

A scenic photograph of a lake at dusk or dawn, with a rocky shoreline in the foreground and a dense line of trees in the background. The water is calm, reflecting the sky. The text is overlaid in the center in a bold, yellow font.

**Rice Lake Area  
Association  
Annual Meeting**  
*May 3, 2016*

# Annual Meeting Agenda

- ❖ Call to Order Rick
- ❖ RLAA Mission Statement Rick
- ❖ Financials Rick
- ❖ General Lake Update George
- ❖ Guest Speakers George
  - ❖ Rich Brasch (Three Rivers Parks District)
- ❖ Committees Jeremy
- ❖ Board Member Election Luke
- ❖ Rice Lake Trivia Contest Scott/Joy
- ❖ Drawings Scott/Joy
- ❖ Adjourn Scott

# Board Members

## ❖ Officers

- ❖ George Schneider Secretary (Term 2016)
- ❖ Rick Stulac Treasurer (Term 2018)

## ❖ Other Board Members:

- ❖ Scott Roeglin (Term 2018)
- ❖ Bill Kidder (Term 2018)
- ❖ Mark Ellingson (Term 2017)
- ❖ Luke Johnson (Term 2017)
- ❖ Michael Thiede (Term 2018)
- ❖ Jeremy Coenen (Term 2018)

## ❖ By-laws allow up to 15 board members – We Need Your Help!

- ❖ Give Back to The Community
- ❖ Have a Voice in Helping Decide Rice Lake's Future
- ❖ Board Members are Volunteers Elected by The RLAA Board

# Rice Lake Area Association Mission Statement

**As stated in the bylaws:**

*The Rice Lake Area Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to:*

- preserving, beautifying and maintaining Rice Lake, and*
- educating the general public in improving and preserving lake quality through their actions.*

# 2015 Financial Objectives

- ❖ **Increase participation by homeowners to pay dues**
  - ❖ For the past year (2015)
    - ❖ 2015 revenue was up 18% compared to 2014
    - ❖ 2015 paying members was up 17% (7 homes) vs. prior year
    - ❖ Five year running average of \$5,221 per year collected
- ❖ **Increase city funding for Rice Lake Projects**
  - ❖ Proceed with projects under the Lake Improvement Project (LIP) program from the City of Maple Grove

# How RLAA Operates

- ❖ Board meetings are held as needed at the Maple Grove Library from 7:00 – 9:00 PM
- ❖ Agendas and minutes are posted each month on our website
- ❖ RLAA members as well as any interested party may attend board meetings
- ❖ Board members receive no payment for serving

# RLAA Income Statement

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Rice Lake Area Association  
5/1/2015-5/1/2016

## Revenue

Member Dues	\$5,884.67	
Bank Interest	\$0.91	
City reimbursement	\$7,200.00	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$13,085.58</b>

## Expenses

Meetings	\$352.92	
Prize's for annual meeting	\$110.00	
Fish stocking	\$7,550.00	
Aerator parts	\$288.94	
Web site and signs	\$88.99	
Xcel energy	\$355.59	
News paper ad	\$124.33	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$8,870.77</b>

**Net Income (Loss)** **\$4,214.81**

# Balance Sheet

Rice Lake Area Association

May 1, 2016

	5/1/2015	5/1/2016
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>RLAA Bank Accounts</b>		
Checking	11,136.50	15,350.32
Savings	3,052.41	3,053.40
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>\$ 14,188.91</b>	<b>\$ 18,403.72</b>
<b>Fixed assets:</b>		
	-	-
	-	-
<b>Net fixed assets</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 14,188.91</b>	<b>\$ 18,403.72</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current liabilities:</b>		
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Overall Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 14,188.91</b>	<b>\$ 18,403.72</b>



# Treasurer's Report

## ❖ **Fiscal year ending: 5/1/2015 – 5/1/2016**

- ❖ Collected \$5,898 in member dues.
  - ❖ Dues of \$125.00 for members with water access
  - ❖ \$60.00 for members with lake/creek view
- ❖ Dues collected up \$1,000 compared to the past 3 years' average.
- ❖ This past year we spent approximately \$4,200.00 less than we received in dues.
- ❖ Starting the year of 2016 we have roughly \$18,400.00 in the bank.

## ❖ **Contact Database**

- ❖ Has about 250 street addresses
- ❖ Has over 100 e-mail addresses

## ❖ **Members**

- ❖ 43 in 2015; up from four year average of 40

## ❖ **Our projected expenses include the following for 2016**

- ❖ Annual meeting \$450.00

# General Lake Update

- ❖ **2015-2016 Update**
  - ❖ 2015 Year in Review
  - ❖ Lake Water Quality Impacts
  - ❖ Drawdown overview
  - ❖ 2016 Potential Project Plans
- ❖ **Water Quality Reminders**
  - ❖ How Carp impacts our water quality

# 2015 Year in Review

## ❖ **Timeline:**

- ❖ Winter 2014-2015 the first drawdown since 2004-2005 was conducted
- ❖ Winter 2014-2015 weather was below average for precipitation/temperature, resulting in good conditions for naturally treating Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLP)
- ❖ At least 10 homeowner shoreline restorations conducted during the drawdown
- ❖ Spring 2015 water level slow to recover (post drawdown); many boats not put in until June
- ❖ Almost no CLP was observed in 2015
- ❖ Spring 2015 was much drier than normal, increasing the amount of time it took to refill the lake
- ❖ Water quality during the outdoor boating season was observed to be better than recent years without any major algae blooms
- ❖ Summer/Fall 2015 – Fishing very poor the entire season. Visiting fishermen numbers were again down significantly. Fish restocking conducted in May/September/October
- ❖ Winter 2015-2016 was again mild and lower than average precipitation
- ❖ Spring 2016 water level close to average, even with reduced winter precipitation

# Lake Water Quality Impacts

## Aquatic Plant Update

### ❖ BAD WEEDS

#### ❖ Curlyleaf Pondweed

- ❖ Currently under control, but need to keep an eye on annual growth, particularly along the shoreline.
- ❖ Aquatic Plant Survey in 2014 showed a slight increase in growth, but not enough of a nuisance to require treatment for CLP only. There were very few visual sightings in 2015.

#### ❖ Eurasian Water Milfoil

- ❖ Not considered to be a nuisance for treatment at this time.

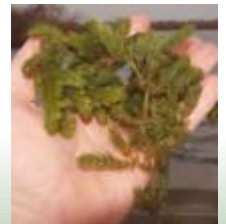
### ❖ GOOD WEEDS

#### ❖ Coontail

- ❖ Increasing recently, but still lagging behind. West side of lake much more growth than remainder of the lake. This can be controlled by cutting.

#### ❖ Other Native Plants

- ❖ Limited due to poor water clarity and Carp effects have been found to inhibit sprouting of new plants.
- ❖ Carp Enclosure project in 2010 demonstrated that many native plants can survive in our lake.



# Lake Water Quality Impacts - Continued

## ❖ Fish Population update:

- ❖ Fish population was still out of balance through 2015, but we are hoping the restocking done in late 2015 will help reverse that trend.
  - ❖ More predator fish is desirable
- ❖ Undesirable fish population continues to be very high in recent years
  - ❖ Bullheads
  - ❖ Carp
- ❖ Winter aeration was done in 2015-2016 to help provide oxygen to the fish population. This may also be done in the future to help sustain the game fish population.

## ❖ Conclusion:

- ❖ Hopeful that 2016 begins to see a swing in water quality with less algae (low Curlyleaf Pondweed levels) and more native plants, plus better quality fish.

## ❖ Question to ask ourselves:

- ❖ Do you prefer a lake which is dominated by algae or by native plants?

# Drawdown Review

Drawdowns lower the level of the water body to address specific issues, such as non-native plant growth, access to below surface (lake bottom), or reducing the surface area to attack a specific problem (i.e.. netting non-native fish).

Drawdowns have been conducted on Rice Lake in the past to specifically address unwanted Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLP) growth.

- ❖ CLP dominates over all other vegetation by growing early under the ice during the winter and shading out other vegetation.
- ❖ Since CLP is not common to this climate, it is been found that exposing the seedbeds to the winter elements will kill out the seeds from reproducing.

# Drawdown Review

## ❖ **Benefits of drawdowns include:**

- ❖ Minimum cost impact – (\$250 for DNR permit in 2015 paid by City of Maple Grove).
- ❖ Minimum resource impact - lower the dam in the fall; raise it in the spring
- ❖ Not harmful to other aquatic plant or fish life when winter aeration is done
- ❖ Opportunity to clean up shoreline

## ❖ **Negative impacts of drawdowns include:**

- ❖ Loss of ice coverage surface area
- ❖ Lake refill is based on watershed precipitation level
  - ❖ This delayed refill by about 1 month in 2015

## ❖ **Drawdowns on Rice Lake have been done 5 times in the past**

- ❖ 1998-1999
- ❖ 1999-2000
- ❖ 2002-2003
- ❖ 2004-2005
- ❖ 2014-2015

# Drawdown Review (cont.)

Photos from the 2014-2015 drawdown

*“Board” after it has been completely removed. Let the draining begin!*

*Removing the “board” inside the dam bypass manhole.*





# Drawdown Review (cont.)

*Photos from the 2014-2015 drawdown*

*Lake side of dam 2 weeks after close*



*Channel from Boat Ramp bay in November*



# Drawdown Q&A

## ❖ Will Rice Lake be conducting any future drawdowns?

- ❖ It depends if **CLP** becomes a problem again. We are hoping that the 2014-2015 drawdown knocked down the **CLP** community enough to allow the native plants to flourish.
- ❖ If needed, it is possible that within the next several years to have another drawdown to tackle several potential water quality issues:
  - ❖ Curlyleaf Pondweed removal
  - ❖ Rough Fish Removal
  - ❖ Shoreline stabilization
  - ❖ Native Aquatic planting

## ❖ What are the steps involved to request a drawdown?

- ❖ Residents inform RLAA board of **CLP** sightings.
- ❖ An accepted Aquatic Plant Survey must be conducted to justify the need.
- ❖ The RLAA Board of Directors must obtain written permission from at least 75% of the homeowners who have shoreline property (creek & lake).
- ❖ RLAA request permission for drawdown from the City of Maple Grove.
- ❖ After City grants permission, must get DNR Permit to conduct drawdown.
- ❖ City works with RLAA to manage the drawdown effort.

## ❖ Do the experts recommend conducting drawdowns?

- ❖ Yes, each of our resident consultants, as well as key contacts at Three Rivers Parks District and the City of Maple Grove, all advocate a drawdown as a way of controlling non-native plant growth.

# Drawdown Q&A (cont.)

- ❖ **Can a drawdown be done to get rid of algae?**
  - ❖ No, the DNR will not permit a drawdown for an algae (or any 'Nutrient') removal. They typically only grant a permit for vegetation removal or excavation to the lake bottom.
  
- ❖ **Was this past drawdown successful?**
  - ❖ Regarding the **CLP** growth it was considered a success for last season, since the vegetation did not have an opportunity to get established. It is the hope that the native plant growth will begin to increase in numbers and begin to overtake the **CLP** growth.
  - ❖ Regarding the fish population, it is hopeful that the 2014-2015 restocking helped us start to get ahead of the rough fish population.

# Postponed Projects – 2015

## ❖ Channel Dredging Project

- ❖ Objective: To deepen the channel entering the Boat Ramp Bay, which has never been dredged out before. Boaters are occasionally getting caught up in the shallow bay entry.
- ❖ How the project would be completed:
  - ❖ Approval of 100% of adjacent homeowners to the dredged area would need to be achieved for a DNR permit.
  - ❖ City of Maple Grove would contract their dredging contractor.
  - ❖ Work would be done during the late winter when ice is the thickest and can support the heavy equipment.
- ❖ Reason why the project was not completed:
  - ❖ Unable to secure 100% homeowner approval for DNR permit.
- ❖ Next Steps
  - ❖ Seek 100% homeowner approval to conduct dredging in 2016-2017 winter.

# 2016 Plans

- ❖ **Continue to update the RLAA website**
- ❖ **Dredge Channel by Boat Launch (Winter 2016-17)**
- ❖ **Encourage resident shoreline restoration projects through grant opportunities**
  - ❖ Maple Grove Lake Improvement Grant program
- ❖ **Continue working with Elm Creek Watershed on Impaired Waters Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Project Plan (in tandem with RLAA Lake Management Plan)**
- ❖ **Storm water drainage monitoring with City Staff**
- ❖ **Continue to increase our membership**

# Maple Grove Lake Improvement Project program

*In 2016, the City of Maple Grove, through the Lake Quality Commission, will again be offering city residents up to \$750 reimbursement for valid water quality projects they undertake on their property.*

*In 2014 & 2015, a similar program resulted in several projects being reimbursed for Rice Lake residents.*

*Examples of such projects include:*

- ❖ *Native Shoreline Restoration*
- ❖ *Bioengineered Shoreline (not riprap)*
- ❖ *Bioengineered Slopes*
- ❖ *Rain Gardens*
- ❖ *Native Buffer*

# Maple Grove Lake Improvement Project program

*How to submit a request for the Lake Improvement Project program:*

- ❖ *Copy a request form from our website (find on the Rice Lake Projects page)*
- ❖ *Completed the request form and forward it to George Schneider (Lake Quality Commissioner for Rice Lake) via e-mail (electronic attachment) or US mail.*
- ❖ *Request is reviewed by the entire LQC*
  - ❖ *If approved, submitted to the City for reimbursement*
- ❖ *Reimbursement issued to requesting party once project has been completed and project has been paid in full.*

Maple Grove Lake Improvement Project Grant

Maple Grove Lakes \$5,000 Lake Protection Fund Application (Funding is limited and based on approval from the Lake Quality Commission. It based on a first come basis, so please get in your application ASAP)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Project (check project(s) below):**

Native shoreline restoration  Rain garden (design approved)

Bioengineered shoreline  Native buffer (at least 15 feet wide)

Bioengineered slopes greater than 4:1 (H:V) near shore

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Consulting services (ie. Fortin Consulting) for training for those projects listed above (Note: only covered if a project was implemented)

Other (please explain in detail) \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Note that lake weed removal will not be covered by this grant**

Explain in detail how your project will improve lake quality (include before and/or after pictures if available). Use back of form if needed.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Cost of Project (Home owner pays 100% of cost up front, and is then reimbursed up to 50% of the total cost, and \$750 maximum). Please save ALL Receipts. You will need to turn them in for reimbursement.

\_\_\_\_\_

Please send completed form to your Lake Quality Commission Representative.

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LQC Use Only:

Approved  Not Approved

# Water Quality Requirements

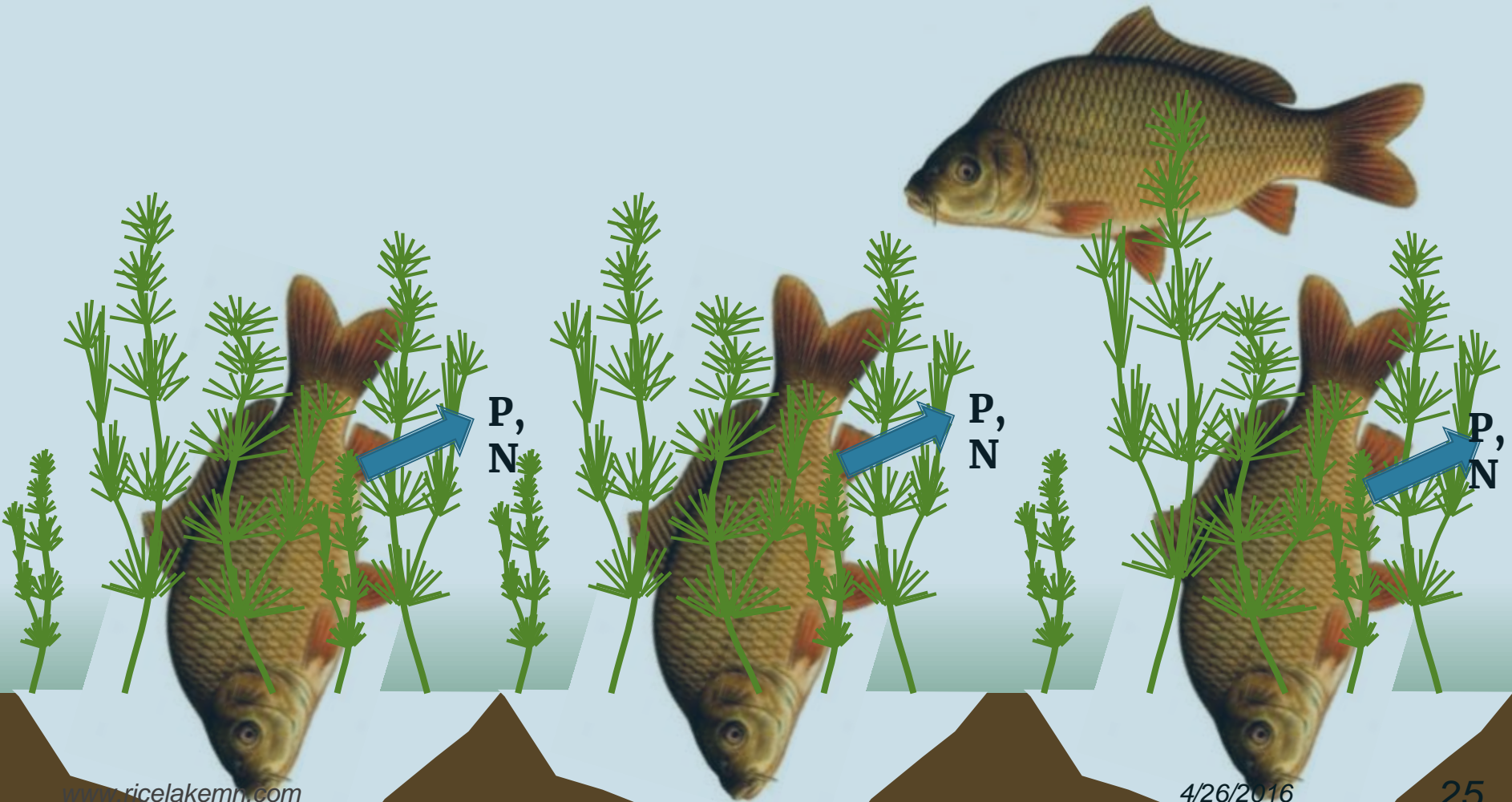
## ❖ How do Carp impact the water?

- ❖ Carp are bottom feeders that eat vegetation?
  - ❖ Intake sediment as they search for food
  - ❖ Export nutrients by filtering through their gills
  - ❖ Dig up rooted plants
- ❖ As vegetation is eliminated, water clarity is reduced by a surplus of nutrients without any absorption.
- ❖ Nutrients have nowhere to go and become algae

*The next slide illustrates how carp impact the water....*



# Carp effect on water quality



# Water Quality – What can you do to help?

*We all know what the issues are with the lake and creek,  
but what can we do today to help?*

## ❖ **Managing our shoreline**

- ❖ Buffer Strip to strengthen bank/filter natural nutrient flow into the water
- ❖ Reduce nutrient use, especially near the water

## ❖ **Keep the street drains free of debris**

- ❖ Storm water run-off contributes a significant amount of nutrients

## ❖ **Pick up litter along the shoreline/in the water**

## ❖ **Don't use phosphorous in lawn treatment**

## ❖ **Consider aerating your lawn on a regular basis**

# Rice Lake TMDL Update

- ❖ Presented by Richard Brasch (TRPD)
  - ❖ Discuss impact of Elm Creek Watershed TMDL project and how it impacts Rice Lake.
  - ❖ Can Rice Lake can be transitioned from an algae-dominated lake to a plant-dominated lake?
  - ❖ What can we do to help as RLAA members?
  - ❖ TMDL Project Plan:  
<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/elm-creek-watershed-management-organization-watershed-wide-tmdl-and-protection-and>

# Join the Team

**Board**

**Or**

## **Committee Membership**

- ❖ Lake Management Committee
- ❖ Membership/Fundraising/Media Committee
- ❖ Facebook page administration

Go to RLAA website (<http://ricelakemn.com>) to learn more about the various projects the lake association has done in the past and what is planned for the future.

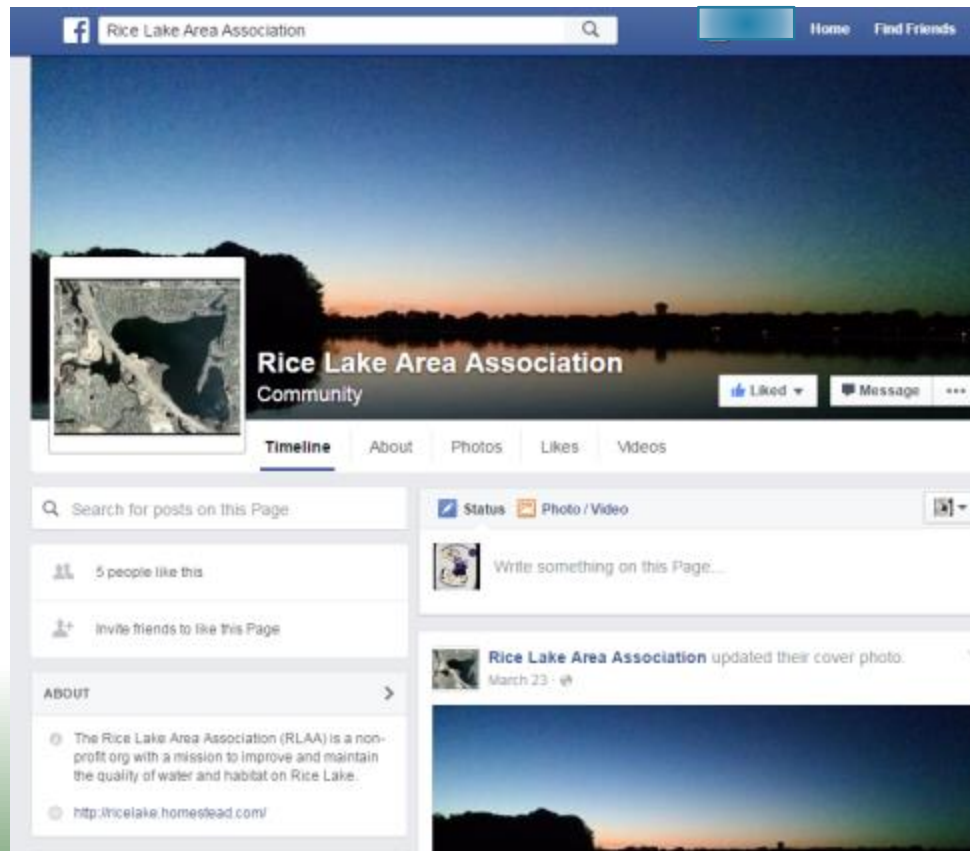
You can also find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/RiceLakeMG/>

If you would like to be a part of these teams, please feel free to signup today at our meeting (Sign-up sheets are in the back of this meeting room – please sign up) or contact us by email at [ricelakeassoc@comcast.net](mailto:ricelakeassoc@comcast.net).

# Rice Lake is on Facebook now!

You can also find us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/RiceLakeMG/>



# RLAA Membership

## ❖ We need more members

- ❖ To fund and manage projects
- ❖ To liaise with other organizations (other lake associations, DNR, MG Park & Rec, etc.)
- ❖ To enhance communication (i.e.: Facebook, website)
- ❖ To become better known in the MG community

**Overall:** to improve the natural beauty and quality of Rice Lake to make it a greater asset to the community.

# How do we increase membership and funding?

- ❖ **Talk to your neighbors and drum up interest in Rice Lake/Elm Creek!**
- ❖ **Educate yourself about the lake.**
- ❖ **Fundraising ideas:**
  - ❖ Table at Maple Grove Days
  - ❖ Information box on the trail
  - ❖ Occasional table giving out info on a Sunday afternoon
  - ❖ Grants?
  - ❖ Other ideas?

# Board Member Elections

## ❖ 2016 Terms Expiring

- ❖ George Schneider
  - ❖ Has volunteered to serve another 3-year term ending in 2019

## ❖ Accepting nominations for new board members

- ❖ 3-year term
- ❖ Open to any RLAA member
- ❖ Please Let Us Know



# Rice Lake Trivia Contest

- ❖ **Trivia Contest for all RLAA members:**
  - ❖ Complete the questionnaire handed out earlier
  - ❖ Winner will receive a Gift Certificate
  
- ❖ **Random Drawing for:**
  - ❖ Gift Certificate #1
  - ❖ Gift Certificate #2
  - ❖ Gift Certificate #3
  - ❖ Gift Certificate #4

A scenic view of a paved path along a rocky shoreline next to a large body of water under an overcast sky. The path is on the left, leading towards the water. The shoreline is composed of large, light-colored rocks. The water is dark and calm. The sky is grey and cloudy. The overall mood is serene and quiet.

**THANK YOU**

**Comments?**

**Questions?**

**Volunteer!**