

Friends of Lake Kegonsa Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 173
Stoughton, WI 53589

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Friends of Lake Kegonsa Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 173
Stoughton, WI 53589-0173
September 2010

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President's Message ~ Bob Arndt Anyway the Wind Blows

When I first moved to the lake ten years ago, my awareness of the vagaries and influence of the wind increased tremendously. The wind coming in across the lake can make a 60 degree spring day pretty uncomfortable and can make an 85 degree July day quite pleasant.

Sailors are looking for good wind to sail (and get back to your pier) while the water skiers and other watersport enthusiasts are heading to the windward sides of the lake looking for calmer waters.

We all know how much damage strong winds can do if the water is high. And then, doesn't it seem the wind is always blowing in when weeds, algae, and carp are abundant and floating, and can then stop blowing entirely to leave the unwanted debris on your shore.

You may have also noted at times how the wind can change direction dramatically, especially before a storm. And we cannot forget these dramatic pictures of the waterspout/tornado over Lake Kegonsa five years ago on August 18.



(The source of these photos taken from the north or northeast side of Lake Kegonsa is not known)

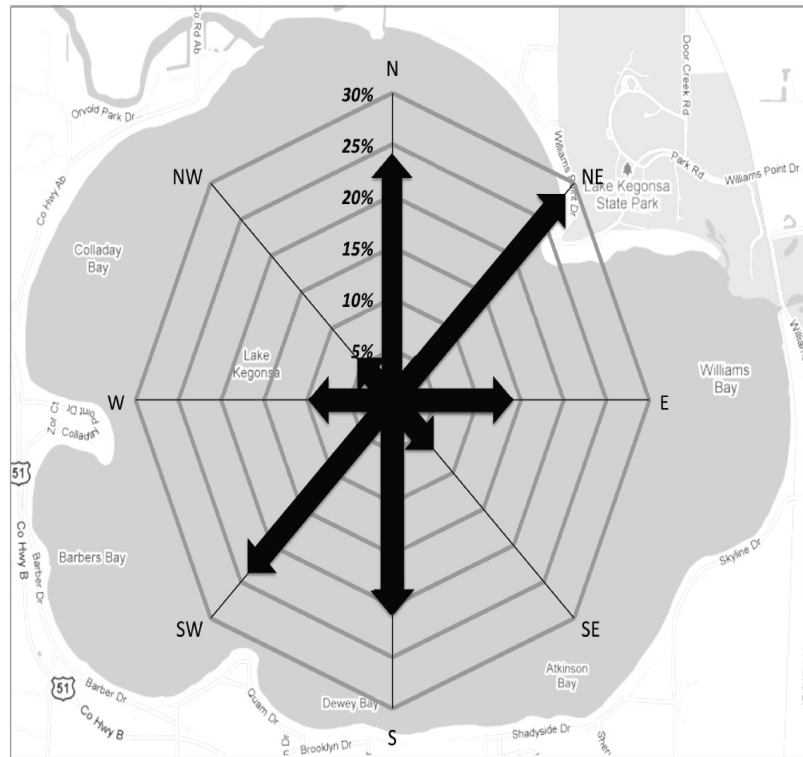
For More About FOLKS, Visit Our
Website at WWW.Kegonsa.org

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President's Message (Continued From Page 1)

So I thought it would be interesting to take a look at the direction the wind has been blowing during the current lake season. The illustration shows the number of days during May, June and July that the wind blew in a given direction for at least a 4 hour period. (Some days it might have blown from three different directions.) The length of the arrow is proportional to the number of days the wind blew that direction.

I must confess that I may have lost my bet with a former board member who believes the wind blows toward his north shore home a lot more than my southwest shore home --- but I still think it blew my way every day during the carp floating season.



Percentage of days the wind blew in each direction in May, June and July.

FOLKS Membership Survey

The FOLKS board recently sent out a brief survey to all those on our email list. Over 60% have completed the survey. If you did not receive a survey and would like to complete an on-line version, please respond by email to FOLKS@kegonso.org. You will receive an invitation at the email address you provide. If you would like to complete a paper copy of the survey, you can remove the enclosed copy on pages 3 and 4 and mail it to FOLKS, Box 173, Stoughton, WI 53589.

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**Send news of interest to FOLKS to:
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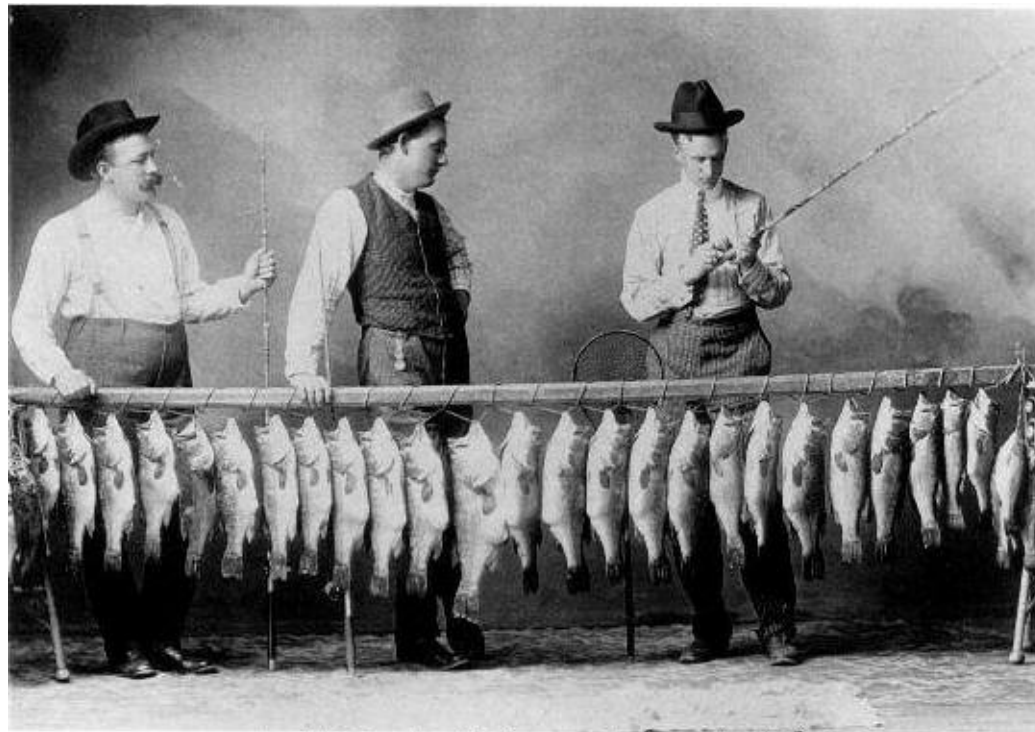
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Fishing on Lake Kegonsa

Submitted by Doug Pfundheller

Fred Falk, whose father, Dr. Victor Falk, lived on Colladay Point for many years, gave me this neat picture of the three young men and their day's catch of 28 big bass. I especially liked their fishing outfits.

The names of the fishermen might ring a bell with some of you. All were from old time Dane County families. Left to right; Dr. William Gill, worked at the first Madison hospital on S. Baldwin St. when health insurance premiums were \$12 per year. He later was Vice President of National Guardian Life Insurance Company. Next to him is, Louis Hobbins, son of the first Dean of the University of Wisconsin Medical School. Some members of the family were officers in the Capital City Bank and the American Exchange Bank. Last is, Dr. James Jackson Jr., son of the founder of the Jackson Clinic.



LAKE KEGONSA 1895

FOLKS Membership Survey

1. Dane County has agreed to do extra harvesting of Aquatic plants on Lake Kegonsa, if FOLKS will pay for it. We would be using their equipment and employees to perform the work. The cost for two harvesters and a truck for two days would be \$1,700, which the County says is their cost. This would only be implemented if the FOLKS Board witnesses excess aquatic plant growth that could be minimized by harvesting. We cannot guarantee that they would be cutting in front of your property. Would you be in favor of having FOLKS spend some of our dues income on extra weed cutting.

- Yes
- No

2. If you answered "YES" to the previous question about weed cutting, please answer this question also. If FOLKS does not have the funds available to cover the costs of the extra weed cutting, do you think we should consider any of the following options?

- Raise the FOLKS dues by \$5 and do the weed cutting on a trial basis.
- Raise the FOLKS dues by \$10 and do the weed cutting on a trial basis.
- Raise the needed money through extra donations for FOLKS
- Do the weed cutting only if there is money in the current years budget to do it

3. Which of the following best describes your lake property use?

- Lake/river is primary residence, but spend part of year elsewhere
- Primary residence is elsewhere and spend time at lake, or river property
- Live at lake/river property full time
- Other

4. How important are each of the following FOLKS activities to you?

	1 very important	2 somewhat important	3 Not very important
Newletter	1	2	3
Email lake alerts	1	2	3
Social activities	1	2	3
Informational meetings	1	2	3
Classes on subjects like Boater safety	1	2	3
Having the Board work with the various government agencies on water issues	1	2	3

Detach and mail to FOLKS, Box 173, Stoughton, WI 53589.

FOLKS Membership Survey (Page 2)

5. Over the years FOLKS has funded various projects related to fishing on Lake Kegonsa. How important are each of the following to you?

	1 Very important	2 Somewhat important	3 Not very important	4 Not important at all
Stocking fish in the lake	1	2	3	4
Installing fish cribs	1	2	3	4

6. We are considering offering our FOLKS newsletter electronically. This would not only save us printing cost and postage, but you would receive the newsletter faster and it would be available where-ever you happen to be. We currently spend over 26% of our annual income on the newsletter. If this were an option how would you prefer to receive your newsletter?

- Continue to receive the mailed paper version
- Would elect to receive it only electronically
- Would like to receive it in both forms

7. Is the current lake level causing you any problems?

	1 Serious problems	2 Some problems	3 Some inconvenience	4 No Problems	N/A
Loading watercraft on or off lift	1	2	3	4	5
Navigation near my pier	1	2	3	4	5
Navigation at other Lake Kegonsa locations	1	2	3	4	5

8. Where do you live?

- Mallard, Quam, Brooklyn, Aalseth
- Barber, Colladay, US 51
- AB, Stony Crest
- Shadyside, Tracy, Skyline
- Sunnyside, Williams Point
- Alsmo, Orvold Park, Oakview
- Do not live on the water

9. Would you tell us how many years you have lived on the lake, or river?

- 0-2 years
- 3-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-15 years
- 16-20 years
- Over 20 years
- I don't live on the lake, or river

Aquatic Plant Management/Invasive Species Subcommittee

These are notes from a meeting on August 26, 2009. Tom McGinnis and Peter Foy from FOLKS met with Kevin Connors, Director Dane County Land and Water Resources Department, Darren Marsh, Director Dane County Parks. This is the second part of a two-part article. The first part was published in the January 2010 newsletter.

What are their biggest problems?

- Budget. They could only hire 6 operators this year and then had to discontinue the cutting a month earlier than planned because they ran out of money.
- Timing. A major problem is that three of the four lakes need the most attention at the same exact time because of when the weeds get bad. Lake Mendota is different because it is larger and colder and weeds develop later than the others.

Harvesting history

The good news is that the County has recognized that increased weed cutting is necessary on Lake Kegonsa. Despite this, due to budgetary issues the total number of hours spent on all Dane county waters was reduced by 1,076 hours between 2008 and 2009, the hours spent on Lake Kegonsa increased from 217 to 324.

Aquatic Plant Harvesting History

	2009		2008		2007	
	Hours	Tons	Hours	Tons	Hours	Tons
Kegonsa	324	600	217	376	122	290
Monona	539	1,164	1,635	3,080	2,422	5,603
Waubesa	120	336	188	224	281	695
Total hrs	1,799		2,875		3,840	

We did identify some areas that FOLKS could possibly help. Most of these ideas cost money and the FOLKS Board will evaluate the payback for the money spent and decide what to consider for the 2010 Budget.

- We asked about the possibility of us paying the employees to continue cutting in Lake Kegonsa using their equipment. They told us that it would cost \$500 a day for two cutters, fuel and a truck driver. We would have to work closely with them to insure they would work just on Lake Kegonsa. We wouldn't pay if they weren't on our lake
- Hire their Aquatic Vegetation Scout to do detailed analysis of Lake Kegonsa to determine changes and need for additional cutting. This would probably be a good investment. The more time he spends the more accurate information we will get about potential problems on our lake.
- The Aquatic Plant management Plan is due for update in 2012. The last plan cost \$15,000. This is required for a new permit to be issued. Any areas identified that require additional cutting could be included in the plan/permit. If there are budget issues they may have to apply for an extension of the current plan. FOLKS could possibly help fund part of a new plan to insure that one gets done.
- Identify additional weed drop off points