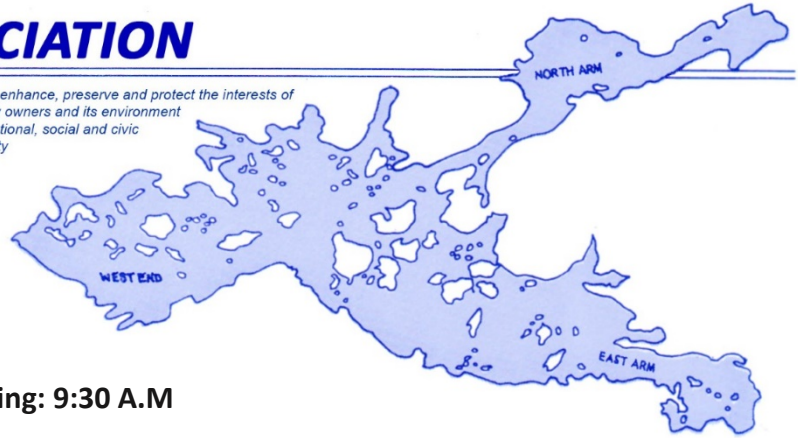


BURNTSIDE LAKE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 81 ELY, MINNESOTA 55731

Incorporated in 1976 to enhance, preserve and protect the interests of Burntside Lake property owners and its environment and contribute to recreational, social and civic welfare of the community



Volume XXII, Summer 2015

2015 ANNUAL Meeting

Place: Vermilion Community College

Date: Saturday, August 1, 2015

Time: Coffee, Muffins: 8:30 A.M, Meeting: 9:30 A.M

Board Officers and Directors

President

Philip Voxland
(612) 724-2200
(218) 365-5563

Vice President

Reynold Mack
(651) 295-9877
(218) 365-3331

Secretary

Tim Riley

Treasurer

Diedre Plude

East Arm Reps:

Ward Nelson
Pam Freeman

North Arm Reps:

Claire Taylor
Niki Roussopoulos
Geisler

West Arm Reps:

James Zissler
Eric Webster

Central Reps:

Rodney Nyenhuis

Island Reps:

Bob Leiningner
David Bahnemann

Speaker: Jeff Forester

Jeff Forester is the Executive Director of the nonprofit Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates (MLRA). It was formed in 1994 as MSRPO to represent recreational property owners at the State Capitol but have since represented all who are not only interested in property taxes but in the overall health and well-being of their surrounding environment. Jeff has recently been a guest on Garrison Keillor's "Prairie Home Companion", and is the author of a "The Forest for the Trees" Jeff's family island is on neighboring Lake Vermillion.

From the President (Notes on what is in this Newsletter):

In October last year the first of the National Forest Service's prescribed burns took place along North Arm Road. The burns resumed this year again in the area of the Slim Lake public access on Burntside. Both locations reveal how our forest area heals and renews following a forest fire. Take this opportunity to experience this early rebirth with a short hike along the Slim Lake portage.

Vice President Reynold Mack and I have participated in several State and County level information and planning sessions for monitoring Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) control. We applied for and have received a grant to have certified inspectors at the Van Vac Public landing. The Burntside Lake Association will pay half the salary costs for those inspectors. This is one of the ways your membership dues work for the benefit of our lake.

It is hard to imagine how fur traders, Native Americans, prospectors, and settlers first reached and traveled through Burntside. We saw a modern helicopter and float planes observing and commanding the prescribed burns. There were earlier float planes that landed here over 80 years ago.

Even families which have been on Burntside for three or more generations are confronted with the difficult decision to sell their lake place. Often this is

due to the relentless increase in property taxes. The Kess family several years ago approached the Trust for Public Land regarding Gusty Island, named for their grandfather Gust Maki. How many islands on the lake are there, by the way?

Eric Webster and I worked long hours to provide our first Burntside Crossword! David Bahnemann created charts for Ice-on and Ice-out dates (11/28, 4/21). There are a few other historical notes and data for your inter

Float Planes on Burntside In the 30's and 40's

In recent years, Burntsiders are accustomed to seeing a handful of private float planes used by cabin owners. During the recent prescribed burns in the West End and the channel to the North Arm, Forest Service aircraft provided aerial surveillance and command supervision of the fire from a helicopter and single engine aircraft. On the Facebook Group "Ely's Burntside Lake. Yesterday, Today ..." stories of two earlier notable float planes sparked some interesting memories. The first was from a postcard which Connie Loisel noticed for sale on Ebay (it seems to still be available).



Louis Hopkins Float Plane (left), PBY Catalina Amphibious Plane (Right)

The 1938 postcard identifies the location as the Hopkins Estate on the East end of Burntside. It is now available for as a Vacation Rental by Owner (<http://www.vrbo.com/344861>) The log Lodge was built by Timber Barron Louis Hopkins in 1928 as an entertainment lodge. Louis Hopkins was one of founders of the Swallow and Hopkins Lumber Company which operated a large sawmill in Winton, and whose crews of a billion board feet of old pine lumber from the heart of the heart of the BWCA (Jeff Forester: The Forest for the Trees).

Mat Roderick - CEO
 mat@elyconstruction.com
 101 N. Central Ave
 Ely, MN 55731
 OFFICE: 218.365.2575
 CELL: 218.235.1030

The
 pebble
 spa co.

ELY | 229 e sheridan . ely mn
 p | 218 365 0809
 VIRGINIA | 105 5th avenue n . virginia mn
 p | 218 741 5610
 e | pebblespaco@gmail.com
 w | www.pebblespaco.com

Burntside Lodge
 Celebrating 102 years

365-3894
 unique gifts • fine wines
 lakeside dining • outstanding cuisine
 large selection of burntside apparel

Burntsider Larry Smith recalls that his parents were honeymooned at what became the Hopkins resort, he remembers hearing the plane fly over. Larry has even more vivid memories of a much larger aircraft flying in and out of our lake. In 1947 President Truman appointed Francis P. Matthews Secretary of the Navy. Matthews and his wife had a summer home on the shore of Burntside South West of Water's (Gregory) Island. A Navy amphibious PBY brought Secretary to and from Burntside. His winter home in Omaha Nebraska was also home to Otto Swanson, owner of the Sandemar Lodge (the Van Vac Road public landing now is adjacent to Sandemar). One summer, Larry Smith tells that Otto, Larry, and the Swanson boys rode in the Sandemar ChrisCraft west to the Matthews lake home. When they reached the dock, the PBY was standing by. Secretary Matthews got into the Chris Craft, and the kids got out. The PBY Pilot was explicitly told under no circumstances to give Larry and the boys a ride in the aircraft. Off went Otto Swanson and Francis Matthews in their boat and shortly afterwards the boys boarded the PBY and took off for an aerial tour of the Lake area. Arthur Conard, whose family still owns Islands in the West of Burntside, remembers the Navy Plane was extremely loud. According to a 2008 Ely Echo Article, Navy Secretary Matthews said his experience in watercraft was limited to "a small row-boat at my summer home in Ely, Minn."

CAMP VAN VAC
A LAKESIDE RESORT

Sauna Fishing Campfire Canoes
Romantic log and stone housekeeping cabins on Burntside Lake. Summer rates from \$440-\$1400 a week. Spring and fall discounts.

Fun Boats Blueberries Serenity
218-365-3782 www.campvanvac.com

Gerzi's
WOOD WIZARDS
Custom Builders

www.elywoodwizardsllc.com **365-5311**
Lic# 20270430

Wild Woods
LAND COMPANY

1325 E. Sheridan St. Ely, MN
218-365-3665

REAL ESTATE SALES

#3695 - Burntside Lake Cabin - Pristine Burntside log cabin on the shores of KE WA NE NA Beach, spectacular view and sandy shoreline on crystal clear water. \$550,000

#3777 - Burntside Lake Access - Northwoods cabin with deed access. Private setting on +-6.5 acres with southern views of Burntside Lake. Includes furnishings. \$497,000

www.elywildwoods.com

JASPER
COMPANY

BAKESHOP
36 West Sheridan St.
Ely, Minnesota 55731
(218)365-6010
www.jaspercompany.com

GOURMET COFFEE, BAKERY, SOUP & SANDWICHES

Your Retreat into Northern Hospitality
LODGING | GUIDED FISHING TRIPS | OUTFITTING

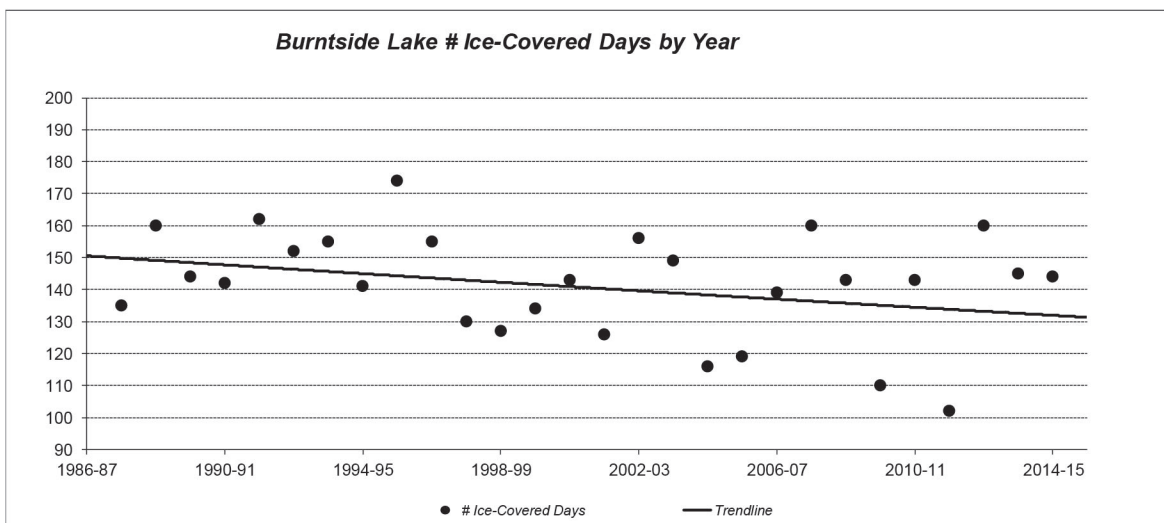
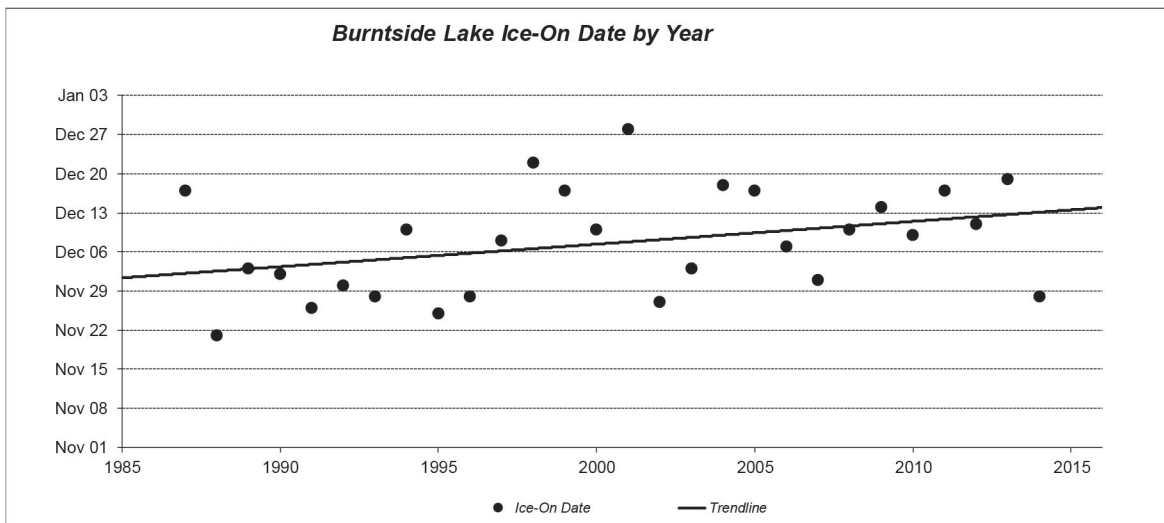
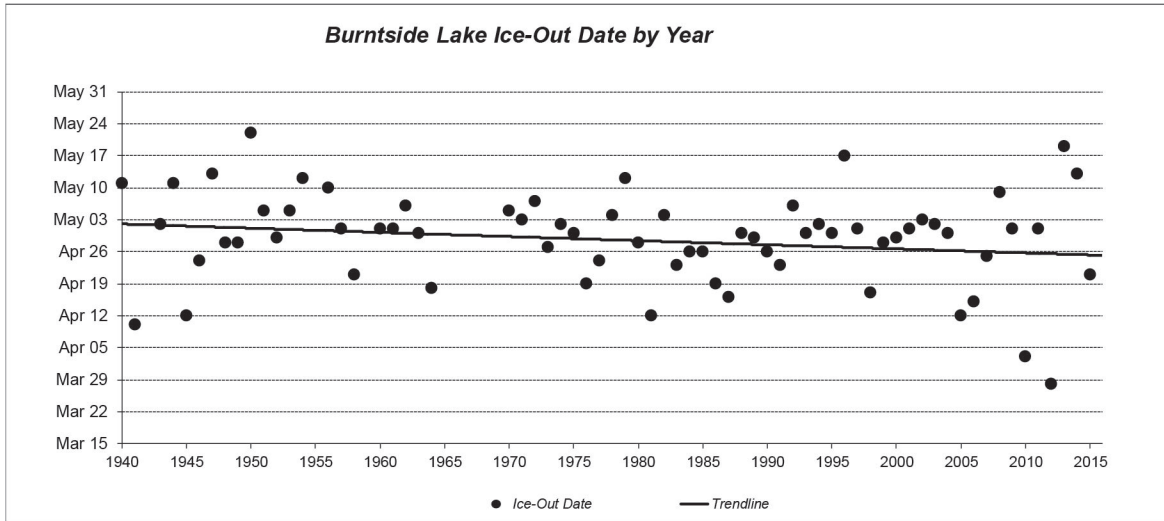
WELLS FARGO

Timothy P. Riley, CFP®
Certified Financial Planner
Fiduciary Advisory Specialist

222 West Superior St
Suite 200
Duluth, MN 55802
218 723 2762 Phone
218 723 2660 Fax
800 777 8534 Toll Free
timothy.p.riley@wellsfargo.com

THE PRIVATE BANK

Ice-On and Ice-Out Trends for Burntside



Graphics by David Bahnemann

Remembering the Breezeway

Anyone driving to Burntside passing the intersection of Van Vac Road and County 88 may notice a still cleared grassy area by the corner. The Breezeway Tea Room there was a dance hall, dining spot, and later a rental duplex. Fire finally destroyed the building, but for years after the massive stone chimney stood. It was another masterpiece by the legendary local mason John "Rock a Day" Brown.



From the Facebook group "Remember Ely and Winton Minnesota When ..." maintained by Connie Loisel, here are some recollections of the Breezeway:


Lynnese Paulson: It was a place to drive to and 'hangout' in the early 50's... no booze/ beer that I remember.

Andy Johnson: I believe that Burntside Lodge used to own it. It was a dancehall. My dad used talk about going to dances out there. I worked for Ray and Nancy La Montagne from about 78-84 & Nancy used to talk about it once in a while. I think Nancy said they had non-alcoholic teen dances on weekends.

Connie Loisel found this undated ad: "Breezeway – Burntside Lake – Shagawa River located at junction Road 88 and Van Vac Road. Operating dining room. Open June 15 thru Labor Day. F.M. LaMontagne, prop."

Tom Strang: Hey! I lived there my Senior year!!! I don't think we ever took pictures of the place. It was like a duplex when I was there and we lived on the left half.

Doug Luthanen: What I remember of the place: It was a dance hall (per my dad) prior to my time. In my youth it was used as housing. When it burned down (in the mid 70s?) the John Brown chimney stood for several, maybe many years. I drove past it this afternoon and noted that there is hardly a trace of there ever having been a building there. Nature reclaims land quickly.



NORSHOR AGENCY INC.
YOUR INSURANCE STORE
DEB CAMPBELL
AGENT
628 E. SHERIDAN ST
ELY, MN 55731
Phone - 218-365-4665
Fax - 218-365-2688
debcomp63@msn.com
License No. 20014480

Mike's Liquor Store

The most complete wine selection in northern Minnesota
Beer, Microbrews, Liquors,
Premium Cigars

8:00am - 10 pm Monday - Saturday

Mark & Dotte Zojond 365-5087

Are There Over 175 Islands on Burntside Lake?

Folks continually ask how many Islands there are on Burntside. Ancient authorities and memories have said there are around 100, or even over 150. Now with tools like Google Map anyone can do their own counting from aerial photographs. BUT first you have to decide what an Island is. It is clear that to count up to the frequently stated total of 150, some tiny islets have been historically been numbered. Eric Webster and Phil Voxland came up with a flow chart for this challenge. Phil had proposed to for a location to be an island, two people should be able to pull up a canoe, get out, and have coffee. This was been rejected as unscientific. Here are the agreed unofficial criteria:

- Is the location surrounded sometimes by water, if so then
- Is it officially or historically named as an island, or
- Is it officially surveyed, or
- Is it as large as officially surveyed or named islands. or
- Is there substantial foliage growing on the location?

With Google's **My Maps** tool, you can create a map with your custom graphic information. With an aerial photo basemap, Eric and Phil numbered 175 islands in sequence one at a time. The numbers that resulted have no relation to other public island and geographic numbering schemes. We identified 175 islands that met our criteria. There remain a few questionable locations which should be good for conversation and further investigation. As many people also believe that the best fishing is around the islands, this map will also lead you to 175 of the best fishing locations on Burntside. The resulting map is freely available online from this URL: **175 Islands of Burntside Lake:** <http://tinyurl.com/burntsideislands>



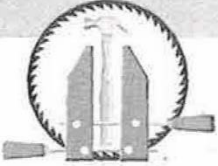
**Property Management
Lakeshore Vacation Rentals
Cabin Repairs & Maintenance**

www.elylodging.com
(218) 365-4956
1323 E Sheridan St
Ely, MN 55731
John Swenson - Broker

FROM "TREE TO KEY".

JIM & SUZANNE HAMMONS
Owners
2922 Hwy 169
Ely, Minnesota 55731

218-365-2928 office
218-290-1405 cell
sales@tmoose.com
tmoose.com



TMBLOG&TIMBERHOMES

**WARREN JOHNSON
EXCAVATING**

1003 South 2nd Avenue East
Ely, Minnesota 55731
Home & Fax: (218) 365-6360
Cell: (218) 343-6397
Email: wdjsolutions@frontiernet.net

- For All Your Gravel Needs
- Licensed Septic Design & Installation
- Complete Site & Building Preparation
- Complete Septic System Maintenance

From Start to Finish

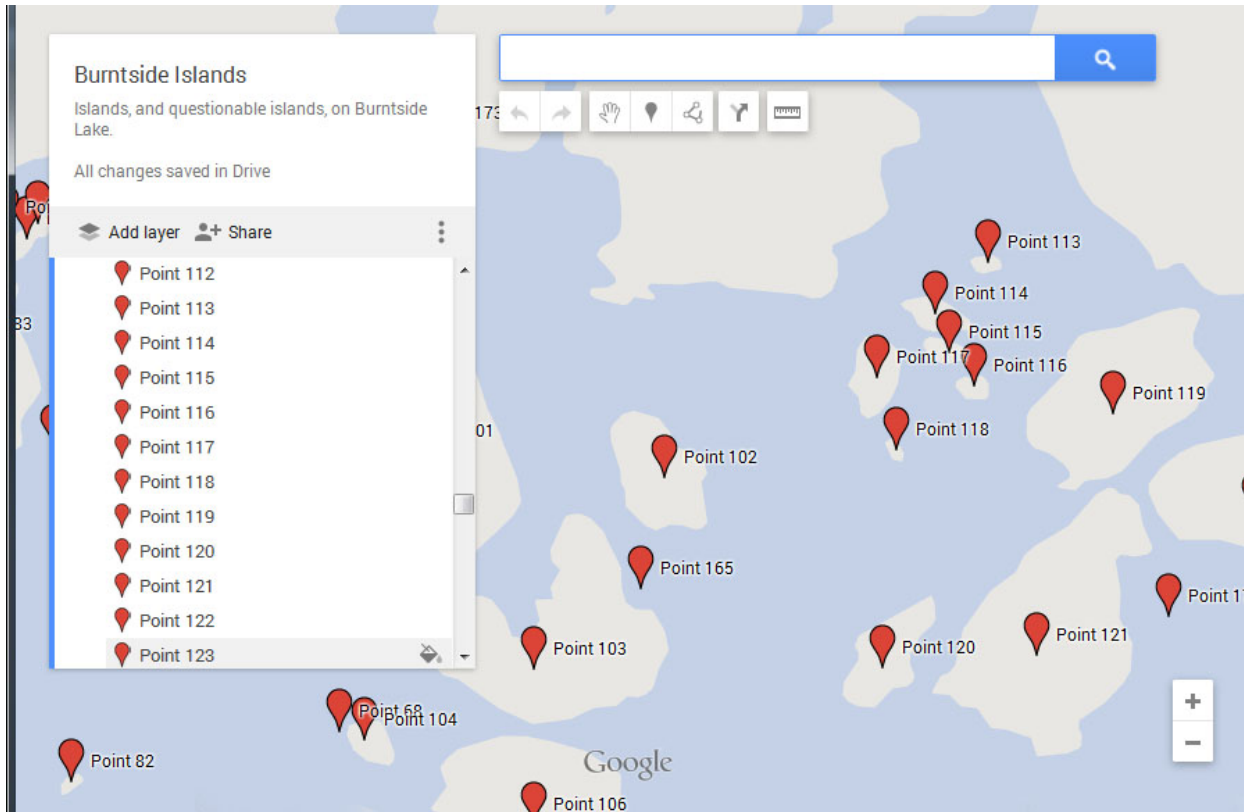
MN Lic. #2407

**DID YOU REALLY COME TO
ELY TO DO LAUNDRY?**



Laundry Room Inc.
Ely, Minnesota

Daily 5am-10pm • 428 E. Sheridan • 218 235-8672
Drop-Off Carharts to Cashmere • Pick-Up & Delivery • Seasonal Billing
Available • Cabin Linens We clean & store linens for next guest to pick-up



When timber harvesting was underway in the 1890's a rock dam was established in Outlet Bay that raised the level of Burntside around three feet. This dam and seasonal changes in water level in our time results in some areas gaining or losing their status as "islands".

FOR SALE

2417 Passi Road, 6+ secluded acres with fabulous lake views!
 Burntside Lake dock and deeded access without high taxes.
 Beautiful cabin with lots of glass, light pine, hardwood floors

Tom and Dorcey Rose
410-703-3483

-MORE DETAILS ON ZILLOW-

Canoe Country Outfitters, Inc.
 629 E. SHERIDAN STREET • BOX 30 • ELY, MINNESOTA 55731
 www.canoeountryoutfitters.com • e-mail: cco@frontiernet.net
 • Phone: (218) 365-4046 • 800-752-2306 • Fax: (218) 365-4046
 CANOE TRIPS INTO THE QUETICO - BWCA WILDERNESS

zUP NORTH REALTY
 Andrea Zupancich
 Broker/REALTOR®
 218.827.2288
 andrea@zupnorth.com
 15 Commerce Road • Babbitt, MN 55706
 218.827.2478 Hm • 218.749.0159 Ce
 218.827.3773 Fx • 877-967-2288 Tf
 zUpNorth.com

Burtside before There Were Roads

IMAGINE that it is 1886 and you are a geologist assigned to study the recently surveyed terrain throughout the Arrowhead. Mining had begun two years earlier in the Tower Soudan area. To the east, Ely was not yet established as a town. Ancient portages used by Fur Traders (Voyageurs and Indians) reached from Lake Vermillion to Burtside and beyond. Here is one of the early reports of the difficulty then of reaching the shores of Burtside written by Geologist Alexander Winchell. These are his recollections during the working seasons of 1886 and 1887 (from THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL ROCKS of Minnesota, 1889)

“Not a little surprise has been experienced that the main portages have been left so long without improvement at the hand of civilization. Tower is a settlement of two thousand or more and transacts a significant business with regions lying to the eastward. Hunters, settlers, explorers and Indians must find exit eastward over these portages and must transport all their provisions and other supplies over them. Everything destined for Tower must be got over these portages. One would imagine a town so dependent on facilities of exit and approach would seek to improve its highways but the very first portage within six to eight miles of Tower is one of the most execrable in the region and when the water is low the difficulties of the transit through Mud creek are very great. Then the portage also from Mud Lake to Burtside is obstructed by loose stones and rocks, logs, and a long stretch of marsh scarcely passable.” (Page 15)

“The whole length of Burtside lake is about eight and one half miles and its mean breadth about one and one half miles Its shores are mostly rocky and elevated but not inaccessible. Hundreds of rocky islands diversify its surface and constitute quite a labyrinth The original forest has mostly disappeared by burning though Norway pine of fair quality occurs in patches along the south shore and white and Norway pines of fine growth occur upon the shores of the little lakes and the deep bay upon the northern border The thin soil is in possession of great quantities of blueberry and raspberry bushes which in their season furnish a grateful supply of food while at all times the scarlet wintergreen berries supply a garnish to the dun aspect of the surface The lake abounds in excellent pickerel and pike and it is said the white fish as in Vermilion lake is sometimes caught. Some day the pleasure seeker will discover the charms of Burtside Lake to exceed those even of the Thousand Islands in the St Lawrence.” (Page 37)



**STEGER MUKLUKS™
& MOCCASINS**

33 East Sheridan Street Ely, MN
Open Daily 9 a.m. www.mukluks.com
Have a great summer! - Patti



Sunrise
Cabin Care & Construction

- New Construction • Renovations and Remodels
- Custom Woodworking • Finish Carpentry
- Cabin Caretaking & Maintenance

Drew Shock (218) 365-2147 Ely, MN
Experienced • Licensed • Insured
License # BC497400



HEARTH-SIDE CORNER

Mark & Donna Blanchfield
(218) 365-5013
Fax 365-5028
hearthsidecorner@citlink.net
www.hearthsidecorner.com

1203 E. Sheridan St.
Ely, MN 55731

Showroom Hours:
Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

Your Full Service Fireplace Shop
• Free Estimates • Friendly Service

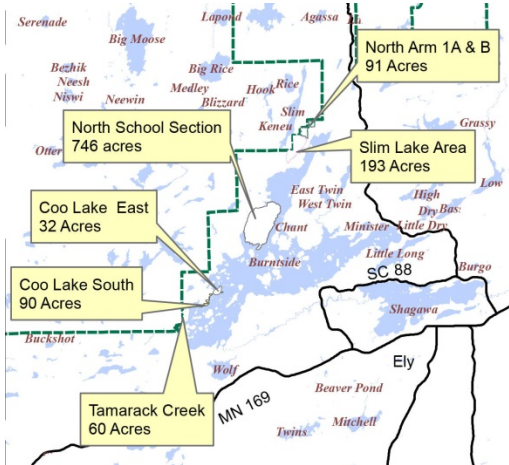


A TASTE OF ELY
EST. 2012
RESTAURANT • BAKERY

OPEN DAILY
7:00am-3:00pm
Join us for
TUESDAY NIGHT LIVE
6:00pm-9:00pm

117 N. Central Ave Ely
218.365.6095

Prescribed Burns on Burntside 2014-2015



(Above) The Lake Vermillion Fire Brigade is dedicated to fire, search and rescue and emergency medical situations. It is operated by volunteers.

In the Fall of 2014 and again in Spring this year, prescribed burns were conducted on Burntside. The burns were expertly implemented by approximately 80 personnel from the Superior and Chippewa National Forests, the US Fish and Wildlife Service and Lake Vermillion Volunteer Fire Brigade.

The purpose of the prescribed burns was to reduce hazardous fuels on the west side of Burntside Lake to protect homes from stand-replacing wildfires. Forests of the northwoods are fire-dependent and require fire for reproduction and important thinning that makes them resilient to future fires. When fire is suppressed from the forested ecosystem, stands become overstocked with trees that are more vulnerable to stand-replacing fire.

By pretreating the forest with fire, the ladder fuels were reduced that can carry fire into the canopies of old, white and red pines trees that stand over the rest of the forest. The fuel loading on the ground that carry ground fires was also reduced. Residents east of the burns will be more protected from wildfires as a result of the burning but they should continue to reduce fuels around their homes.

The short term objective is to reduce balsam fir ladder fuels which could carry surface fires into the canopy and cause high intensity fire and improve/enhance oak and blueberry habitat. For the long term, the objective is to reduce the chance for a running crown fire to threaten adjacent private developments and maintain oak and blueberry habitat for wildlife forage and browse.

The Forest Service kept residents informed of the plans and progress. They visited adjacent property owners to give information and answers. Property owners near the burn sites were assisted in clearing up to two acres of flammable trees and brush. Emails and updates were sent to nearby owners, resort operators, outfitters, newspapers, and public officials. Forest service staff has been professional, conscientious, educational, and deserves great credit.

Campsites along the channel to the North Arm were protected during the burns. Nearby hazard trees there are being removed. When the surrounding blackened area is well-cooled and hazards are cleared, the sites will be re-opened. Do not enter burn units as there are many post-fire risks from fire-weakened trees and snags, stump holes with burning roots, and other hot spots.



Spirit of the Wilderness
Outfitting Your Needs

Canoe Rentals - Outfitting - Bait & Tackle
Outdoor Gear & Apparel

800-950-2709
2030 E Sheridan St Ely, MN 55731
www.elycanoetrips.com



ELY DESIGN WORKS
print - photo - sign

365-6275
Hours: M-F 9-5
Sat 10-2

We make YOU look good!

1 HOUR DIGITAL PHOTO PRINTING

NEW! 4 color printing on site
www.ElyDesignWorks.com

orders@elydesignworks.com 9 E. Chapman St. • Ely

Prevent Aquatic Invasive Species from Spreading in Minnesota!

Burntside Lake is renowned for its clean water, fishing, and remarkable recreational opportunities – and we want to keep it that way for our families, friends, future visitors and future generations.

Unfortunately, some invasive species can harm Minnesota's lakes, rivers, and forests. Aquatic invasive species such as Eurasian watermilfoil, zebra mussel, and spiny waterflea can harm fish habitats and disrupt water recreation activities. These plants, animals, and other unwanted species may "hitch a ride" in water, on boats, in firewood, or on other gear that people move into and around the state.

To help protect Minnesota's precious water and woodlands and to comply with state law, please take the following precautions before before transporting watercraft and firewood to Burntside Lake.

Before traveling to Minnesota every boater must:

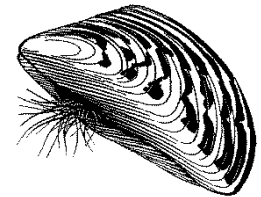
- ✓ **Clean** all aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species from and trailers. You may not transport aquatic plants or prohibited invasive species in the state, even if they are dead.
- ✓ **Drain** water-related equipment (boat, ballast tanks, portable bait containers, and motor) and drain bilge, livewell, and baitwell by removing drain plugs. **Keep drain plugs out** and water-draining devices open while transporting watercraft. You may not transport water, or arrive at a water access with the drain plug in place, in Minnesota.
- ✓ **Dispose** of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches, worms and fish parts in the trash. If you want to keep live bait, drain bait containers and refill with bottled or tap water. It is illegal in Minnesota to release bait in the water or to release worms on the ground.



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!**[™]

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

boats



Additional recommended precautions:

Some aquatic invasive species can survive more than two weeks out of water, and they are often small and difficult to see at the access. To remove or kill them, take one or more of the following precautions before moving boats and equipment to another water body, especially after leaving waters infested with zebra mussels or spiny waterfleas:

- ✓ **Spray** with high-pressure water
- ✓ **Rinse** with very hot water (at least 120 degrees F)
- ✓ **Dry** for at least 5 days



Burn local or certified firewood. Rather than bringing firewood from outside the Burntside area, buy firewood or in the Ely or St Louis County area. Check the label for "DNR Approved" or the state shield indicating the wood has been certified pest free by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

Clean mud, seeds, and plant parts from your OHVs, ATVs, bikes, boots, pets and camping gear before you transport your gear to prevent the spread of weeds and other invasive species.

We are looking forward to your visit. We are sharing this information to help you comply with Minnesota regulations and protect the lakes and forests you come to visit.

For more information, visit www.mndnr.gov/invasives.



**STOP INVASIVE SPECIES
IN YOUR TRACKS.**

PlayCleanGo.org

GUSTY ISLAND ON BURNTSIDE LAKE

Beautiful country, unspoiled country today is something sacred.

It is so easy to rob a wilderness of its charm, so hard to bring it back.

Sigurd F. Olson, from draft of untitled speech, ca 1934

The Northwoods landscape stretches across 88,000 square miles – an area nearly twice the size of Ohio – and the forests and waters of northern Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan are a much-loved and irreplaceable natural resource. Many people call the Northwoods home. Millions more come from the region’s towns and cities to canoe on wilderness lakes, hike or ski through jade-green woodlands, float a fly for rising trout, or simply spend a quiet evening beside a placid lake.

Gusty Island on Burntside Lake is part of this Northwoods landscape, its legacy enhanced by the proximity to conservationist Sigurd Olson’s Listening Point and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Not every island should be prioritized for conservation. Indeed, many islands within Burntside Lake are enjoyed by families at summer cabins, at resorts and while birding, fishing, hunting and boating. However, the State of Minnesota has prioritized the islands within the Burntside Islands Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) for protection.

- SNAs preserve natural features and rare resources of exceptional scientific and educational value
- Visitors are encouraged to enjoy SNAs for nature observation and education, but not for intensive recreation.

Gusty is one of the most beautiful small islands that Burntside Lake has to offer. Its hilly terrain offers scenic views of the lake in all directions, while a forest cover of mature red and white pines and a scattering of birch and cedar trees gives Gusty a magical feel.

This is truly a special Northwoods island. Located relatively close to the shores of Burntside Lake, this 4.5-acre island is easily accessible for a daytrip via boat or canoe. Visitors do not need to portage supplies or pitch a tent but may paddle from the lakeshore to the island and enjoy the sound of the loons, the freshness of the air, and the solitude that inspires reflection.

Just north of the Gaul Islands, and between Long and Snellman Islands, Gusty creates a chain of nearly three miles of protected islands.



This commentary and map reprinted courtesy of the Trust for Public Land

**MATSON
MOTORS**
MARINE & SMALL ENGINE REPAIR
2068 HIGHWAY 169 ELY, MN 55731

BOB MATSON/OWNER

Pick Up & Delivery

Snapper Lawn & Garden - Jonsered Chain Saws

Rental Equipment

**HONDA
ENGINES**

218-365-2555

WOOD STOVE COFFEE

by David Kess

"Please tell me you are not going to do it," Senja said calmly and without pleading. She was appealing to her husband's sense of reason—just as she had done before with every confrontation they'd ever had.

"But Senja, you have GOT to see this! I'd never find another like it—majestic virgin pines, a sheltered harbor, and a perfect building site for a small cabin up on the rise. Four and a half acres—not so big and not too small. Some things can't be described with words, but let me start with 'mystical.' You know that old song, 'Kaunis Karjala,' he said rather wistfully remembering his homeland in Finland. "This is that place."

"Gust Maki, you surely don't need me to remind you that you already have one cabin on the mainland." Again she tried appealing to his sense of reason, knowing all along that buying an island likely had little to do with reason. "This one will be a legacy for the grandchildren and maybe their children."

Pointless to try to take this any further today she told herself. But it was important that he knew how she felt about this "project." She respected the good and even shrewd business decisions he had made in the past. He had, after all, weathered the Great Depression, keeping his home and the lakeshore cabin. His men's clothing store in this small northern Minnesota mining town had certainly done well enough—well enough, she had to admit, to spend \$500 on something as impractical as that island. Her point was that he needed to hear her out, and he did.

Their forty-some year marriage had prospered as well, and probably because the two of them recognized and even respected their differences. It helped that they were both "joiners" and active in community and civic affairs, he in the Masons, the Knights of Kaleva, men's athletic club, commercial club, volunteer fire department, and city council. She was active in the Eastern Star, Ladies of Kaleva, women's study club, Red Cross, hospital auxiliary, church, and Girl Scouts. He chose to add the Odd Fellows Lodge but she said two fraternal organizations were "quite enough" for her. She tolerated his card playing but made it quite clear that there would be no "libations" served in her house. She didn't regard card playing as a vice, just a waste of time. When one of her best friends came on Friday nights to play cribbage with her husband, she would be off rehearsing a play at either the Opera House or the Kaleva Hall.



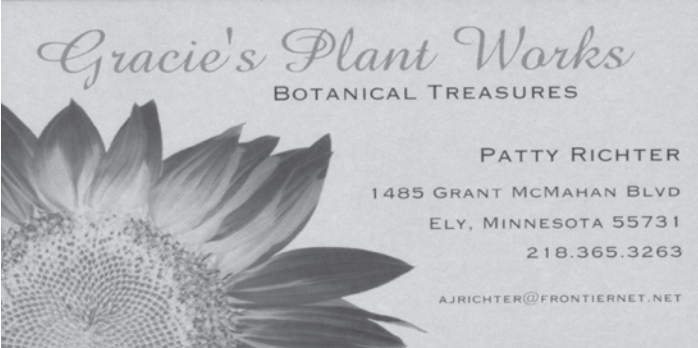
1230 E. Sheridan St.
365-3216
Ely

- Groceries • Meats
- Homemade Sausage • Broasted Chicken
- Bakery • Deli



Andy Hill
PO Box 715
Ely MN 55731
218-235-8686
#BC007398

Northland Builders
YOUR SUN CONNECTION & GREEN BUILDER



Gracie's Plant Works
BOTANICAL TREASURES

PATTY RICHTER
1485 GRANT MCMAHAN BLVD
ELY, MINNESOTA 55731
218.365.3263
AJRICHTER@FRONTIERNET.NET

Landscaping Sand & Gravel Rooter Service

Walsh Sewer & Septic Systems Co.

Installation Septic Tank Pumping
Road Repair Service
Back Hoe & Dozer Work
Free Estimates
Sewer Line Video Camera

walshseptic.com

218-365-4041 • 218-343-1231
Licensed • Bonded • Insured

JIM WALSH
P.O. Box 68
13964 Lauder Blvd.
Winton, MN 55796

Lic #1586
Plumbing Needs

They were a part of that immigrant generation that became “self-made” and selfassured. If Gust went ahead with this island thing, it was simply a transaction, and one that could be reversed. Not like their marriage. Still, she found herself muttering, “he doesn’t need that place anymore than a cat needs two tails.”

Not a thing more was said about the matter for several weeks. One day he came home for lunch and found her still in her housecoat and hair curlers—he had known she would be off to California in the morning for a lodge convention. Thinking the timing now perfect, he carefully folded his suit coat over the back of a chair, unbuttoned his vest, and rolled up his shirt sleeves. The macaroni salad for lunch was not his favorite but this was not the time for any comment about that. “Well, Senja, I did it. I bought that pretty little island.”

Knowing all along he would no doubt do this, she needed only a few seconds to compose herself. Less than enthusiastically she replied, “We’ll just have to make the best of it” —one of her oft repeated sayings. But he knew her well enough to know the score had yet to be really settled.

“Shipment coming in on the evening train from Woolrich. Best to hold supper until seven. Will you do that, Dear?” he asked. “Oh that’s fine. It’ll give me time to make a blueberry pie.” She sounded rather solicitous but truth be told she had an ulterior motive. What she had in mind really was something more like fattening the calf before the slaughter.

Senja was still cooking on the old Monarch wood burning range they bought in 1907. He had always said if you bought the best it would serve you well, and indeed the range still worked admirably. But it was time now for a change and she decided this was absolutely the right time to make her move. It was 1946, still Wartime, and to purchase appliances such as electric ranges and even refrigerators required being on a list and just waiting. She called Laing Hardware—her name had now moved to the top of the list.

The next call was to the electrician. The deed was done.

Their youngest daughter Merna and her two-year-old son David were living with Gust and Senja while Merna’s husband Roy was serving in the USN in the Pacific. Merna would be doing the cooking while her mother was gone. “Isä (father in Finnish) will fuss about what I have done alright, but don’t take any of it too seriously,” Senja added. Merna had been a home economics major in college and she welcomed the change. In a few days the wiring was completed, the soot cleaned up, and the chimney hole covered with a metal plate. A shiny white new electric range stood ready for use. Gust looked at the new Monarch and thought to himself that his wife did indeed finesse him on this one.

“Good thing she never liked to play cards with me.”

Merna set about fixing a hearty breakfast of fried eggs, pancakes, and coffee. Everything looked good enough for a picture in the Betty Crocker cookbook. He even said as much. “So, how is it, Dad?” He deliberated for a few moments.

“Pretty good,” he replied, “but this sure doesn’t taste like wood stove coffee.” (continued on next page)



ARROWHEAD
SEAMLESS GUTTERS
218 - 235 - 3981

DAVID ARCHAMBAULT
OWNER, INSTALLER



INSURED



MEATS,
GROCERIES,
HOT & COLD DELI,
& HOME MADE
SAUSAGES

Famous for Quality

www.zups.com
303 E. Sheridan St. • Ely • 365-3188

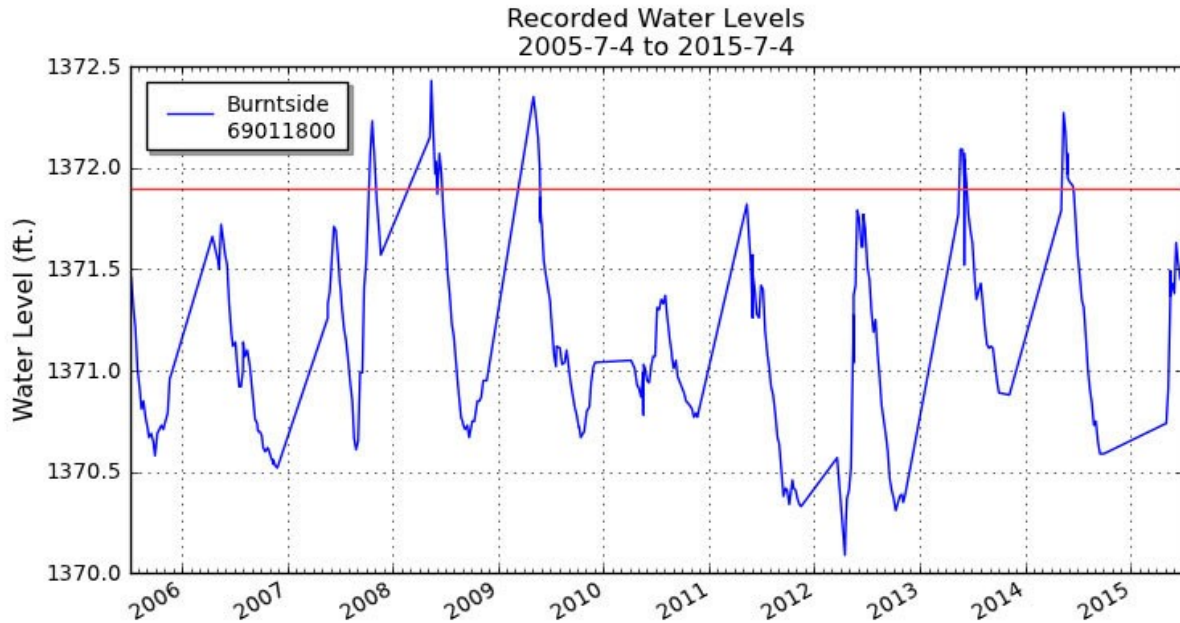



KLUN LAW FIRM
Direction. Guidance. Results.

- Boundary Concerns
- Road Access
- Easements
- Land Use
- Estate & Cabin Succession Planning

1 E. Chapman St.
Ely, MN 55731
218.365.3221
www.klunlaw.com

Fast forward now to 2007. The island had become Senja's upon her husband's death in 1954. In 1983, nearly thirty years later, she sold the island to her grandson David and great grandson Richard. They in turn were the owners for the next thirty-one years. By 1983 as the real estate taxes were becoming burdensome; David approached The Trust for Public Land as an interested buyer. He had become aware of the TPL in their acquisition of other nearby islands as Scientific and Natural Areas. In 2014 the transaction was completed. This jewel of an island that Gust Maki envisioned as a legacy for his grandchildren and great-grandchildren was now part of the public domain. His legacy had been expanded, protected from development, and preserved for the enjoyment of his descendants and the public itself.




Joe's Marine & Repair, Inc.
JOHNSON • LUND • STIHL • ARIENS

25 W. CHAPMAN ST. • ELY, MN 55731
(218) 365-6264

OUR BAIT IS GUARANTEED TO CATCH FISH OR DIE TRYING

SKUBE'S 
BAIT & TACKLE
SINCE 1970

Phone: 218-365-5358
Fax: 218-365-8900
1810 E. Sheridan St.
Ely, MN 55731

Jimmy Z's Sales



Authorized Dealer

Email: zup@frontiernet.net
www.jimmyzsales.com

**Free Estimates
Free Installations**

Toll Free: (866) NEW DOCK
Office: (218) 827-8400
Home: (218) 827-2478
Cell: (218) 343-4278
Fax: (218) 827-2148

▪ Snowmobile/ATV Trailers ▪ Docks ▪ Boat Lifts



**CUNNINGHAM
ELECTRIC**

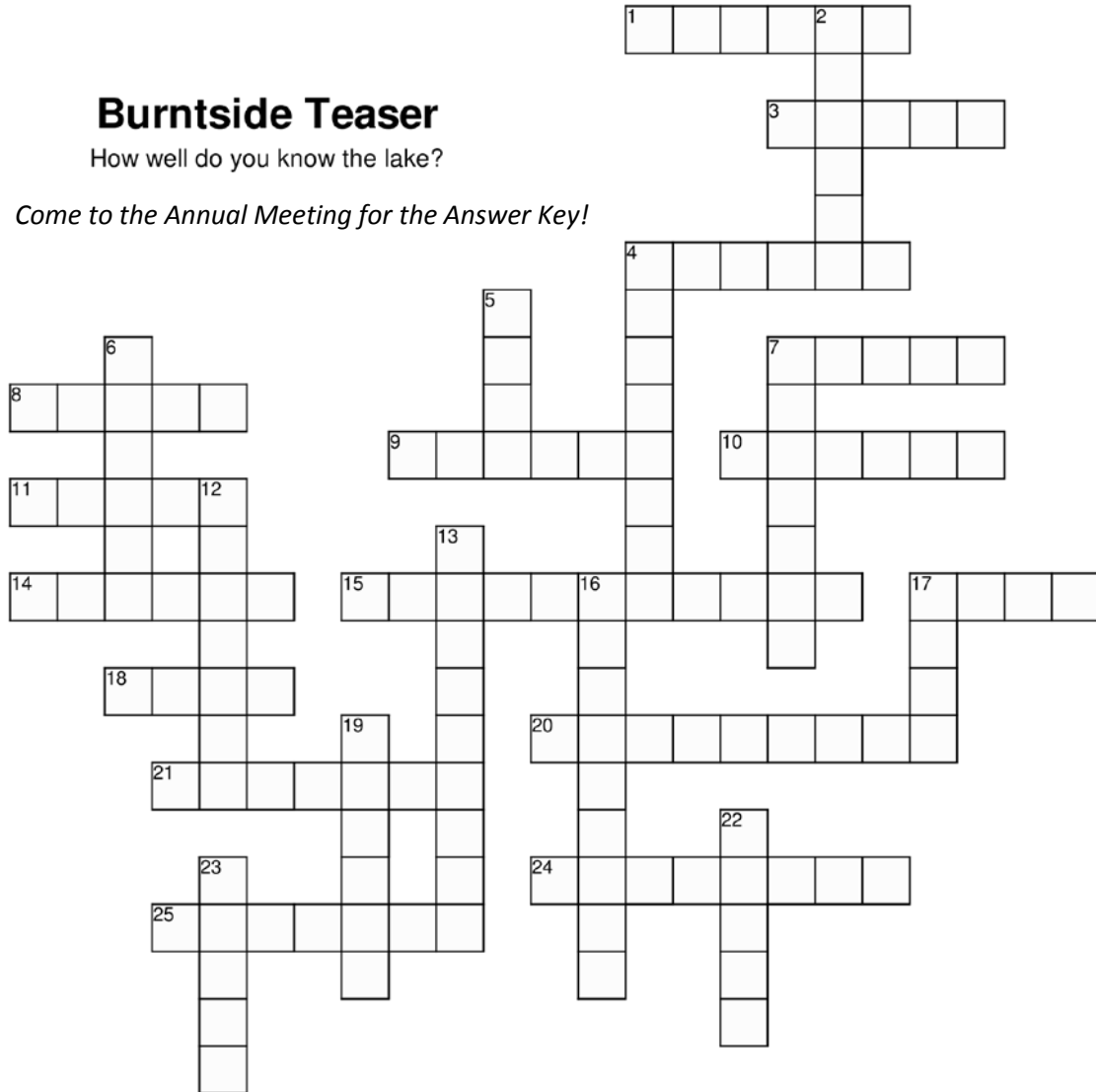
Commercial
Residential
Industrial

Call us for all your electrical needs!
Tim and Monica Cunningham - Master Electricians
13445 Villa Rd. Ely, MN 55731
(218) 365-6301
Licensed - Bonded - Insured

Burntside Teaser

How well do you know the lake?

Come to the Annual Meeting for the Answer Key!



Across

1. _____ Section Bay
3. Firestarter bark
4. Olson of Listening Point
7. Serpentine Island
8. Hazard warnings
9. Lodge builder
10. Bay of Finns
11. Rock sitters
14. Red Pine
15. Summer Harvest
17. Also a New York Island
18. Lively river
20. Post-wedding island
21. Lofty pines, said Hamm's
24. Resort and creek
25. Path to the next lake

Down

2. Mining company island
4. National Forest
5. Canoeist destination
6. Family, General, Island
7. Biting reptile
12. Burntside River's destination
13. A lake, a lodge
16. Road to Passi
17. *Gavia immer*
19. A road, a camp
22. Deep lunger
23. Widgiwagan arm

From the Treasurer's Desk...

The Articles of Incorporation of 1976 establish the purposes of **Burntside Lake Association** "to enhance, promote and protect the interest of property owners on Burntside Lake and the watershed thereof; to protect the environment thereof; and to contribute to the recreational, social and civic welfare of the community." As a property owner, that's in your interest! As a non-profit corporation we operate with no political agenda. Wouldn't you like to join?

We send the newsletter to all property owners, whether or not they are members of the Association, with the hope that they also send in their \$20 dues. We are able to keep the dues low because of the advertising placed by businesses in the Ely Community. We encourage you to patronize their businesses!

Please send this form with your \$20 dues for 2015. Checks may be made payable to: "Burntside Lake Association".

=====

2015 Burntside Lake Association Dues and/or Address Change Notification

Name (Please Print): _____

Mailing Address (if changed): _____

E-Mail Address: _____

- Enclosed are 2015 dues of \$20
- Please remove me from your mailing list
- Please note my change of address
- Please note my e-mail address change

=====

*Burntside Lake Association
P.O. Box 81
Ely, MN 55731*

