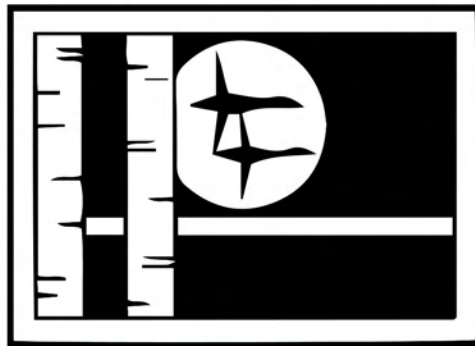


# TEN MILE LAKE ASSOCIATION

*Dedicated  
to the Preservation  
and Improvement  
of Ten Mile Lake  
and its Environment*



**SUMMER 2020**

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

PO Box 412

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

*By Bob Iversen, TMLA President*

This is going to be a strange summer, isn't it? We arrived back at Ten Mile in late May and can see that many other regular summer people aren't here yet, and we know of some who will not be coming at all this year – it's a shame, but we certainly understand, with the coronavirus still circulating just about everywhere. Here in Cass County, we only have 13 cases as of mid-June – hope it stays that way.



The TMLA board and at least one committee is meeting using Zoom, and it's working well. Speaking of meetings, the board is still considering our options for the annual meeting. You'll be receiving an email as soon as the decision is made.

One unfortunate thing happened this spring – a large tree in the lake. I received a call about a tree in the lake near Pinewoods. I called Connor Gjevre (who is responsible for the lake buoys) to see if it could be removed. He found that it was a large (30 to 40 foot) white pine that had been burned at the base and apparently fell on to the ice or in the lake. It was a definite boating hazard, so I asked him to take it out. He and several other men did so, but it took hours of work and cost the Association a significant amount of money. We don't know how this happened, but please don't put trees in the lake!

We're all looking forward to being able to restart socializing – at a safe distance. Minnesota restaurants (including The Headwaters) have opened for limited inside as well as patio dining so that's a start. And no protests here, so far.

Stay safe and enjoy your summer!



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# TEN MILE LAKE ASSOCIATION CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Events may change due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Check the website calendar for up to the minute info

## Saturday June 27 • Sailboat Race

11:30 am Starting location and Go or No Go will be texted to racers by 10 am on race day.  
See website sailing page for help and further details. [www.tenmilelake.org](http://www.tenmilelake.org)

## Saturday July 4th • Boat Parade

10:00 am - Noon

Starting locations: North-near Headwaters dock  
South-near public access

## Saturday July 4th Sailboat Race

11:30 am Starting location and Go or No Go will be texted to racers by 10 am on race day. See website sailing page for help and further details.  
[www.tenmilelake.org](http://www.tenmilelake.org)

## Saturday July 18 • TMLA Board Meeting

9:00 am Virtual meeting on Zoom

## Saturday August 1 • TMLA Annual Meeting

10:00 am Format TBA

## Saturday August 1 • Sailboat Race

2:30 pm Starting location and Go or No Go will be texted to racers by 10 am on race day.  
See website sailing page for help and further details. [www.tenmilelake.org](http://www.tenmilelake.org)

## Tuesday September 15 • Deadline for the Fall Newsletter

Send articles, obituaries and pictures to the editor before 5 PM [newsletter@tenmilelake.org](mailto:newsletter@tenmilelake.org)

## Saturday September 19 • TMLA Board Meeting

9:00 am Format TBA

## WHAT'S EVERYBODY TALKIN' ABOUT?

Issues TML residents are talking about:

- RDO potato farming, pivot wells and fertilizers
- Gravel pit use causing traffic, dust and noise
- Zebra mussels
- Water quality, runoff from lawns
- Swimmers itch
- Water level/shoreline damage

If you have an issue you want to discuss or learn more about, or if you want to help by joining a committee, please contact [association@tenmilelake.org](mailto:association@tenmilelake.org). Articles are available on the website at [www.tenmilelake.org](http://www.tenmilelake.org), on the HOME page in the Science Corner, and under RESOURCES in the Library.

This Newsletter is a Publication of the Ten Mile Lake Association, Inc.  
P O Box 412, Hackensack, MN 56452  
[association@tenmilelake.org](mailto:association@tenmilelake.org)

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# PANFISH – SUNFISH AND CRAPPIES

One day when I was five years old, my father and uncle took me to Balsam Lake in Wisconsin for a shore-fishing expedition. My uncle set up a long cane pole with a bobber and worm and gave it to me. Soon the bobber went down and I pulled up a nice sunfish – my first fish ever. That experience hooked me on both fish and fishing, and almost 80 years later, my enthusiasm still hasn't waned. Like me, most people have gotten their first taste of fishing by going after sunfish. Not only are they relatively easy to catch, but they are pretty and good eating, as well.

Ten Mile contains both sunfish and crappies and both have their angling devotees. Rather than presenting you with a recipe book on how to catch them, this article will focus principally on their biology, but astute anglers know that the more they understand about the biology of the species they are fishing, the better will be their fishing success.

## Sunfish



Figure 1-Bluegill. Note no red spot and faint striping



Figure 2- Bluegill/pumpkinseed hybrid. This fish has the facial markings of a pumpkinseed, but no red spot on the earflap.



Figure 3-Pumpkinseed. Pumpkinseed. Note the red spot at the end of the earflap and the markings on the face.

Sunfish is a generic term for a quite large group of fishes within the sunfish family (Centrarchidae), which also includes bass, rock bass and crappies. There are 16 species of sunfish in the USA, and three are present in Ten Mile Lake. Most fisherfolk are familiar with bluegills and pumpkinseeds, and some can identify the relatively common hybrids between the two.

One good way to tell the difference between the two species is to look for a small red patch on the back end of the "earflap" at the back end of the gill cover of a pumpkinseed. Bluegills commonly show several faint vertical stripes along their sides, and their "earflap" is all black.



Figure 4- Longear sunfish. Note the long earflap, from which it gets its name

Another species, the long-ear sunfish, is said to be present in the lake in small numbers, but I have never seen one here. As the name suggests, they have a long black earflap. During the breeding season, males become quite brightly colored, with

## PANFISH – SUNFISH AND CRAPPIES

a bright orange breast and an almost iridescent purplish sheen over the body.

Almost all members of the sunfish family, including bass, begin life as eggs deposited in a nest created by the male. Sunfish are very social creatures, and usually in June the males scoop out a roughly 12" depression in a sandy bottom in about a foot of water. The nests of bluegills can be so close together that they look like a giant honeycomb, with one wall separating two adjacent nests. Despite the proximity, each male vigorously defends the nest that it has built while at the same time trying to attract a female by both its behavior and some low grunt-like sounds. Each female may contain several tens of thousands of eggs, which are released in multiple mating episodes, often in different nests. The eggs hatch after about three days, and for a week or so thereafter the male continues to guard the nest from predators – often other sunfish, but many other species of fish, crayfish and even some snails – until the newly hatched sunfish have developed to the point of independent swimming and feeding.

Like most fish, newly hatched sunfish begin their feeding career by eating small species of zooplankton before graduating to larger plankton, such as water fleas. They then graduate to feeding on aquatic insect larvae and finally, by the time they become young adults, their food consists of a broad diet that includes insects and their larvae, small snails, large plankton, small fish and eggs and in the late summer months, even plants. Many of the animals that sunfish eat live on the leaves and stems of aquatic plants, one reason why sunfish are so frequently found in weedy areas. Sunfish have very small mouths, and their prey is correspondingly small. Therefore, in contrast to major predators like pike, they have to eat frequently because their prey is so small.

Sunfish grow quite slowly. They don't reach 6 inches until they are 5-7 years old. Depending upon the lake, it can take 7-12 years to produce an 8-incher. When they are small (less than about 4"), they are vulnerable to being eaten, mainly by largemouth bass and northern pike. Two main things protect larger sunfish from predators. One is their almost round profile. Another is the strong and sharp spines

in their dorsal fin. Evolutionary scientists figure that fish like sunfish have evolved their high top-to-bottom profile as a protection from predators. Predators much prefer a more elongated fish like a perch for lunch. I vividly remember a time when I saw a largemouth bass jumping about ten times trying to shake loose a sunfish that had gotten stuck in its throat. In some lakes it is common to catch a northern pike that has a clearly defined sunfish bump protruding out of the sides of its belly.

Although most active during the day, sunfish can also feed at night. In fact, a former colleague of mine at the University of Michigan showed that sunfish can actually distinguish the color red after dark. Color vision after dark in any animal is highly unusual. Sunfish are also active at all times of the year, and they are a favorite target of ice fisherpeople.

Speaking of fishing, the classic way to catch sunfish is still fishing with angleworms, but in the winter, small waxworms and tiny jigs are part of the standard repertoire. My favorite way to catch sunfish is fly fishing. Sunfish aren't very fussy, and they will rise to take almost any small fly or popper. When hooked, sunfish put up a terrific fight for their size. If they grew as big as bass, they would be real terrors at the end of one's line. Although they can be caught in shallow water at any time of the year, as summer wears on, many of the largest sunfish head to deeper water. I see some of the largest ones at 25-30 feet, a depth at which they are rarely fished.

For years, the sunfish in Ten Mile have been small. Fish over 6-7 inches long are rare. This wasn't always the case. One of the main reasons for this is over-harvesting of larger specimens. This trend toward smallness is potentially reversible, but it requires the willingness of all who fish for them to throw back any fish over 7-8 inches. Because of their slow growth, it would take a number of years for the sunfish population to recover a normal profile of large to smaller fish. I know one lake not far from Ten Mile where nobody keeps sunfish over 8". In this lake 8-inch sunfish are common, and every year a few sunfish as large as 10" are caught. The other problem with harvesting the largest sunfish is one that plagues almost any population of food fish. When large individuals are selectively removed, those with the greatest potential for growth are removed from

# PANFISH – SUNFISH AND CRAPPIES

the genetic pool, and most of the fish remaining just don't have the genetic potential to reach the greatest size. This has been amply demonstrated in the cod fishery of the Grand Banks, where a half-century after the limitation of fishing, big cod are still a rarity.

## Crappies

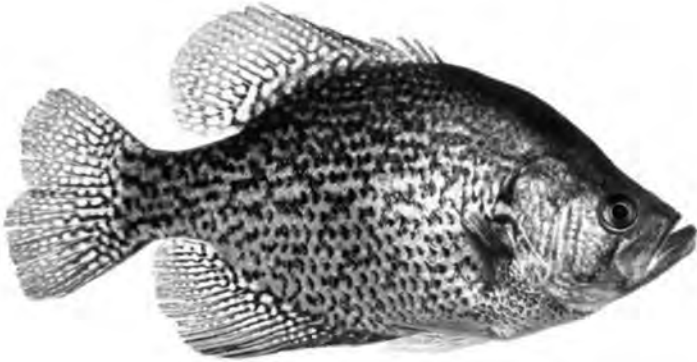


Figure 5-Black Crappie

Crappies are very enigmatic fish. More than any other fish in Minnesota, they go through boom and bust population cycles. Some lakes where crappies have hardly been seen for years will suddenly become loaded with them for a year or two. A classic case is Red Lake. A number of years ago when the walleye population collapsed due to overfishing, the ecological void was filled by crappies. For the next couple of years fisherfolk were taking limits of huge crappies. Now that walleyes have re-entered the picture, the crappie population has again dwindled. Ten Mile crappies are a targeted species by many, but like sunfish, their average size has diminished considerably over the past 50 years. Back in the "good old days" 12 to 14-inch fish were the rule. These days 9-11" fish are more common. One of the larger members of the sunfish family, crappies come in two varieties - white and black. White crappies tend to be a more southern species and tolerate more polluted water than black ones. Only black crappies (Fig. 5) are found in Ten Mile.

Like other members of the sunfish family, crappies build nests in the shallows of bays during the spring. The male guards the nest until the fry are old enough to venture away from the nest and begin feeding on plankton. As they grow, various forms of insects are added to their diet. As adults, crappies target minnows and other small fish, but their diet

continues to be quite varied. They are basically opportunistic feeders that will eat whatever comes their way.

Adult crappies often live in schools of 20-30 individuals. During the day, they feed little and like shade and cover, such as a downed tree. Some people place weighted piles of brush on the ice in the winter, so that when the ice goes out there is a nice piece of crappie habitat in a known location, which they later fish. Years ago, I would fish for crappies alongside beaver houses, if they were near deeper water. One of the best daytime refuges for crappies is a floating bog. Dropping a small jig along the edge of one is a sure way to catch crappies. Crappie schools also commonly suspend in deep water, maybe 15-20 feet below the surface, during the daytime. As evening approaches, they move into shallow water, in areas such as bulrush beds. The evening bite for crappies is best, and they can often be taken on flies on the surface during the summer. Crappies continue to feed at night. I rarely target crappies these days, but every year I catch several large ones while trolling for walleyes at night, where they might be over water as deep as 50 feet.

The standard way to fish for crappies is to use small minnows and still-fish over an area where crappies can be found. Probably more effective is to cast for them with ultralight gear, using small jigs or minnow-shaped artificial baits. Crappies continue to feed during the winter and, like sunfish, are a favorite target of ice fishers. Shortly after the ice goes out in the spring, crappies move into very shallow water and can be caught next to emergent vegetation, such as cattails. At this time, they are very susceptible to either still-fishing or fly-fishing methods.

*Bruce Carlson*

# A WORM'S EYE VIEW OF FISH POPULATION STRUCTURE

When I was a kid, our family used to take its annual vacation at a lake north of Duluth, Minnesota. Almost immediately upon arrival I would grab a pitchfork and head for the fertile ground behind the outdoor biffy to dig worms. The first day was always a bonanza. Soon my can was full of fat angleworms and an occasional nightcrawler. For the next couple of days, I still found some big worms, but I also needed to keep some middle-size worms that I had ignored the first day. After about a week, "keeper" worms were few and far between, so it was necessary to take babies and put two or three on the hook that I used for catching perch.

Many of you have probably experienced the same phenomenon with worms, but it's less common to see it at work first hand with fish. One summer when I was in college, I came upon an isolated lake deep in the northern Minnesota woods that held a small population of pike. In that era of catch and keep, the first few times I visited the lake fishing was very productive, but by the end of the summer pike of 15 inches were rare. The same thing happens in our larger lakes, but the results are typically seen over the course of several years, and the total effect is not so noticeable to a single fisherman because usually many anglers contribute to the changes in the fish population.

A body of water can support a certain mass of fish, usually expressed as pounds per acre. Often an unfished lake or stream, especially one of low fertility, has a population structure that is top heavy in favor of big over small fish. This is because the large fish often eat smaller specimens of their own kind. In such waters, it is rare to catch smaller fish. If the larger fish are caught and kept in any numbers, there may soon come a period when catching any fish is difficult. Then after a few years of continued heavy fishing, large fish are rarely caught, and the bulk of the fish are just around the minimum size limit.



A major contemporary issue is how to restore a good balance to fish populations in lakes that have been heavily fished for years. What strategy is best often depends upon the nature of the fish populations remaining in the lake, but it can range from stopping commercial fishing or stopping all fishing for certain species to reducing the total catch by voluntary catch and release or by reducing the catch limits. A more sophisticated approach is slot limits, which are designed to protect certain size categories and thin out others.

Such measures really work. One of the most dramatic examples is Lake Erie, in which environmental improvement and the curtailment of commercial fishing was followed by the explosive growth of a sport fishery for trophy-size walleyes. Improvement of smallmouth bass fishing in stretches of rivers that are designated as catch and release is very apparent to local anglers. An important experiment in the recovery of a fish population is just beginning in the enormous Red Lakes in northern Minnesota, where extensive netting literally wiped out the once abundant walleye populations in these lakes. It will be fascinating to follow the recovery of this fishery.

Certainly, the story on restoration of fish populations is far from being completely written, and it involves habitat improvement, pollution reduction and selective stocking, as well as the reduction of fishing pressure. What it involves most of all is the collective will to preserve a resource and a heritage of successful angling so that sport fishing won't be something that is relegated to the history books.

*Bruce Carlson*

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The loon torch has been passed from Kim and Bob Moe to Sheryl Ducharme and Erin Adams. Thanks to the Moes for their many years of dedication to educating us all on our favorite bird! Their love for both our state bird and our beautiful Ten Mile Lake is truly inspirational and we are so grateful to be able to learn from them.

As your new loon committee chairs, we thought we would kick things off by sharing a brief introduction of ourselves, an update on productive nests, and then close by highlighting some fun loon facts.

Sheryl: My husband John and I started coming to Ten Mile Lake in the late '70's. John's father, Cy Ducharme, purchased property from Dale Johnson and built the family cabin on the east shore's Agate Beach in 1979. We've spent summers and winters up here ever since. In the spring of 2012, we purchased our first cabin off of Boone Point Road. We sold that place in 2018 and bought Bill and Louise Brandt's cabin where we enjoy hosting our extended families, our kids, and now grandchildren.

Erin: One of the things I love most about Ten Mile Lake is the deep sense of history and connection people have for this remarkable place. While my Ten Mile story is short, I like to think of it as the first chapter in what I hope will be a much longer one. My husband Steve and I started to come up to this area in 2007 to vacation on Leech Lake. We loved the area and it helps that Steve's an avid fisherman. We started to look for property where we could build a cabin. We fell in love with some property just around the bend from Sandy Beach and built our place in 2013. It is now our permanent home and has become the gathering place for both our extended families and our children who live out of state.

We have had the advantage of being here since late March and were able to see the loons return almost as soon as the ice left on April 28th. The thrill of hearing their call and seeing them pop up out of the water never gets old. At this point, we can confirm three productive nesting pairs. Two are on loon rafts and one is on a grassy island near the start of the Boy River. We will continue to monitor their progress and provide chick updates. We've also seen two attempted nests, one on a raft and

one on shore near Angel Island, that now appear to be abandoned.



We'll close with some fun facts about loon facts, but before we do, we have a favor to ask. We would like to give a special thanks to everyone who stores, sets up, and takes down the

loon rafts, but we don't know who you are! If you are one of these generous souls, would you please send us a text? Likewise, if you see things about our loons that you would like us to know, please send us a message. Sheryl can be reached at 612-747-5488 and Erin at 612-309-4081.

## FUN LOON FACTS:

- Loons are more closely related to penguins than ducks or geese, as determined by DNA tests
- They are the oldest living bird, with scientists estimating they have been around for over 20 million years
- Able to live over 30 years
- Have solid bones so they are almost neutrally buoyant
- Weigh up to 14 pounds and have wingspans of 41-52 inches
- Can dive up to 20 feet deep
- Cannot take off from dry land - they must run over water to get enough speed to take off
- Can hold their breath for over 8 minutes and fly over 70 miles an hour
- Loons migrate to the southern USA in winter and fish in salt water



- In winter, they molt and lose all their feathers, including wing feathers.
- Our state birds have red eyes in summer, but they turn dull gray in the winter.



# TIDBITS FROM THE FALL, 1986 NEWSLETTER

Three swimmers from Chariton Beach crossed (swam across) the lake this summer, taking one hour and 20 minutes to accomplish this feat. The trio:

- Mike Gerber (Purvis),
- Cheris Garrison (Shelton), and
- Darel Shelton.

Updates 2019

- In 2008, John and Allison Eikenberry swam from Chariton Beach to Ann & Kurt Owen's boat house on the south shore;
- In 2011, Kraig Lofquist, Mike Garrison, and Allison Eikenberry swam it and
- In 2018, Andy Seward, Laurie & Kraig Lofquist, and Allison E. Hackenmiller swam it.



As always, Sarah Eikenberry and various cheering kids followed in the Sea Ray sag wagon!  
With our social distancing this summer, this would be an appropriate lake activity!  
*Sue Eikenberry, History Chair*



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## ZEBRA MUSSEL CORNER



Since the spring Newsletter, the main activity on the zebra mussel front has involved planning for studying their spread and effects throughout the lake in the future. By now, we have put together a spreadsheet that outlines which components of a comprehensive program for both documenting the spread of the mussels and the effects of zebra mussels on other wildlife and plants in the lake will be done by the DNR, the PCA (Pollution Control Agency) and the TMLA.

To date, no adult zebra mussels have been reported in the lake. Within a few days of this writing, nine concrete blocks with **numbered orange buoys** attached will be placed in key locations throughout the lake. This fall, the blocks will be pulled up and checked out for the presence of any adult zebra mussels. It is doubtful that any will be found to have attached mussels this summer, but we expect more action in 2021 and especially, 2022.

Another assay, this time for larval muscle (veligers), consists of a short length of 3" PVC pipe that is suspended in the water off a dock (Fig. 2). When veligers clamp onto the pipe, the smooth surface is said to feel like sandpaper.



If you do find adult zebra mussels anywhere on the lake, please contact Bruce Carlson (brcarl@umich.edu), with the location of the find. An attached photo would be great. The folks at Northwoods Dock will be doing the same, especially this fall when they begin to remove docks and lifts.

### AIS

As part of Cass County's program to slow the spread of AIS, county-paid inspectors have again been deployed to most of the larger county lakes, including Ten Mile. Typically, Ten Mile will have inspectors Friday through Sunday. This year, the inspectors will be focused both on ensuring that incoming boats are AIS-free, and also on checking outgoing boats to make sure all water that may transport zebra mussels has been drained. And, on duty every day is our solar powered motion-activated video camera (I-LIDS).

The decontamination stations around the county, including Northwoods Dock, are again operational if you think your boat may need it or if an inspector finds evidence of AIS. **When moving your boat between lakes, please take the time to Clean, Drain and Dry.** We don't want to have boats from Ten Mile be responsible for bringing zebra mussels to another lake and we need to be vigilant to make sure that no incoming watercraft bring new AIS to Ten Mile.

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## REMEMBERING OUR TEN MILE LAKE FRIENDS



**Sarah Ann Schmidt**, age 65, passed away while in hospice care at Lyngblomsten Care Center in St Paul on Friday, February 28, 2020.

Sarah was born in St. Louis, Missouri to Mary Ann Young and Malcolm J. Schmidt. Sarah spent her early years in Illinois and Iowa. Sarah lived for many years in San Francisco, California and Seattle, Washington, finally settling in the Hackensack/Walker, Minnesota area in 1996. Sarah was an elementary school teacher in Walker for about ten years.

Sarah loved sunsets on Ten Mile Lake, time with relatives and good friends, reading, travel, crafts and the many students she worked with over the years at Walker Elementary School. She was especially fond of her nephews Christopher and Michael Schmidt of Kansas City and her nephew Joseph and niece Jenna Krivit from St. Paul now living overseas.

Sarah is preceded in death by her father Mal Schmidt and mother, Mary Ann (Young) Schmidt. Sarah is survived by her brother Steve Schmidt and sister Susan Schmidt. Steve's wife, Melissa Schmidt, Susan's husband, Dan Krivit, and cousins Rick and Gail Becher, helped provide loving care to Sarah during her last years struggling with a form of Parkinson's disease known as progressive supranuclear palsy. Sarah is loved by an extended circle of cousins from both the Schmidt and Young families.

A private celebration of life will be held later this summer. In lieu of flowers or cards, please consider supporting Faith in Action for Cass County (PO Box 512 Hackensack, MN 56452). Sarah volunteered over the years for Faith in Action and later relied on their services as her illness progressed.



**Irene (Jo) Brinda Benesh**, age 94, of Port Edwards, WI passed away on March 17, 2020.

Irene was born on March 11, 1926 in Minneapolis, MN. She graduated from Edison High School in Minneapolis in 1944 and went on to work in the Law Admissions Department at the University of Minnesota. When her high school sweetheart George Benesh returned from the Navy in World War II, they married on August 3, 1946. They were married just 23 days shy of their 70th wedding anniversary.

Knitting, crocheting, rosemaking, and bridge club were a few of Irene's favorite hobbies. However, what was most important to her in life was her devotion and unconditional love for her husband George, family and friends. Irene loved those all around her fiercely and her family knew how special they were to her. She wanted to be at every special event and milestone and if she couldn't, she wanted to hear all about it. Irene's family was her pride and joy. Her last exciting trip was to Arizona in February to see her granddaughter's new home and beloved dogs, Winston and Teddy.

Irene is survived by her devoted daughters Linda (Douglas) Gremban and Amy (David) Rasmussen, loving grandchildren Jeffrey (Meghan) Gremban, Matthew (Xin) Rasmussen, Michael (Kristin) Gremban, Megan (Nathan) Erickson, and Nicholas Gremban and nine great-grandchildren Elijah, Isaac, Spencer, Abbie, Hunter, Nora, William, Martin, and Emily.

She is preceded in death by her parents Frank and Mary Brinda, husband George and sisters Mary, Ann and Helen.

As a vibrant and spirited woman, Irene was still independent enough to live alone in her own home after the passing of her husband. People loved Irene's style, from her hair to her nails to her clothes. But her greatest gift of all, was that she taught her daughters what it meant to be a mother, to nurture and to love and care.

A private service will be held at a later date. Feldner / Ritchay Funeral Home of Nekoosa is assisting the family.

## REMEMBERING OUR TEN MILE LAKE FRIENDS



**Mildred Genevieve Cogdill** was born on October 4, 1927, to Frank and Martha (Pick) Foecke on the family farm near Crofton, Nebraska. She was the second of twelve children. She was baptized at Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Crofton. She attended Saint Rose School for several years

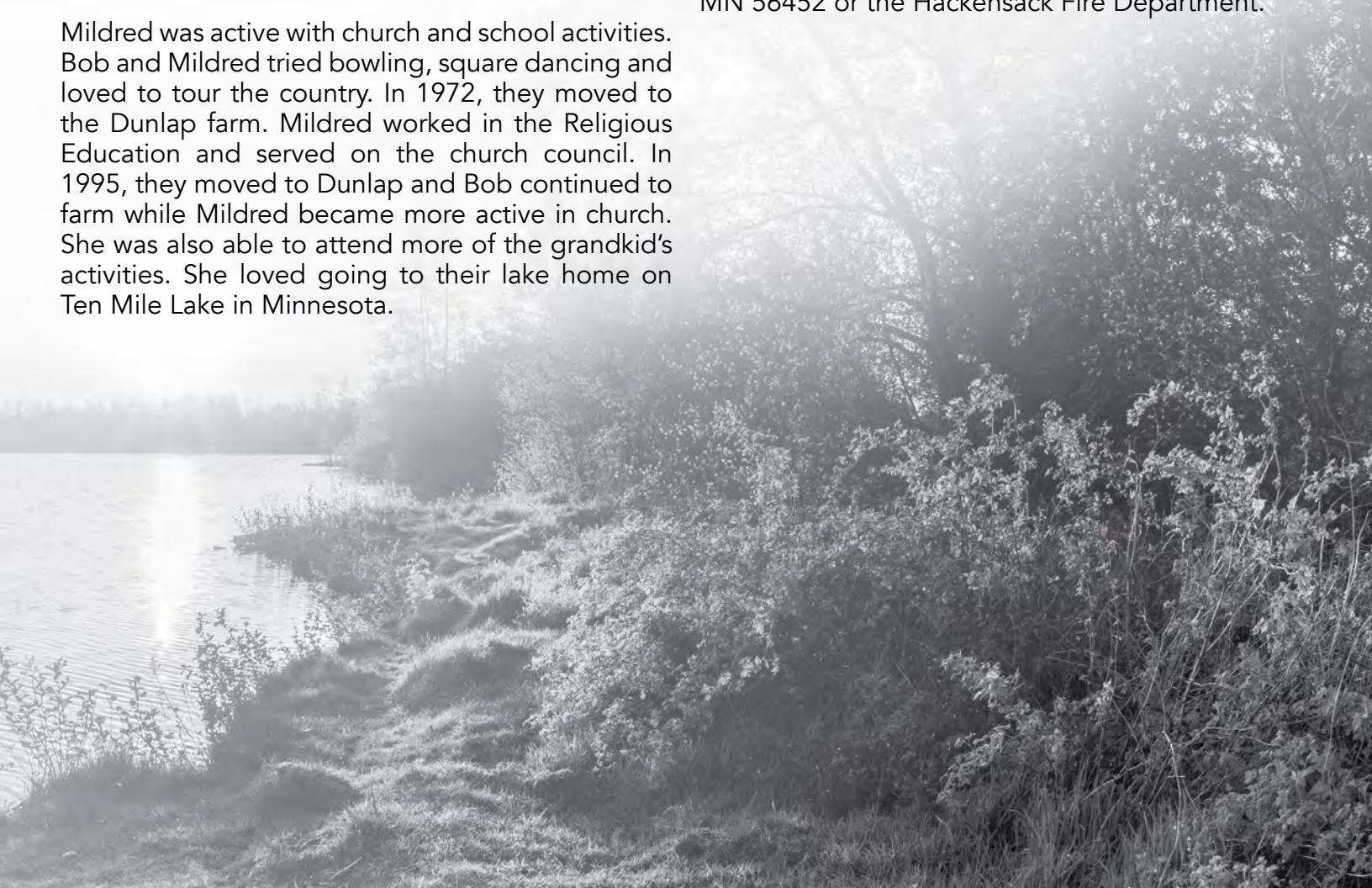
and then country school, as the family moved to other farms. She attended Holy Trinity High School in Hartington, Nebraska. During the summers she helped area families with small children and babies. She graduated in 1944. Mildred had earned a Certified Rural Teachers Certificate. She was only fifteen when she began teaching. At the start of her third year, she met a young man roller skating, his name was Robert Cogdill. They were married on July 10, 1948, at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Bob farmed with his father near Coleridge for a number of years. In 1952, the couple moved to Panama, Iowa with their three children. Soon after, there were five more children. These were busy years, milking cows, raising chickens and gardening.

Mildred was active with church and school activities. Bob and Mildred tried bowling, square dancing and loved to tour the country. In 1972, they moved to the Dunlap farm. Mildred worked in the Religious Education and served on the church council. In 1995, they moved to Dunlap and Bob continued to farm while Mildred became more active in church. She was also able to attend more of the grandkid's activities. She loved going to their lake home on Ten Mile Lake in Minnesota.

Mildred died on Tuesday, February 18, 2020, at the Burgess Hospital in Onawa at the age of 92 years, four months and 14 days.

Mildred was preceded in death by her parents; son, Edwin Cogdill; twin grandsons, Ryan and Bryan; and seven siblings, Harold Foecke, Genevieve Owens, Delores Lintel, Ralph Foecke Sr., Rhoda Foecke, Dennis Foecke, Irene Goeken. She is survived by her husband, Robert of Dunlap, Iowa; seven children, Sam (Sue) Cogdill, Pat (Joyce) Cogdill, Tim (Susan) Cogdill, Frank (JoEtt) Cogdill, Martha (Richard) Rose, all of Dunlap; Doris (Patrick) Montang of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Tony (Linda) Cogdill of Panama; daughter-in-law, Barbara Cogdill of Ankeny; twenty-two grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; over 50 great-grandchildren; four siblings, Jerome (Carolyn) Foecke of Dassel, Minnesota, Geralda (Charles) Tramp of Crofton, Nebraska, Mary Davis of Denver, Colorado, Barbara (Charles) Macdonald of Florida; many nieces and nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

Services were held Friday February 21, 2020 in Iowa. Memorials to the TMLA, P O Box 412, Hackensack MN 56452 or the Hackensack Fire Department.



## REMEMBERING OUR TEN MILE LAKE FRIENDS



**Jeanie Marie (Ritchart) Shuck** died on April 16, 2020, in Scottsdale, Arizona. She is survived by her three children and her five grandchildren.

Jeanie was born on August 18, 1935, in Lovington, Iowa. She was delivered by the local doctor in the home of her immigrant grandparents. She

grew up in the Johnston area, and graduated from Des Moines Roosevelt High School in 1953.

Upon graduation, she attended the University of Iowa where she met the love of her life, Terry A. Shuck. They were married on August 13, 1954. Jeanie paused her education in order to start and raise her family. She completed her degree, achieving a BA from Drake University.

Jeanie and Terry lived the majority of their adult lives in Des Moines, Iowa, spending the summers at their cabin on Ten Mile Lake in Minnesota. Following Terry's death in 1999, she moved to Scottsdale, Arizona, but continued until the age of 82 to spend the summers on Ten Mile Lake. She was an avid reader, loved the Hawkeyes and was the original "yoga mom." She lived independently all of her life

and until the hour of her death. Just hours before her death, she took a long walk on the golf course that bordered her apartment.

She is survived by her children: Dr. Diane Shuck and her husband, Michael LaFauci, of Scottsdale, Arizona; Daniel B. Shuck and his wife, Kim Shuck, of Dakota Dunes, South Dakota; and Dr. Kathleen Johnson and her husband, Dr. William Johnson of Placita, New Mexico.

She is also survived by her grandchildren, Andrew Shuck and his wife, Sara Pirahanchi, of Richmond, California; Margaret (Maggie) Shuck, of Omaha, Nebraska; Sarah Shuck, of Omaha, Nebraska; Samuel Shuck, of Omaha, Nebraska and Ian Johnson, of Placita, New Mexico.

She will be interred at Glendale Cemetery, in Des Moines, Iowa. We will all celebrate her life in our own manner. "Death leaves a heartache no one can heal; love leaves a memory no one can steal."

# REMEMBERING OUR TEN MILE LAKE FRIENDS



**Robert "Bob" Nagel** of Hackensack, Minnesota passed away peacefully at home on August 23, 2019 with his wife and daughters by his side. He was born in Hackensack on September 30, 1940 to Ewald and Carrie Nagel. He graduated from Hackensack High School then received his

Master of Science degree from the University of Bemidji. On August 26, 1967 he married Johanna "Jenny" Miller at St. Alexius Catholic Church in West Union, Minnesota.

Those he leaves behind to cherish his memory are his wife, Jenny; daughter, Lisa (Erik) and their children, Sam and Ty; daughter, Sarah (Derek), and their children, Kaitlyn, Dawson, and Brandon; daughter, Kristen (Nate) and their children, Wesley, Dylan and Brandon; daughter, Laura (Jesse); brother, Richard (Kay) Nagel; sisters, Gladys Chelte, Sandy Richardson; and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends. Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Ewald and Carrie Nagel; sisters, Donna Westlund, June Sycks; niece, Patty Finney; and brothers-in-law: Dale Westlund, Vern Chelte, Jack Finney, Duane "Chum" Sycks, and Ernie Richardson.

Bob and his wife moved to Stillwater, Minnesota in 1968 where he started his 33-year career teaching Technology Education at the Stillwater High School. In 1972 they moved to Somerset, Wisconsin where he played an active role in St. Anne's Catholic Church and School. As a Third-Degree Knight, Bob had an honorary membership and was a past Grand Knight of the Somerset Council of Knights of Columbus.

In 2003 Bob and Jenny purchased land on Ten Mile Lake in Hackensack, Minnesota where they built their retirement home. He enjoyed his retirement years fishing, spending time with friends and family, traveling, and spending winters in St. Simons Island, Georgia.

Bob had a warm smile, helping hand, and genuine love for his family. He was known for always offering a listening ear and giving others the benefit of the doubt. A quote from a colleague, "I had the opportunity to work with some great people and Bob, you are at the head of the list!"

There were a few trademark quotes that described his kindness, hard work, and energy: "Put forth the effort to make it a great day!" "Be good to all people, you never know what someone's burdens might be." And finally, "If it is to be, it is up to me!"

Bob will be missed, loved and never forgotten.

The family wishes to express a special thank you to all the doctors and nurses who cared for Bob during his cancer journey. We especially thank Father Tim Lange for the spiritual care he extended to Bob and his family. Our gratitude goes out to Bob's Good Samaritan Hospice nurse, Mariah, for her calming presence, gentle spirit and guidance while providing loving care for Bob.

Mass of Christian Burial was held on September 7, 2019, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Hackensack. Burial was in Hillcrest Cemetery, Hackensack. Memorials to the Ten Mile Lake Association, P O Box 412. Hackensack, MN 56452.

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**Editorial note:** In a bit of serendipity I received the following tidbit from Bob's wife Jenny the same day I received this issue's Loon Report.

"Steve Masimore and Wayne Sikkink offered to carry on Bobs tradition of caring for the loons on Kenfield Bay and will continue to maintain the loon nest that Bob built."



# THE HISTORY PAGES

## Charley Miner: Unassuming Cabin Neighbor Was a Decorated WWI Veteran

*By Charles Brandt*

I was only 13 years old when our lake cabin neighbor Charles Miner passed away in June, 1960. As a young boy my memories of "Mr. Miner" - that's how me and my siblings referred to him - were of an unassuming fellow who enjoyed fishing and was always willing to lend a hand. Mr. Miner and his wife Alpha lived in a modified trailer across the street from our family cabin in the area that is now the Manlove storage facility.



The Miners were from the Willmar, MN area; our family was from Kansas City. We all spent our summers together on Ten Mile Lake, and got to know one another quite well. I remember on many an occasion we would arrive at our cabin in late Spring to find that Mr. Miner had improved something at our cabin: He built tree houses and tire swings, maybe added a coat of paint to our cabin, and one year even built stone steps down our yard bank to the lake (those steps are still there to this day).

Like her husband, Mrs. Miner was a provider as well. My brothers and I would run over to her place often to get a treat. Her specialties were molasses and oatmeal cookies, ginger snaps, and a rye bread that was to die for. And I swear, she always had sourdough starter going! All this in what was basically a makeshift kitchen with a wood stove and hand pump for water.

There is another recollection I have of the man I now refer to as Charley--that's how his old TML

fishing buddies like Rolly Buck referred to him as well. During one of our visits to his cabin Charley mentioned that he was a veteran of World War I and had suffered from mustard gas poisoning, which led to emphysema, and other injuries like shrapnel in his leg. But, that's about all I knew at the time regarding his service.



Several years later (2010) while visiting my mother in Kansas City my wife Sharol and I took a trip to the National World War I Museum and Memorial of the United States in Kansas City, MO. (Opened to the public as the Liberty Memorial Museum in 1926, it was designated in 2004 by the United States Congress as America's official museum dedicated to World War I.) I immediately thought of my old friend Charley Miner, so asked one of the attendants in the research section about him.

"Which one?" was the response. Turns out there were 200 Miners listed as having served in WWI. Evidently, by the end of WWI some two million U.S. men had volunteered for various branches of the armed services, and some 2.8 million had been drafted. Thus, more than half of the almost 4.8 million Americans who served in the armed forces at that time were drafted.

Charles A. Miner was born December 9, 1892, somewhere in Iowa, according to online records. He enlisted for the draft in 1916 at age 24, and we believe was called up for service April 27, 1918, at the age of 26. Prior to his basic training at Fort



Dodge, IA, Charley was single and farming in the Willmar, MN area.

Private C. A. Miner was assigned to the 88th Division, 175th Infantry Brigade 338th Machine Gun Battalion Company C. He was one of some 2.4 million American servicemen being detached to fight in France. He "shipped out," as the expression goes, on August 15, 1918, on the HMS Kashmir from New York, NY, and made port call in Liverpool, England. He was one of the fortunate ones to make "the crossing" as German U-boats were on the prowl in the Atlantic for Allied merchant and military ships. Too, the 1918 Spanish Flu was at its zenith. Considered one of the deadliest pandemics in human history, the flu had infected some 500 million people worldwide by late 1918. The death toll from the pandemic varies from 20 to 50 million people, including thousands of U.S. troops.

(Note that much of the information I received regarding Charley's service was via a Department of Army records request regarding Charley's military headstone. There was information provided regarding his birth, death, and military service. With this information I was able to track his burial to Willmar, MN, and eventually was able to contact members of his family. This piece of detail and some footwork eventually put me in touch with one of Charley's grandsons, Cal Miner of Willmar.)

According to records, Charley's first action was in what was referred to as "the center sector," Haute-Alsace, France. His next engagement was the Meuse-Argonne offensive, the front line at the time. Both of these battles took place in the later months of 1918. History records that these battles were fought from trenches in cold rainy conditions with



continuous enemy shelling, and the constant threat of weaponized mustard gas.

Charley began his return to the United States on May 21, 1919, aboard the Koningin Der Nederlanden from St. Nazaire, France. He and his troops landed in New Port News, VA, June 4, 1919. Charley and others from the 88th Division were demobilized at Camp Dodge, IA, later that month. (A more common term for Charley's status at this point in his service would have been "Casual Detachment," which is a temporary unit formed to maintain records for servicemen who are temporarily unassigned to a military unit. According to records, these units were most commonly used for groups of men in hospital, or for movement independent of their last military unit. Charley was technically assigned to Casual Detachment 771, Camp Dodge, IA. It's likely he was suffering from mustard gas exposure and/or Spanish Flu at the time.)

Note that Charley would have qualified for the Purple Heart for his service to the United States during WWI, but the award was suspended until the 1930s. (It's now a common award for servicemen wounded in action.) Charley was awarded what's referred to as "the clover leaf medal," which was given to every member of the 88th Division that served in France and experienced combat.

My brother Thomas said of Charley: "This young man from Minnesota went off to France and served bravely and honorably as a machine gunner, and suffered from mustard gas and shrapnel wounds, but then came back to live a quiet unassuming summer life in the woods with his wife, fishing and doing odd jobs for his Ten Mile Lake neighbors."

*Article submitted by Tom Brandt, History Committee Member*

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# MEMBERSHIP MEMOS

It is gratifying to see many more of you using the Anchor. If you have not yet signed in, give it a try! Within the Anchor you can:

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It is simple to sign in - directions are on the bottom of the HOME page of the Ten Mile Lake Website: [www.tenmilelake.org](http://www.tenmilelake.org)

If you are not yet a member of this fabulous organization and you want to join you can go to the website and click on the JOIN button on the Home page. Fill out the form and pay with a credit card OR contact the Membership Coordinator and join over the phone, by email or by snail mail.

The TMLA 2020 Directory will be out soon. Make sure your information is correct and complete.

Sign into the Anchor yourself, call or email Annie at 218-429-1164, [membership@tenmilelake.org](mailto:membership@tenmilelake.org) and ask her to verify your info or fill out and mail the form below to TMLA Membership, P O Box 412, Hackensack, MN 56452

------(cut here)-----

## TEN MILE LAKE MEMBERSHIP INFO FORM

**Family name:** (examples: Jane and John Doe, Mary (Olson) and Harrison (Harry) Ford, etc)

**Owner:** (this is the owner of the membership, **not the necessarily property** - one vote, one name attached)

Personal cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal email address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Personal cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation if you want it listed: \_\_\_\_\_ Retired? \_\_\_\_\_

**Children, list name and age of each:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ten Mile address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cabin phone** if you have one: \_\_\_\_\_

**Permanent address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**House phone** if you have one: \_\_\_\_\_

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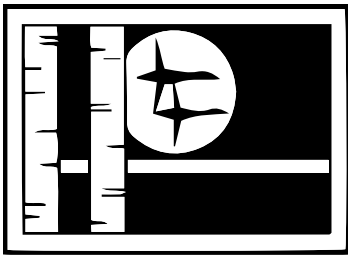


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