



# District of Powers Lake NEWSLETTER

Published for all those who use and love Powers Lake

**AUGUST**

**2014**

## **CHAIRPERSON'S LETTER**

I am writing this Chairman's Letter on the last day of our extended stay at Powers Lake. We have been here for almost four weeks and we are going home tomorrow morning. It is a glorious day, the sunrise was at 5:22 a.m. and the sunset will be at 8:32 p.m. This has been our longest stay at "the lake" since we were married more than 50 years ago. You see, we were both busy carving out our careers and raising our kids and helping raise our grandkids, but life has slowed down. I retired almost five years ago to spend more time here with my beloved wife who is slowly dying from dementia.

Who knows how long we have to enjoy the lake or to live, for that matter. And, who knows how long or how much influence we have to positively affect the lake. One way is to follow the "Common Sense Campaign" initiative advanced by the District of Powers Lake which was sent along with our June Newsletter. Yes, our 459 acre drained lake is a gift from God, but also from others who have sacrificed to acquire, build and preserve our refuge. If you did not keep your copy of "Common Sense Campaign", you can read it on our website, [www.districtofpowerslake.org](http://www.districtofpowerslake.org).

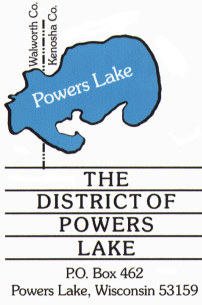
It was 60 years ago that my mom and dad bought our property at Powers Lake. Mom was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota of immigrant parents from the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (GDL) and dad was born in Aurora, IL of a first generation American born to immigrant parents from the GDL and my grandfather who was an immigrant from the GDL.

My three older brothers all saw hazardous duty in WWII so when they arrived home safely, they started large families. Along with my brothers, my sister and me, mom and dad had 31 grandchildren and they built our place to give everyone a place to gather and to learn how to swim.

There are a lot of memories of those years, but they have been gone for a long time. Dad died as the result of a car accident traveling from Aurora to Powers Lake and mom died 15 years later. They provided for Carole and me to acquire the lake property and we have had it since 1979.

What is the purpose of my reflections you may ask? Well, it is to try to bring you to the realization that it takes sacrifice to keep a place at the lake. It takes commitment and sacrifice of time, money and effort. But think of the rewards of that sacrifice, namely a place of continuous but changing beauty. Think of your memories of times spent alone or with others in, on or at the lake. As Steven Covey has written we have four basic needs which are "to live, to love, to learn (and) to leave a legacy". What is your legacy? Is Powers Lake part of your legacy? I sure hope so because it is for my family.

On another note, I am sorry to report that Ms. Nancy Michael, Commissioner and Secretary of the District of Powers Lake, will be moving out of the lake district and will no longer be eligible for a seat on the Lake District board. Nancy's



**Elected Commissioners:**

Jim Michels, Chair  
Nancy Michael, Sec.  
Brooke Jensen, Treas.  
Neal Kuhn  
Mary Adams

**Appointed Commissioners:**

Judy Jooss, Kenosha Co.  
Mark Halvey, Randall Twp.

contributions to the Board over the years have been extensive—beyond the normal secretarial duties she has done the newsletter, lake sampling, and kept the Board up to date on local activities. Her wisdom and compassionate efforts expended on behalf of her constituents and neighbors of the District have always balanced lake ecology with personal enjoyment. She will be sorely missed and her shoes impossible to fill.

Commissioner Neal Kuhn is also up for reelection at this time. Nancy and Neal were first elected at our annual meeting six years ago in 2008. So, if you or anyone that you know is interested in serving on our board, please come to the annual meeting on Friday, August 1st and participate in the nomination and election process.

Sincerely,

Jim Michels  
Chairperson

**VOTER ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES**

If you have any questions about the voter guidelines for the upcoming election, they are also available under the DPL Business flag on our website:

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

**ANNUAL MEETING**

This year there are two commissioner positions up for election. Other nominations will be taken from the floor.

The public is invited to attend our annual meeting which will be held at Randall Consolidated School, County Trunk Highway “F” (87th Street), West of County Trunk Highway “O” (368th Ave.) Burlington, WI on Friday, August 1st, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.



**DISTRICT OF POWERS LAKE  
MISSION STATEMENT**

Within the scope of the powers vested in it under Chapter 33 and in furtherance of the Public Trust Doctrine of Wisconsin, the mission of the District of Powers Lake is:

To support, protect, preserve and enhance the native ecosystem of the watershed, shoreline, and waters of Powers Lake as a natural resource for generations to come;

To be responsive to the interests and concerns of the district residents and the public; and

To proactively advocate when faced with potential damage to Powers Lake’s environmental values, wildlife, natural beauty, peacefulness, safety and/or recreational value.