



# District of Powers Lake NEWSLETTER

Published for all those who use and love Powers Lake

## JANUARY

## 2012

### **BLOOMFIELD VILLAGE INCORPORATION**

This fall the final steps were taken to change a portion of the Town of Bloomfield to the Village of Bloomfield. Three informational meetings were set to discuss this issue. The proposed village involves a 12-square mile region of Bloomfield Township northeast of Highway H to include the western shore of Powers Lake.

State law allows villages and cities to annex town land at a property owner's request. This is one reason people supported the village idea. Town residents, including officials, have expressed concerns about losing town land to the nearby incorporated communities of the city of Lake Geneva and the village of Genoa City - communities which also opposed this current proposal.

The main objective of the meetings was to get information out to everyone in an atmosphere where people could ask questions. Topics discussed were:

- a history of the incorporation effort
- state standards for becoming a village
- how the proposed village and remaining town would exist as separate entities
- projected tax rates for the town and village
- municipal services

The new village would also have the opportunity to receive state aid and shared revenues. Addresses would remain the same. The proposed tax rate for the village is \$2.88 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for 2012. The town of Bloomfield's rate for this year is \$2.75. The village will also have control over its own zoning. The Bloomfield Town Hall could serve as both the village and town halls, with plenty of room for the offices of both municipalities.

The projected population of the village in 2010 was 5,093. The town's population would be 12,048. About 2,000 of those within the proposed village were registered voters. Only residents living within the area designated for the village were allowed to vote on November 8.

In their petition, those favoring incorporation said they wish to create a village to preserve and maintain Bloomfield's civic, social and

economic character, gain greater local control over zoning and development, prevent annexation and loss of territory, use tax increment finance districts, and receive state aids and shared revenues available to cities and villages.

The referendum on November 8th passed 547-146. Now the paperwork must be sent to Madison for certification. Once certified, the new village must determine its board structure as well as several other issues. This change does not change the proposed 2012 budget. It will be split at some point. The portion of the taxes that will belong to the town would go to the town and the same for the village. In February, 2012 a primary and an election to select officials for the town and village will occur.

### **LAKE PROTECTION PLAN FOR POWERS LAKE**

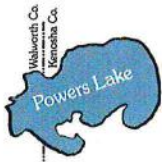
Final corrections and additions have been made to the preliminary draft of this plan which should be completed by the end of the year. Future newsletters will cover various topics.

Surveys were conducted in 1990, 2000 and 2010 to review issues and concerns. Also contained were some additional questions that focused on the community's attitude toward certain emerging issues and concerns. The overall purpose of the survey was to discover the degree of satisfaction of the respondents with lake management activities undertaken by the DPL as well as identifying their knowledge of activities.

A total of 93 surveys, or 30% of the 298 questionnaires dispatched was received. The response rate was less than that experienced during previous surveys - 50% in 1990, 40% in 2000. The reason for this is unclear but one inference which SEWRPC suggested is that the DPL is successfully addressing the issues of concern. Therefore potential respondents feel less urgency in sharing their concerns. This interpretation is not inconsistent with the level of satisfaction expressed by respondents with regard to the performance of the DPL.

About 80% identified Powers Lake as their secondary residence during spring to fall with weekends year-round being the second most popular choice. The majority have lived on the lake for more than 10 years. This profile also indicated a relatively stable community with a commitment to the community.





THE  
DISTRICT OF  
POWERS  
LAKE  
P.O. Box 462  
Powers Lake, Wisconsin 53159

**Elected Commissioners:**

Jim Michels, Chair  
Nancy Michael, Sec.  
Brooke Jensen, Treas.  
Neal Kuhn  
Colleen Keating

**Appointed Commissioners:**

Judy Jooss, Kenosha Co.  
Michael Halvorson, Randall Twp.

## BE ON THE LOOKOUT

The DPL would appreciate your help as we would like to chronicle a record of ice on/off dates for the lake. Partial to total ice covering dates would be appreciated. The same would apply to ice out dates. The information could be sent to our P.O. Box listed on this newsletter or to our website: [www.districtofpowerslake.org](http://www.districtofpowerslake.org). If you have ever wondered how thick the ice is whether you are at Powers Lake or away, there is a quick answer to that short of going out with an ice auger.

The website:

<http://www.lakelink.com/fishreports/viewposts.cfm?ThreadID=3540> can provide you with just that information. The site also has interesting information for fisher folk year round.

## 56th ANNUAL ICE FISHING DERBY

Scheduled for February 12th this year, the Derby will once again raise funds for various conservation projects. Hourly and then grand prizes are awarded for fish in seven categories from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. The event will end with the Grand Slam and Super Slam Raffle and prizes will be handed out for the biggest fish. Food and beverage will be available. Please bundle up and come over to the DNR ramp and join your neighbors for this wonderful community event.

## 2012 WISCONSIN LAKES PARTNERSHIP CONVENTION

The KI Convention Center in Green Bay will once again play host to the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention next April 10th - 12th. With a theme of "Partnering for Lakes: Protecting Wisconsin's Waters" this once again promises

to be an educational, inspiring three days to learn about working together for the benefits of lakes all across the state.

## QUARTERLY MEETING

Our next meeting will be held Friday, January 6th, at 5:00 p.m. The meeting is open to the public at the Randall Town Hall, 34530 Bassett Road, Bassett, WI.



## 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.