

SAVE THE DATES!

ANNUAL RUN/BIKE/WALK
JULY 5TH. CORNER STORE TO PLGC
BBQ AT GOLF CLUB FOLLOWING

ANNUAL MEETING, JULY 6TH 9AM
PLUM LAKE GOLF CLUB
AUTHOR TED RULSEH WILL BE OUR GUEST
SPEAKER. DON'T MISS THIS!

AIS SWEEP JULY 7TH
1PM
GOLF CLUB PIER

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Second Annual Family Fun Run and Bike Event!

Friday, July 5th, 10:30 a.m.

This is a family friendly self-guided 3.5 mile fun run and bike from the Corner Store to the Plum Lake Golf Club. Volunteers will be along the Heart of Vilas County Bike Trail Path during the race.

A BBQ and picnic hosted by the Plum Lake Association will follow at the Plum Lake Golf Club, starting when the first bikers arrive. Hot dogs and Brats will be provided. Please bring a potluck dish to share. Drinks available for purchase from the Golf Club.

Running and biking aren't your thing?---feel free to join the group at any point on the route or just drive your car to the BBQ! Family, friends, and house guests are welcome to participate or attend the BBQ!

Fill out the form at Plum Lake Golf Club to let us know who's participating and who will come to the BBQ! Any questions---ask Mike or Muffy Pinney

June 21, 2019

LOON HOOTS

The Newsletter of the Plum Lake Association



SWAN LAKE

Sun is rising...it is late October in the early morning and I can see

the opposite shoreline on Allequash. The ducks - bluebills - don't seem to care if a mallard imposter is calling on the opposite shore. The best hunting time is passing fast and Ivory, my white lab, has given up and roams the shoreline. She knows the hunt is over before I do.

My whistles are keeping her within 50 yards and they are also attracting the attention of the flock of trumpeter swans on the far southwest end of the lake. The trumpeting

starts - they are suddenly closer. Together, but separate in families, perhaps a dozen in total, they are being led by a big mature swan. She has seen the white dog on the shoreline. It dawns on me that she is coming for Ivory. It is time for the flock to leave for the south and she thinks there is an orphan, roaming the shoreline, that needs leadership. The trumpets grow in volume as the flock begins to call out. This is a magic moment, a rare encounter but Ivory couldn't care less. For her, its birds in the mouth and being a hero with a retrieve...and the dog treat that always follows.



The journal entry above comes from 2014 and the young dog and the old hunter may have seen the cygnets that now have claimed Plum lake as young adults.

We might have two pairs of trumpeters that have claimed the lake. The pair on the east end showed up right at ice out and has been here most days since. They were challenged as Anita and I watched, by another pair of swans that flew in and got

aggressive. They left quickly when the big male on the log in front of our house took the fighting pose. It is probably the second pair that are seen on the west end and West Plum today.

Neither are nesting yet, but territory has been claimed. Our pair is here every morning. Large nesting platforms may help us keep them around. Could be a winter project.

AJR



Here are some stats on trumpeter swans in Wisconsin.

- On endangered species list until the mid 1980's
- WDNR began its trumpeter recovery program in 1987 in the north.
- By 1999, 30 breeding pairs, 80 young, 60-70 of which survived to fledge.
- Weight 21-30 pounds, wing span to 7 feet
- Pairs up by age 4, breeds from age 4 to 7.
- Often mates for life - to 30 years
- First introduced here in Irving and Allequash. Both produced broods.
- Male called a "cob", female called a "pen"



*WEST PLUM ON NEST.
CHICK HATCHED 6/15*

Plum Lake Loons 2019

WEST BAY PAIR WITH CHICK



EAST BAY PAIR WITH 1 CHICK



*STARLIGHT
BAY ON
NEST*

SHORT CASTS

- *We want you all to bring a neighbor to our annual meeting! We have a great speaker this year! Ted Rulseh is a local columnist and author of the recently published book called "a Lakeside Companion", a book that deserves a place in every Northwoods cottage. We will also reveal a quick summary of information on the first draft of our lake management plan. So bring a friend...Our goal is to get all Plum riparians and many more local residents off water to join Plum Lake Association.*
- *We are planning another meeting toward the end of the summer to specifically talk about the final lake management plan and get your thoughts on what you would like us to focus on for the coming years.*
- *The I-LIDS camera's are operating and helping to provide full time coverage of our landings. Clean boat/Clean Waters interns hours have been reduced this year and will be focused only on the busiest weekends next year.*
- *We are considering building two trumpeter swan nesting platforms for next season, one for the east bay and one on the far end of West Plum.*
- *The NHAL has denied our request for 2 more I-LIDS units on Irving and Laura as well as Found and other landings in the state forest. We have appealed to higher authority in DNR. More to follow.*

PLUM LAKE ASSOCIATION

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