



City of East Gull Lake
10790 Squaw Point Rd
East Gull Lake MN 56401

MAYOR
Dave Kavanaugh

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Carol Demgen
Dennis Lang
Rob Mason
James Ruttger

Fall 2012

Our History

Thoughts elevated to action this summer when a committee assembled to organize, research and compile the city's vast and colorful history. Dick and Marie Esser, Jack Hickerson, Dennis Lang, Dave Maccabee, Rob Mason and Ruth Nelson are collaborating with newly appointed history editor Linda Engel. A website is being developed to post assembled facts, scanned photographs and annotated histories that will report area geology, archeology, early explorations, settlement and development.

Since the project got off the ground mid-summer, emphasis has been placed on interviewing current and former community residents and visitors, seeking family and business memories and stories. Whether individuals have been in East Gull Lake less than a decade or for nearly a century, common threads of enthusiasm and pride are turning the committee's endeavor into a fun and exciting voyage.

Displayed below are two photographs in the 90 year lifespan of a cabin owned by one family. Poised on the shores of the "big lake" off Green Gables Road, this property's history is typical of many others within the city limits. Long before the days of air conditioning, families came from points south to cooler climes.



Circa 1940's: Dr. B.G. and Nelle Williams



Summer 2012: Keith (grandson of Dr. & Mrs. Williams) and wife Mary Fran Campbell, with niece Toddy Campbell and her husband Rick Cook

Dr. Benjamin Gregory Williams and his wife Nelle drove from Iowa to tent on Squaw Point. In 1922, they purchased property from Henry White and contracted Pete Peterson to build the original structure. B.G. and Nelle had one child, Esther, who married Dr. Walter Campbell. Campbell was one of six doctors serving on a naval ship during World War II. The cabin was closed during that stretch of time, but otherwise the family of descendents, now into the sixth generation, have shared summer occupancy, maintenance, updates and remodel projects every summer. Dr. Williams died at St. Joseph's Hospital, Brainerd, in 1952. After his wife Nelle's death, their only child Esther Campbell became owner. In June of 1966, she gave the property to her three sons and their wives, (Bob and Barbara, John and Dianne, Keith and Mary Fran.)

Keith and Mary Fran built a new home on Steamboat Bay, Birch Island, in 1980. (Watch for more information about their "earth home" on the future 'History' section of the EGL website.) Bob and Barbara became current owners of the family's Green Gables property in 1983 and their daughter Toddy and her husband

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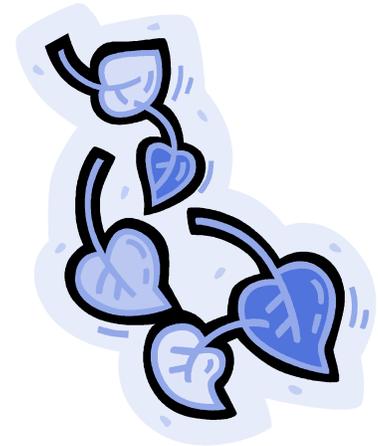
IN THIS ISSUE

Our History	1
November Elections	2
Our Budget	2
Our Trails	3
Calendar of Events	3
Gull Lake Dam—100 Years!	4
Staffs' Corner	5
Our History (continued)	6

Preliminary 2013 Levy Information

The East Gull Lake Budget Committee has once again worked hard to complete a proposed budget for 2012 that maintains city services without much, if any, increase to the levy. The preliminary budget numbers compared to last year's budget are below. Please note that the preliminary levy is the maximum that the final levy can be.

FUND	2012 CERTIFIED LEVY	2013 PROPOSED CERTIFIED LEVY
General Fund	\$ 93,552.00	\$ 93,000.00
Public Safety	\$ 63,040.00	\$ 67,552.00
Roads, Streets, & Highway	\$ 75,817.00	\$ 77,679.00
GO Bond 2007 Road Improvements	\$ 67,426.00	\$ 83,765.00
GO Bond 2008 Road Improvements	\$ 87,426.00	\$ 98,464.00
GO Bond 2011 Road Improvements	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 25,578.00
Planning & Zoning	\$ 31,913.00	\$ 13,000.00
Parks & Recreation	\$ 18,250.00	\$ 18,250.00
City Hall Building	\$ - 0-	\$ -0-
W.W. Plant Expansion	\$ 67,607.00	\$ 67,607.00
TOTAL CERTIFIED LEVY	\$ 545,451.00	\$ 544,895.00



East Gull Lake Election News — Who's Running?

There are two council seats and the mayor seat open this fall. Only the current incumbents filed.



**Dave Kavanaugh, Mayor
(incumbent)**

I have served on the council for 10 years. I have really enjoyed serving the City. The Council has been progressive and we have accomplished much in my eight years as Mayor, including wastewater expansion, road improvements and a community trail system. I am also proud of the fact that our East Gull Lake Levy has been held with no increase for the past several years.

Dave is co-owner of Kavanaugh's, married to Brenda, and has lived in the City since 1969.



**Carol Demgen
(incumbent)**

I have served on Council for eight years and continue to learn a lot. I decided to run again because of the encouragement of several East Gull Lake residents. I want to see the good work we have done as a council continue. We have been very progressive in improving the roads, updating our personnel policies and creating the multi-use trail with collaboration with the county. We started a citizen committee for the budget and they have brought valuable ideas to the table.



**Dennis Lang
(incumbent)**

I served seven years on the EGL Planning & Zoning Commission and was appointed to fill the last two years of Neal Gaalswyk's term on the City Council. My wife and I have had a residence in the City since 1988, initially as a seasonal home. In 2001 we built our primary home on Green Gables Rd. I am running to ensure EGL retains its up north lake country atmosphere and remains financially conservative and sound. I am a member of the Brainerd Sunrise Rotary Club. My wife and I are world travelers. I am an avid outdoorsman.

Our Trails



What a wonderful summer we have had to enjoy the new and existing trails in our wonderful city. A wet spring with some torrential rains did cause some minor damage to a couple of places on our trail system. Anderson Brothers did a great job of fixing them and making them better in case we get this type of rain again.

With many different types of recreation being handled currently the multi-use designation on the trails is certainly appropriate, from families and couples walking, biking, strollers, skateboards, golf carts, scooters, dog walking, snowmobiles, ATV's, all are welcome and we hope all parties are courteous to each other. As is posted we have a 15 MPH speed limit to maintain safety with such a diverse group using the trails.

A number of years ago we were approached by a couple wishing to purchase a memorial bench to honor someone special to them. At the time we did not have an answer for them and the trails were not fully developed. We always thought the idea was a good one and we would like to offer some suggestions as to bench types available with some cost estimates and some possible locations for locating the park bench style seating similar to what you see at our Corp Of Engineers campground in East Gull Lake that is very durable and would be anchored into the ground with concrete. Cost for one 8 foot bench would be around \$800 and if we ordered two then around \$700 a piece. Locations possible may include but are not limited to the parking area near the city owned ball field by the city airport where many people park their cars to use the trail, a number of scenic locations around Dade Lake, the parking area near the archery range on County 18 or you may have the perfect spot in mind near your neighborhood or favorite location on the trails.

Donations of benches could come from a number of sources in our community such as individuals to memorialize or honor someone or a unique present to someone special that you can share, neighborhood associations to enhance their great experience using the trails and encourage a healthy lifestyle that will help us all to live a longer and more enjoyable life.

If you have some great ideas we would love to hear them and you are welcome to approach any of the city staff or other city officials. Please continue to enjoy the trails during the beautiful Fall time.

*Best Wishes, Rob Mason
East Gull Lake City Council and Trail committee member*

To become an email subscriber and receive notices of City news

visit:

www.eastgulllake.govoffice.com

Click under the 'Email Request' tab and fill out your email information.

The City will only use your information to communicate City happenings. It will not be sold or rented. You will receive notices of upcoming meetings, City Council minutes, updates of Council and/or Committees activities, and information on updates to our new 'City History' section.

Calendar of Events

Council Meeting: First Tuesday of month, 7:00 p.m.; Nov. 8th, Dec. 4th, Jan. 3rd, & Feb. 4th.

Planning & Zoning: Last Tuesday of month, 6:30 p.m., Oct. 30th, Nov. 27th, Jan. 29th, & Feb..25th.

Public Safety: As needed, see calendar on website.

Wastewater & Roads: Third Wednesday of month as needed, 3:00 p.m., Oct. 17th.

Budget: As needed, 4:30 p.m. See calendar on website for updates..

Park & Trails: Last Tuesday of month as needed, 4:30 p.m.

History: As needed, 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 24th.

See the Calendar section on the website for additional meetings and updates.

District Celebrates 100 Years of Dam Operations at Gull Lake

Story by Patrick Moes

A celebration 100 years in the making occurred Aug. 4 at the Gull Lake Recreation Area as the district recognized the past century of dam operations at the site, located near Brainerd, Minn.

The last of the six Headwaters dams placed into operation, the site is unique in the fact that it was the only location to be initially constructed out of concrete. The other dams were all built with timbers before the Corps converted each of them to concrete during later modifications.

When the Gull Lake Dam was completed in 1912, it raised the reservoir elevation by 5 feet,



Mary Kay Larson, Gull Lake Recreation Area park manager, center, receives an Honored Institution Award from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration during the Gull Lake Recreation Area centennial.

which helped create the Gull Lake Chain of Lakes. The dam, as well as others in the region, allowed for transportation and commerce throughout the Mississippi River Headwaters region. The reservoir system also served to supply the navigation industry with a consistent water supply during the summer months from St. Paul, Minn., to Prairie du Chien, Wis.

Following the completion of the locks and dams in the 1930s, the Headwaters dams were no longer used as a water source. Since then, the lakes have provided flood relief, water supply and recreational opportunities. “The reservoirs are unique in the fact that they can add water or hold back water during times of flooding,” said Kendall Bergmann, deputy district commander.

Reducing flood risks is not the only economic benefit the dam provides. “The Gull Lake Recreation Site averages about 500,000 visitors a year,” said Bergmann. “That’s about 100,000 families and with that; [the dam] adds money for the local economy to support the lake and the other businesses. It’s a win-win situation for everyone.”

In addition to the economic value that the Gull Lake Dam provides to the local economy, the dam also provides nearly 40 camp sites and many other recreation facilities. Bergmann said, “Our park rangers and volunteers take pride in keeping our recreation sites clean, up to date, and [making them] a good family place for recreation, for learning and for other events.”

Following the ceremony, the park rangers hosted a medallion hunt for kids. The kids had to visit every part of the park in order to complete the challenge and receive their souvenir. The first person to complete the challenge earned a commemorative coin from Bergmann. In addition to the scavenger hunt, historians were on hand to discuss what the region was like prior to the dam being built.

More 100 Year Celebration Photos



Staff Corner

Fall Clean-up

Please don't dump your leaves or other lawn debris on your neighbors property or in wetlands!



The City of East Gull Lake invites city residents to use the leaf drop off site for fall clean-up of seasonal debris. The site is located at the Pine Beach Peninsula Wastewater Plant. Follow south Cass County Road 18 from County Road 77, look for the sign on the left, and follow the arrows to the drop site.

It is that time of year to protect your grinder station.

Please try and put leaves or grass over your system to help protect it in case we don't get any snow this winter. It is also that time of year when some of your neighbors leave for the winter, please continue to help your neighbors by calling City Hall if you see their red light on or alarm going off on their grinder station.

Also make sure you keep the power on at your lift station, even if you leave for the winter. If you have questions please contact City Hall.

Elections

If you need to update your Minnesota Voter Registration or pick up Application for Absentee Ballots, they are both available at City Hall.

**City of East Gull Lake
Wastewater Emergency Number
(218) 330-7519**





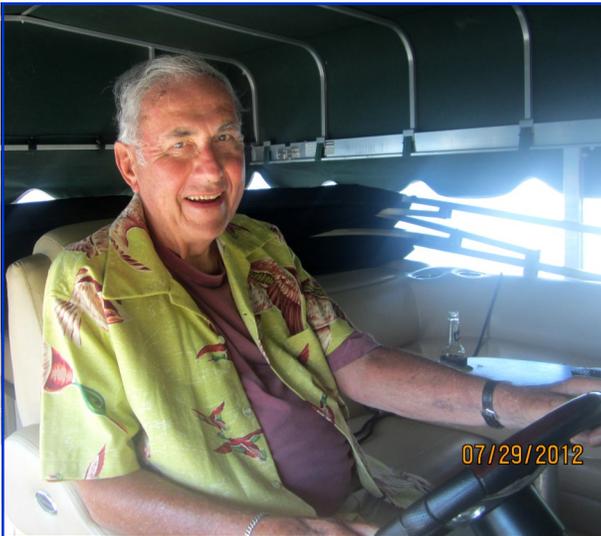
City of East Gull Lake
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East Gull Lake MN 56401

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November 6th is Election Day

**City Hall will be open for
voting from 7:00 a.m. until
8:00 p.m.**

East Gull Lake History (continued from page 1)



Pictured this summer in his pontoon on Steamboat Bay is Brainerd LaTourette, wearing a shirt fashioned from curtains from the Island View cabin he and his family rented for 23 consecutive summers. For the past 30 years he has enjoyed time at his summer home purchased in the same bay. Winters are spent in St. Louis, MO.

Rick Cook spend summers at the cabin now. Toddy's brother John ended up marrying a girl from "down the beach": Mary Manion. That's another story for the upcoming website and also indicative of similar unions that began as summer romances on beaches and resorts here.

This project is mushrooming, thanks to participation and enthusiasm of the committee, support of the council, and patient assistance from Brenda and Cathy in the City Hall office. But, without the willingness of subjects to be interviewed, there would be no real energy for going forward. Thanks are owed to those who have already graciously opened their homes, shared stories and allowed photographs to be taken and scanned. All stories are welcome.

**If you haven't already been contacted, but wish to share,
please call City Hall (218.828.9279) or Linda Engel
(435.714.0618, email oLesengel@gmail.com.)**