

# Arbutus Lake Log

April 1, 2012 Volume # Two Issue # Two

A Newsletter for the Lake Arbutus Association

---

**The Flag is flown as a tribute to all who have served.**

**January 2012 to June 2012**

## Business first

---

Dues are due for the Lake Arbutus Association. They are \$20.00 per year and entitle you to the members only web site and camera access from the web cam on the dam. The password and log in will be changed this month. **Dues to be sent to Robert Rockowski, N418 Rivera Drive, Merrillan WI 54754-7902.**

## Warning-Warning-Warning

---

The boat barriers are not installed as of March 27. North American Hydro is doing repairs on them but they will be installed in the next two weeks. This from Michelle Hartness, Clark County Emergency Director and John Ross, Jackson County Emergency Director

## Spring Wildfire Season arrives early

---

By Amy Luebke, WDNR Wildland-Urban Interface Specialist

With all this warm weather, spring wildfire season has arrived early this year. Make sure your home is prepared. To make your home more Firewise:

- Remove pine needles and leaves from the roof and gutters
- Rake leaves and pine needles from under decks and around wood fences. Move flammables, like spare lumber or firewood, away from these areas to a distance of at least thirty feet

- Remove tree branches that overhang the roof and the lower branches of evergreen trees up to a height of 6-10 feet
- If you're replacing mulch, consider using rock instead of wood mulch

We always recommend alternative to burning, such as chipping or composting whenever possible. If you choose to burn, remember that a free annual burning permit is required to burn small piles of debris and to burn in a burn barrel. Once you have your burning permit, you must check the daily burning restrictions every day after 11:00 am on the days you intend to burn by calling 1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876) or by checking online at [www.dnr.wi.gov](http://www.dnr.wi.gov) search "burn".

## Hatfield Fire Department

---

By Gary Nordin, Chief

This winter we went through one of the mildest winters in history. The snowmobilers were very unhappy with the lack of snow and I was too. As a fire chief "Up north in the Woods", I am very concerned that we never get enough moisture or snow cover to keep the fire risk down for very long. Please note Amy's article about being Firewise with your home. Spring is the best time to get started. Please note the directions and requirements for burn permits from the DNR.

Our fire department has a problem, but it is a good one! Five new people have joined our ranks. They are Ruthie Alexander, Jason Waters, Jake Maske, Garrett Miller and Scott Opelt. All five want to be fire fighters and two also want to become First Responders as well. Once they complete the 80 hours of training, we will have to fit them with turnout gear. A full set of gear for one fireman costs \$2400 and we don't even have enough hand-me-downs. So, wouldn't you know, we have a raffle going on, thanks to the generosity of the Toro Company. They donated a shiny new snow blower and the fire department is selling chances for \$5.00

or 5 for \$20.00. The drawing will be held at The Mug on April 25<sup>th</sup> following the Chicken-Q that day. If you plan on attending, get your dinner ticket before 4pm 'cause the chicken goes fast.

I wasn't going to mention anything about fund raising for the new Fire Station until the next newsletter, but our donation thermometer in front of the fire station is on the rise. New major contributors: Ralph Johnson, \$1000 and Pat Koranda, \$1,000. Atlas Resin Proppants LLC has given a \$10,000 donation and The Hatfield Roadrunners Snowmobile Club has donated \$1,000 for new turnout gear. A **Big Fire Department Thank You** to all who have donated and to those who plan on donating in the future.

### **Worship Sunday mornings in Russell Park**

---

By Pastor Ramie Bakken

This family friendly and relaxed atmosphere is what makes the Russell Memorial Park services a must when camping or vacationing near Lake Arbutus. Hosted by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Black River Falls, we welcome all to join in singing praise to God and hearing the good news of Jesus Christ. Stay and visit with friends after the service while enjoying a cup of coffee and some homemade goodies. The worship services are held at 10:15 am and run from Memorial Day to Labor Day week ends.

### **Flag renewal request**

---

The new flag pole for the Town of Dewhurst was erected on 11-11-11, which was Veteran's Day. Quite a crew was on hand to raise the pole, which in itself, was heartwarming. When the 35 ft pole was picked up in Reedsburg, a sealed box of hardware was sent along, consisting of rope, flag, pulley, and the tie down cleat. However, someone forgot the brass ball for the top of the pole! Well, with an anxious crew standing by, the pole had to go up without the brass top. The ball was shipped the next day, unfortunately to Waunakee, so the job was never finished until last Tuesday, Mar. 27, when

Jackson Electric stopped by with a boom truck and finished the job. Our hats off to the utility company.

On another note, the current flag will fly until July 1, when a new flag will take its place. If you would like to donate (\$50.00), the new flag will be flown in your name or someone who you would like to recognize. That flag will then be given back to you on January 1, 2013. Contact me at [torger@msn.com](mailto:torger@msn.com)

### **ATV Trails opening**

---

The trails are currently closed in both Jackson and Clark counties, Clark county trails are scheduled to open on April 15 and Jackson County trails are scheduled to open on May 1. However, check with the county recreation departments or at the trail heads for any signs that change the openings. The Lake Arbutus Sports shop could also be contacted. Ride safe this year, obey the laws and private property no trespass signs. 10 MPH means 10 MPH!

### **Hatfield Hydro flow Release Plan 2012**

---

Whitewater Flow Releases on the Black River will be done on the original river channel about 2.5 miles upstream from the Hatfield Hydroelectric plant between 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM on June 16, July 14, August 11 and September 8. This release will create Class II, III and IV pool-drop rapids, depending upon flow and location. These flows require an intermediate to advanced skill level to navigate, and boaters should be aware that there are inherent risks associated with whitewater boating. These releases are dependent upon water flow rates and lake level of 882.5 prior to release. Having watched this activity, this is truly worth going out and watching. See your Lake Association Calendar for a picture of two people in their kayaks going down the east channel just below the tainter gates. Don't blink, cause you will miss them.

## Roller Rink update

---

*The Lake Arbutus Pavilion* plans on being open by the first of May. I've been following their progress and they are really doing a bang up job of both restoring and repairing the fire damage. There will be almost all of the old floor area saved for skating and they have some big plans for the facility. Oh boy, a malt shop! Now if they only had a pier to tie up to. Along with skating, malts and burgers, there will be some "adult malt" served too, and they are thinking about using the facility for small trade shows and maybe even receptions. I took my grand sons in to look last Wednesday. There are some big pole jacks going up to the ceiling and Erik wanted to know if they were holding up the ceiling. One of the workers explained that "no they were holding down the floor", which kind grew with the water from the fire. All in all, they want it to return to being what it was in the beginning "*The Lake Arbutus Pavilion*".

## Restaurant news

Did you know that the little restaurant at the Hub has been open all winter? They have been open from 7:00 AM till 10:00PM, serving breakfast, burgers and pizza, Friday night fish and lots of Leinies. And, it's still the World Headquarters for Hatfield's R.O.M.E.O. chapter too.

Did you ever notice the number on the blackboard at Stone's throw? No, it's not the "shake of the day" but it is Tim's countdown of Friday night Fish Fries till he and Lana get to go to Mexico. Then it starts all over at #50 again. Tim informed me though, that the number starts at #49 this year because of Easter 2013 being early. Sorry Tim, that means that in a couple of years, you're going to have to start at #51.

The Sports Bar should be opening mid April, and the *Inwood*, *Deerview* and *The Mug* are all open for business year round. I still miss the fish baskets at *The Palms!*

We at Hatfield are very fortunate to have several good dining establishments. Please support them. They are supporting our area with a variety of good

food, drink and entertainment. No, McDonalds is not looking for a site here, although their location criteria requires a population in excess of 5000. I hope they didn't believe the sign at the edge of town.

## Norwegian Joke

---

By Ralph Johnson

Ole and Lena lived by a lake in der nort woods of Minnesota. It vas early vinter and da lake had frozen over. Ole asked lenaif she vould valk across the frozen lake to da yeneral store and get him some smokes. She asked him for some money but he told her "Na, yust put it on our tab.

So Lena valked across, got the smokes at da yeneral store, den valked back home across the lake. Ven she got home and gave Ole his smokes, she says to him "Ole, you always tell me not to run up da tab at da store. Why didn't you yust give me some money"?

Ole replied, "Vell I didn't vant to send you out dere vit some money when I vasn't sure how tick the ice vas yet". Gong Gong Gong.

## Authors wanted. Ideas too. Always looking for something to write about.

Got anything interesting to do with Hatfield or Lake Arbutus. Either history in writing or photos. Does anyone remember Roy's? Give me a call or Email [torger@msn.com](mailto:torger@msn.com) or 608-695-1658.

