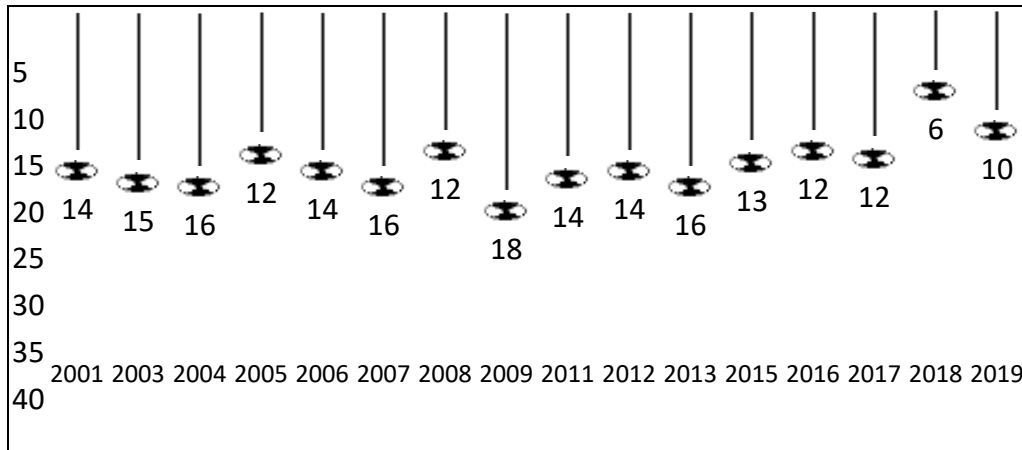
From Sally:

- The Clean Boats Clean Waters program is all about keeping our lakes clean for the present and future. Our goal is to further educate boaters and property owners.
- Our DNR grant requires in-kind match, so we need boat landing monitors who volunteer their time, as well as monitors who are paid. We need to spend at least 200 hours at each boat landing. Some 2019 totals from Tomahawk, Robinson, Upper Eau Claire, Middle Eau Claire and Lower Eau Claire lakes:
 - Paid time: 1,711.5 hours; Volunteer time: 396.1 hours
 - Boats entering: 2,070
 - Boats leaving: 1,579
 - People contacted: 8,337
- We need more people to consider volunteering. We have mostly older people. I have 2 gentlemen who volunteer perhaps once each year as they are both 90.
- You do not need to live on a lake to volunteer. It is a good way for teenagers to get volunteer hours for their college applications and help them learn more about lake ecology.
- With the Covid-19 issues, we are wearing masks and staying 6 feet away from boaters while asking our questions. Some volunteers are unable to help this year as the Eau Claire Lakes area is their second home. If volunteers do not feel safe, we are asking them to wait to volunteer.

Citizen Lake Monitoring Network

DNR

Robinson Lake

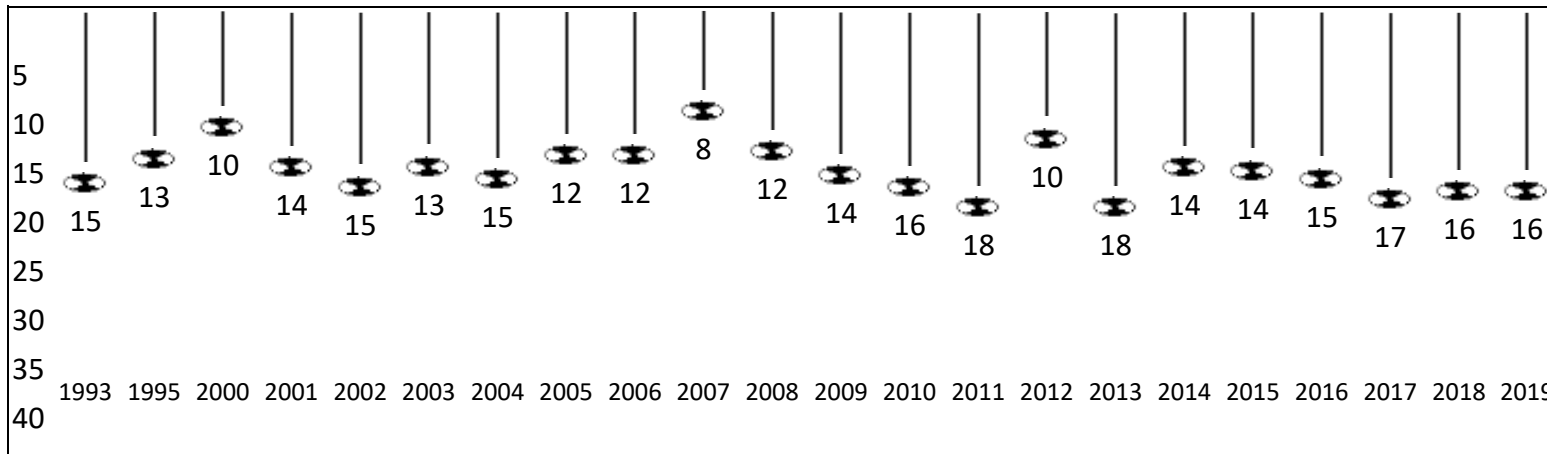


Volunteers measure water clarity using the Secchi Disk method on the following area lakes: Cranberry, Lower Eau Claire, Middle Eau Claire, Robinson and Upper Eau Claire. Chemistry, temperature, and dissolved oxygen data may also be collected. **For more information, visit <https://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/clmn/> or contact Kris Larsen (kris.larsen@wisconsin.gov or 715-635-4072).**

Average July-August Secchi Depth (feet), 2001 – 2019.

(Source: <https://dnrx.wisconsin.gov/swims/public/reporting.do?type=11&action=post&format=html&stationNo=043161>).

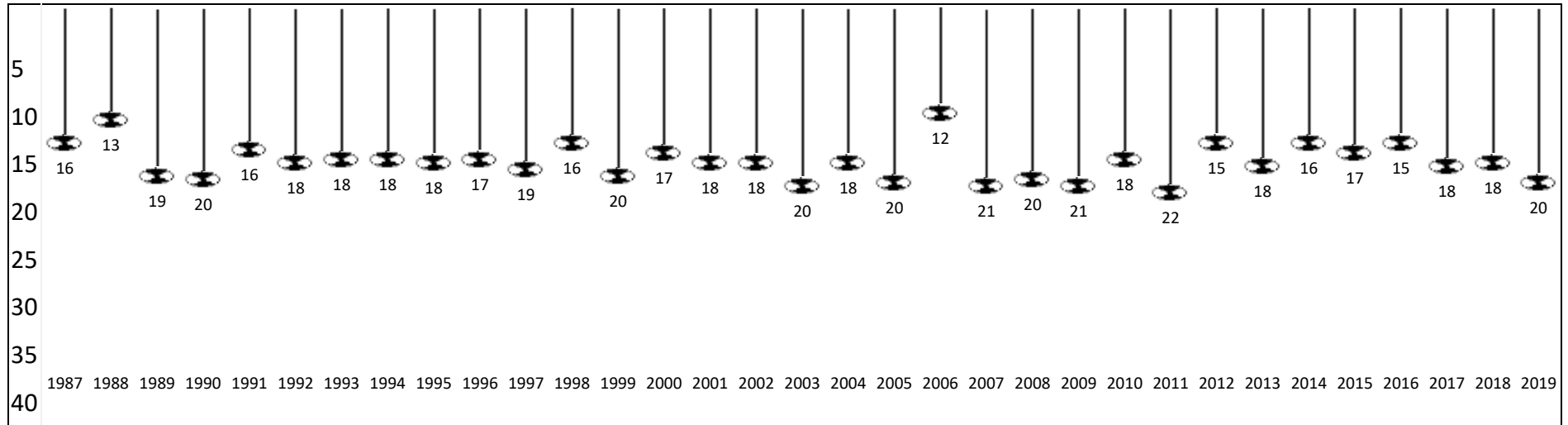
Lower Eau Claire Lake



Average July-August Secchi Depth (feet), 1993 – 2019

(Source: <https://dnrx.wisconsin.gov/swims/public/reporting.do?type=11&action=post&format=html&stationNo=043037>).

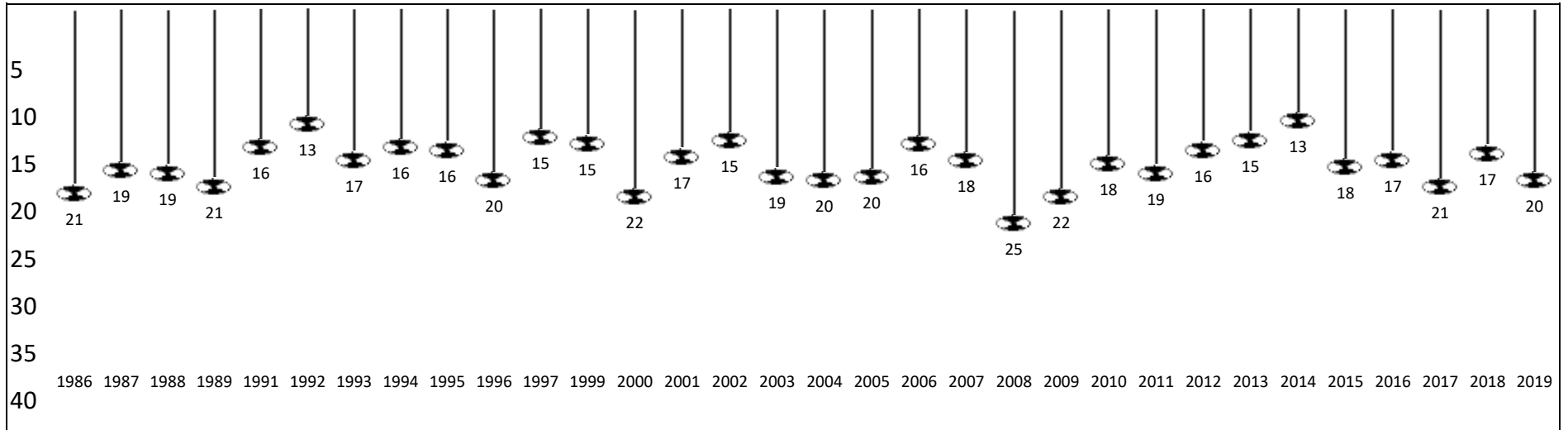
Middle Eau Claire Lake



Average July-August Secchi Depth (feet), 1987 – 2019.

(Source: <https://dnrx.wisconsin.gov/swims/public/reporting.do?type=11&action=post&format=html&stationNo=043035>).

Upper Eau Claire Lake



Average July-August Secchi Depth (feet), 1986 – 2019.

(Source: <https://dnrx.wisconsin.gov/swims/public/reporting.do?type=11&action=post&format=html&stationNo=043129>).

High Lake Levels

Many area lakes have experienced, or are experiencing, unusually high water from recent extreme rainfalls and high groundwater.

- Shoreline erosion is widespread.
- Wind waves and boat wakes damage docks and lifts during high water. Habitat loss has occurred.
- FOECLA has collected shoreline owner information on erosion damage they have experienced.
- Compile data for Towns of Barnes and Gordon and recommend they consider adopting an Emergency Slow-No-Wake Ordinance. Temporary Slow-No-Wake could be declared during high water.



Upper Eau Claire Lake



Kelly Lake

DNR Healthy Lakes & Rivers Grant Program



<https://healthylakeswi.com/>

Protect and improve the health of our lakes and rivers:

- DNR cost-share grant program
- Inexpensive (max. \$1,000 per site) best practices for shoreland property owners
- Eligible improvements
 - o Fish sticks
 - o Native plantings
 - o Diversion of runoff
 - o Rock infiltration of runoff
 - o Rain garden
- FOECLA is applying for a grant for up to 6 sites.

Election of Board of Directors

The only board member whose term expires in 2020 is Anne Torrey. The Nominations Committee recommends Anne be re-elected for a 3-year term.

- Graduated from the University of Montana with Bachelor's degrees in Cultural Anthropology and Communications; also earned Master's degrees in those two disciplines.
- Has been employed by Loffler Companies for 27 years.
- Has owned property on Lower Eau Claire Lake for 25 years and became a permanent resident in January 2019.
- Anne loves it here! Her favorite activities include hiking, skiing (both kinds), kayaking, reading, writing and traveling. She also likes to sit on the deck, dock or pontoon and drink wine.

Other Business

- August 2020 educational program is cancelled.
- Douglas County obtained a DNR grant to hire an AIS Coordinator (Jill Jacoby - see page 6). FOECLA will provide \$1,000 cash match for this grant.
- Update: Town of Gordon's jet ski/waterski ordinance.
- Other??

Adjournment – Thank you!

Contact us at eauclairefriends@gmail.com

Educational Program

Andrew Teal, Bayfield County AIS Coordinator/Surface Water Conservation Specialist –

“Erosion and High Water: Landowner Options for Mitigating Shoreline Damage.”