



Events Calendar

DATES FOR MEETINGS 2014

Board Meetings: 4/19, 5/11, 6/22, 7/13 and 9/14/2014.

Annual Meeting / Breakfast: 8/2/2014 at 9:00 am, Emily City Hall. Rolls, coffee, juice and water provided by ELRA.

Boat Parade: Date to be determined.

Additional Opportunities

<http://emilylakes.org>

For more info, visit us online @ www.emilylakes.org

A New Year for ELRA!

Greetings everyone! We thank each of you, all 117 new members, who joined the lake association this past year. It was a record breaking year.

We were hopeful to restock in 2013; however, that was not possible. Why we could not stock until 2014 is outlined in the article To Fish or Not to Fish, page 2.

We are glad to update everyone on issues that are important to you including water level meeting with the Emily City Council. The meeting hall was filled to capacity with many of our members. ELRA will be launching a program for boat inspections to educate all on boat inspections. Our Vice President will be spearheading the project, (see AIS Education Update article, page 3).

Thank you, members!

Ken Scribner, ELRA President

Batter Up Walleye Fillets

From *Taste of Home*

Ingredients:

1 cup biscuit / baking mix
1 Tbsp. garlic powder
1 Tbsp. onion powder
1 Tbsp. Cajun seasoning
1-1/2 tsp. pepper
1 tsp. salt
1/2 cup 2% milk
Oil for frying
1 pound walleye fillets, skin removed
Lemon wedges

Directions:

1. In a shallow bowl, mix the first six ingredients. Place milk in a separate shallow bowl. In an electric skillet, heat 1/4 in. of oil to 375°.

2. In batches, dip fish in milk, then coat with baking mix mixture; fry for 5 minutes on each side or until golden brown and fish flakes easily with a fork. Serve immediately with lemon wedges. **Yields 4 servings.**

To Fish Or Not To Fish

BECKY GROMEK—Fish stocking this year was postponed after research and communication with the DNR via Becky Gromek, ELRA Board member assigned to handle fish restocking for 2013. The stocking will be delayed as explained below.

Becky, ELRA Board Member, submitted the request for a permit to stock walleye in Mary Lake and Marc who is our contact from the DNR, responded.

Initially the DNR requested we withdraw our application to restock in 2013 (current year); however, we decided to proceed with the application. The DNR, in turn, denied our application for restocking for 2013. Furthermore, the DNR told us that the ELRA fish stocking should match the same years as their plan. That plan is to stock walleyes every two out of three years. Therefore, we were not allowed to do fish stocking in 2013.

Marc, DRN rep, explained that if we work together and match years it helps in the survey the DNR completes on Lake Emily and Mary to determine if the net pull is a natural reproduction or any fish emigrated from Mary Lake to Emily realizing that they would not know for certain. It would, however, help with their evaluation of the fish data overall if we use the same stocking years as the DNR.

We will be permitted to request fish stocking in 2014.

Committee Appts.

FOR FISCAL 2014 (January to December)

Auditing - Tom Hintz and Wayne Gapsiewicz

Fish Stocking - Becky Gromek

Membership - Becky Gromek and Kristi McLain

Newsletter / eBlast - Ken Scribner

AIS Education - Mark Drewitz

Water Levels - Tami Froidcoeur, Tom Hintz and Wayne Gapsiewicz

OPT OUT: The newsletter expense will be reduced by an OPT OUT feature. You can receive it electronically or if preferred, print. If you would like to receive it electronically, please send us a message at elra@emilylakes.org or visit the website and fill out the electronic form. Thanks to all who have chosen to opt out. This will help us fund other programs and keep dues at a reasonable rate.

2014 board members

Ken Scribner, President

Mark Drewitz, Vice President

Becky Gromek, Secretary

Kristi McLain, Treasurer

Tom Hintz

Tami Froidcoeur

Wayne Gapsiewicz

Email ELRA Board at: elra@emilylakes.org

volunteers

Mark Drewitz, Webmaster

Ken Scribner, Newsletter/eBlasts



AIS Education Update

MARK DREWITZ—On September 10, 2013, an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program was proposed and adopted by the ELRA Board of Directors. The goal of this proposal is to prevent AIS introduction into our waters through education and self-inspection of watercraft.

The program consists of three components: 1) education; 2) self-inspection; and

DID YOU KNOW...

Our water quality is measured by using a Secchi disk. Secchi is a measure of the clarity of water, especially seawater. Secchi depth is measured using a circular plate, known as a Secchi disk, which is lowered into the water until it is no longer visible. High Secchi depths indicate clear water; whereas low Secchi depths indicate cloudy or turbid water.

Historical facts on the Secchi disk: An instrument used for measuring the clarity of water, especially seawater. It consists of a circular plate divided into alternating black and white quadrants and attached to a long measuring tape. The plate is lowered into the water, and the depth at which it is no longer visible from the surface is recorded. The Secchi disk is named after its inventor, Italian astronomer Angelo Secchi (1818-1878).

Apparently, water quality has been an issue since the 1800s.

3) signage. **Education** includes the development and distribution of a flyer and watercraft stickers focusing on our "Pull the Plug" campaign. AIS literature from the DNR will be obtained and distributed to all property owners and businesses as well as resorts and campgrounds to be given to all guests. **Self-inspection** includes DNR volunteer training, scheduling volunteers, and providing DNR approved literature to volunteers at the access ramps. **Signage** will be constructed at all campgrounds and resorts as well as a larger sign along Highway 6.

To defray some of the costs of this program an opt-out feature for the mailed ELRA newsletter was initiated.

Volunteer opportunities include delivering literature to all properties on the lakes and river as well as businesses, campgrounds and resorts. Property owners can also enroll in the DNR training to become volunteers. If you would like to volunteer to assist in these efforts, please email the ELRA Board at elra@emilylakes.org.

With this program all individuals, owners and guests who access the Emily lakes and river should receive instructional materials for the inspection regimen necessary prior to launching their watercraft.

Look for updates in upcoming electronic newsletters for this exciting new approach to AIS. Help spread the word!

Look for your 2014 membership reminder in March!

Pay at www.emilylakes.org or send your check for \$25 to: ELRA, PO Box 111, Emily, MN 56447

For current information, check out www.emilylakes.org