

FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES

*"So lovely is the loneliness of a wild lake."
Edgar Allen Poe*


Summer 2020

The purpose of FCAL, Inc. is to facilitate education, research and sharing between organizations, governmental bodies and the general public of Forest County to protect Forest County inland water bodies, environs and watershed for now and future generations, including but not limited to: aesthetic beauty, water quality, wildlife habitat and fisheries.

Protecting Your Investment

Protect your Wisconsin Lake Property Values by learning all you can by joining FCAL at our monthly meetings, generally held the third Friday of each month, at our Fall Forum Saturday, August 22, 2020 or at our Annual Meeting Saturday, October 17, 2020.

The Jewel of Wabeno

Submitted by Barb Charlton, President Trump Lake

Just a short drive north on Hwy. 32 from Wabeno is the jewel of Wabeno – Trump Lake. Our lake association, the Trump Lake Protective Association, is committed to the preservation of the lake and the lake interests of property owners. In Spring, we have an annual clean-up day. Our annual meeting is the Saturday of Memorial Day holiday. In summer we have our Walleye Fundraiser. Monies raised have been used for AIS study and, in coordination with the DNR, fish planting. Our lake neighbors are known as some the most welcoming and hard-working people around. We always have a lot of fun and encourage everyone to come and enjoy Trump Lake! We are proud members of FCAL and encourage you to join.



Lost Lake Aeration Update

Last winter was a long tough one, and the first one after we installed our system. It accomplished just what it was supposed to, stop the fish kill.

When the ice went out, my wife and I canoed the lake to collect the safety fence and look for signs of fish kill.

We were happy to find only one dead northern pike, which looked as if it were dead for quite some time.

I am now assisting a lake association in Florence County with installing a system on their lake. They were given my name from the DNR. They came this past fall to view ours, liked what they saw and are duplicating it.

Once again, I want to thank FCAL for the generous donation of the \$500 grant and would encourage other lakes to join and apply.

Thanks again,
Mark Smith, Lost Lake Association President.

Attention!

THIS NEWSLETTER IS MAILED TO EACH RIPARIAN LAND OWNER IN FOREST COUNTY. IT DOES NOT INDICATE MEMBERSHIP IN FCAL! PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING FCAL BY COMPLETING THE MEMBERSHIP FORM IN THE BACK OF THIS NEWSLETTER AND SENDING IT IN. THIS NEWSLETTER IS MADE AVAILABLE IN LARGE PART DUE TO A GRANT FROM THE MOLE LAKE SOKAOGON CHIPPEWA COMMUNITY. THANK YOU! THANK YOU.

Sniffing Out Trouble

Submitted by Vi Lamers

According to Laura Holder, Executive Director Midwest Conservation Dogs, Inc. (MCD) Conservation dogs can detect fungi & bacterium, animals, insects and plants on land AND in the water. A conservation dog is a professional scent detection dog trained to detect odors. Their phenomenal sense of smell allows them to be able to find things invisible to humans while giving accurate results. A recent pilot project showed that they can detect scents in water and tell the difference between different scents. This was confirmed in a pilot project of Brook Trout. They were also able to find a previously undocumented Wood Turtle, which is a threatened species.



Starting this year, there is an initiative to start using them in partnership with Mussel Dogs to detect quagga and zebra mussels. Conservation Dogs are able to quickly distinguish contamination to parts per trillion and to tell the difference between adults and veliger (the final larval stage of certain mollusks, having two ciliated flaps for swimming and feeding). And you thought your dog was smart!

These incredible dogs will help prevent the spread of these mussels and help keep waters clean. If interested in having a partnership with this organization or learning more, they can be contacted at www.midwesternconservationdogs.com, on Facebook or YouTube @midwesternconservationdogs.

(Source: Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention 2020: Sniffing for Science: How Conservation Dogs Support AIS Early Detection and Monitoring Efforts: Presenter: Laura Holder, Co-founder & Executive Director, Midwest Conservation Dogs Incorporated)



**Ships don't sink because of the water around them;
Ships sink because of the water that gets in them.
Don't let what's happening
Around you get inside you
And weigh you down.**

Buying Wisconsin Lake Property

Submitted by Mike Henderson

It is important for Wisconsin lake property buyers to consider their purpose for wanting lakefront property before they set out to own a piece of this natural beauty. In addition to the generally higher cost, lakeshore property owners are also expected to maintain this rich natural resource. In some cases, this may be metaphorical, referring only to the need to help maintain the beauty of the lake. In other instances, there are clearly defined laws regarding lake usage, development and maintenance.

Many lakes are hubs for various water-based activities. In the summertime, these lakes see significant water-skiing and power boating traffic, that may not be preferential to those seeking relief from a loud and busy world. Flowages are better suited for a quiet escapes and fishing trips, but don't have as much open water for activities like water-skiing.

In Wisconsin, the Public Trust Doctrine makes all waterways public. Wisconsin lake properties may have easements that specify public access to the lake. Development is also carefully controlled by the county and the Wisconsin DNR. It is important to study the lake and understand the local laws governing Wisconsin lake property, before rushing to build your dream lake home or cottage.

(Source: LakePlace.com)

*"Perhaps the truth depends on a walk around
the lake." Wallace Stevens*

FCAL President's Message from Pam Schroeder

Greetings to all of you who are lucky enough to own property on a Forest County lake! As it turns out, another advantage of living here is the ability to quarantine with ease and comparative comfort. It is easy to take a walk in fresh, clean air without encountering another human. There is always plenty of work to catch up on so boredom should be minimal unless, like me, you are finding it hard to be productive without the energy of friends to spur me on. I have spent an enormous amount of time sitting in our front window.



Normally we attend the WI Lakes and Rivers Convention in Stevens Point in April and return with lots of new information and materials to share with our members and Lake Associations. That conference was held online due to the COVID threat and we were able to connect and learn from them this year in a new way. I also turned to resources that I had collected there in previous years but never got around to reading. My current favorite is Ted Rulseh's book "A Lake Companion."

I highly recommend this for all of you. It's one of those books to leave out for your guests. It's so reader friendly with short chapters in easy to understand language and a good primer for everything you ever wanted to know about your lake. We've included a few excerpts in this newsletter.

Because of the current health crisis, we were unable to conduct our annual Essay Contest for Forest County students in Grades 5 and 6. We look forward to continuing this worthwhile contest next year.

I think the FCAL highlight of 2019 for me was our Annual Meeting and Banquet that was held in October at the Potawatomi Casino & Conference Center in Carter. The highlight of the evening was our favorite presenter, Mr. Chris Cold. Chris always brings a great program visually and educationally, and he is always accompanied by some of his special friends from the woods. This year he spoke about raptors and I have a picture included here to share. Please consider attending our Annual Meeting this year on October 17th. Information about the venue and the program will be forthcoming. I think you will find it worth your time.

Thank you all for supporting healthy lakes in Forest County!

"In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous." Aristotle

Loon Triage During Spring Migration

Submitted by Pat Schultz – Jungle Lake Loon Lady

Spring migration can be an especially hazardous time for loons. As they migrate to their territorial lakes, they look for open bodies of water. Sometimes they mistake a wet parking lot or agricultural field for the large water bodies they need. Loons are unable to take off from a sitting position. They need ¼ mile aquatic runway to take off. If you find a loon in distress, take the following steps:

1. Call a local wildlife rehabilitator.
2. Place a blanket or towel over the loon to keep it calm and in place. NEVER swaddle a loon. They do not have diaphragms like us, so swaddling could suffocate a loon.
3. Stay with the loon until help arrives. Loons can shuffle away with their wings and feet!

Enjoy your loons this summer- they are enchanting, beautiful birds who deserve our respect and love!

Source: Loon Watch Website



Wisconsin Weather – Science and Climate Change

Submitted by Vi Lamers

Do you drive a car? Do you wear glasses? Use prescription medication? Do you own and use a cell phone? How about central heating? Electricity, the internet, jet airplanes, vaccines, GPS, cable and satellite TV, anti-cancer drugs, plastic, high yield crops, and on and on. What do they all have in common? In a word, science.

Science effects our daily lives all day, every day without us ever thinking about it. Science has taken a hit lately. But solid research and data shows there is irrefutable evidence that common sense cannot deny.

Wisconsin has warmed up, just like the rest of the country, and, during recent decades, has experienced more extreme weather. Remember the 2018 deluge in the Madison area? Projections by climate models are for more frequent and intense heat waves and heavy rainfalls. Already these trends have had great impacts on our lakes and rivers and with warmer and wetter climate, they will continue to do so.

Records of "Wisconsin's Temperature by Decades" (see source listed below) from the 1890s to the 2010s show the two warmest decades have been the two since 2000. And the wettest, by far, were the 2010s with 2019 being the wettest year on record. From 1958 through 2016, records show an increase of 42% in heavy precipitation, especially the last 10-15 years.

From 1981 to 2010, Forest County had between 35-40 nights per year that fell below 0 degrees F. It is projected by 2071, Forest County will only have 5-10 nights per year that fall below 0 degrees F.

Keep in mind the difference between weather and climate. Weather is short-term and tells you what to wear each day. Climate is what the weather is like over a long period of time in a certain area. To have a long stretch of cold temperatures in a winter or even a summer and laughingly dismiss climate change (AKA Global Warming) is to misunderstand the entire concept.

But these weather and climate changes impact lake ice, water quality, lake levels, invasives and fish species. Water clarity changes lead to harmful algae blooms. Rainfall increases lead to greater runoff of phosphorus in our lakes. Decreases in lake ice impact ice fishing and ice related activities.

(Source: Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Partnership Convention 2020: Concurrent Session #2 Thursday - Title:

Climate Change and Extreme Weather in Wisconsin: Presenter Steve Vaorus, Senior Scientist, Nelson Institute Center for Climatic Research, University of Wisconsin – Madison)



Submitted by Kathy Babcock

Looking for some good non-fiction about our natural world?

Try "Buzz, Sting, Bite: Why We Need Bugs" by Anne Sverdrup-Thygeson and "Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter" by Ben Goldfarb.

Barry Silverstein states that Eager "... traces the history of beavers, tying their evolution to the colonization of North America, and shows their positive impact on the natural environment. . . Perhaps most interestingly, Eager addresses both the positives and negatives of the beaver-human-ecology relationship in a thought-provoking way. . . Eager offers rare insight into the history of beavers and their behavior, qualities, and characteristics. Even more importantly, Eager, explores the animals' complex relationship with humans, and the essential role they play in developing ponds and streams that support wildlife" (www.forewardreview.com).

Anne Sverdrup-Thygeson says it is her mission to convince us that insects are fun, fabulous and incredibly important" (@annesver). And she succeeds. This book is "a lively introduction to the six-legged creatures that share our planet, while making the case that their survival is inextricably linked to ours. The author possesses an infectious enthusiasm for the bugs she profiles and manages to imbue every maxilla and mating habit with wonder." You will share in the author's "affection for its winged, creeping, and crawling subjects, even among its most bug-shy readers" (www.booklistonline.com).

One thing is for sure; if you read either of these books, you are in for an enjoyable and educational time.

The New “Dirty Water Rule” and Wisconsin’s Waters

Submitted by Steve Kircher, Conservation Director at Forest County

The US Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers recently revoked federal protection for thousands of waterways and lakes across Wisconsin. With our ecosystems and drinking water at risk, Wisconsin Environmental organizations and national organizations will be challenging the new rules in court.

To summarize, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of the Army are publishing a final rule defining the scope of waters federally regulated under the Clean Water Act. The Navigable Waters Protection Rule is the second step in a comprehensive, two-step process intended to review and revise the definition of “waters of the United States” consistent with the Executive Order signed on February 28, 2017, “Restoring the Rule of Law, Federalism, and Economic Growth by Reviewing the ‘Waters of the United States’ Rule.” Once effective, it replaces the rule published on October 22, 2019. This final rule implements the overall objective of the Clean Water Act to restore and maintain the integrity of the nation’s waters by maintaining federal authority over those waters that Congress determined should be regulated by the Federal government under its Commerce Clause powers, while adhering to Congress’ policy directive to preserve States’ primary authority over land and water resources. This final definition increases the predictability and consistency of Clean Water Act programs by clarifying the scope of “waters of the United States” federally regulated under the Act.

In Wisconsin, streams and wetlands are crucial to the health of Lake Michigan and other large lakes. The wetlands surrounding these lakes filter out pollutants, provide habitat for wildlife and protect communities from floodwater. If the streams that feed these lakes are polluted, that pollution can flow into bigger rivers and lakes and pollute our drinking water. The new Dirty Water Rule essentially wipes out the protection for these streams and wetlands.

Megan Severson, Wisconsin Environment State Director, states the Dirty Water Rule endangers the waterways where Wisconsinites swim, fish, boat, and draw our drinking water. The rule violates the Clean Water act itself. She goes on to say that the rule defies common sense, sound science and the law.

There has been a lot of public support for maintaining the current Clean Water Act. More than one million Americans have provided comments to the EPA, urging the agency to protect streams and wetlands.

Attorneys general across the country are uniting to oppose proposed rule changes. As stated earlier, the proposed changes would allow federal agencies to circumvent or ignore state-issued regulations.

“At a time when we need to step up our efforts to safeguard access to clean water,” said Attorney General Josh Kaul, “the Trump Administration is trying to limit states’ ability to protect and improve water quality.”

He joins a coalition of counterparts from Michigan, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington and Virginia.

The attorneys general compiled a comment letter lambasting EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler and Director of the Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds John Goodin for the policy move. “We have grave concerns over the proposed rule’s attempt to unlawfully curtail state authority under section 401 of the Clean Water Act,” the letter states.

Specifically, the letter highlights that the proposed rule changes:

- Unlawfully limit the scope of state certification authority only to certain types of discharges;
- Illegally restrict state conditions on Section 401 certifications to a narrow set of EPA-approved water quality standards;
- Purport to authorize federal agencies to illegally disregard state-issued denials and conditions on certification applications; and
- Unlawfully restricts the timing and scope of state review of certification applications.

It points out a key facet of the Clean Water Act, authorizing states to conduct independent reviews of water quality impacts which require federal review. “To those ends, Congress specifically prohibited federal agencies from approving projects if a state denied a water quality certification under section 401.” If the rules shift, federal agencies would effectively be able to “usurp state authority to protect the quality of waters within their borders,” the letter explains. “Every provision of the proposed rule appears designed to curtail state authority under section 401.”

Ms. Severson concludes that “this is just plain wrong. Clean water is vital for our health, our way of life, and for nature itself. We will not rest until protections for America’s waterways are restored.”

Manoomin *Submitted by Vi Lamers*

Whether or not you are a fan of what the Ojibwe call manoomin, also called northern wild rice, the impact of climate on it indicates negative changes for it and other crops. Manoomin is only found in the US in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Climate change and biological factors present challenges to this food source that has cultural and ecological significance.

Wild rice is an annual grass that prefers: water depths between 0.5 and 3"; nonacidic water; organic substrata; low sulfides and sulfates; gentle, flowing water; and water level fluctuations neither excessive nor too stable.

Some biological factors impacting wild rice crops are the increase in the number of geese and swans. The trumpeter swan was reintroduced in Wisconsin with the result of the number increasing from 0 in 1989 to about 5,000 in 2017. And the Canada Goose Breeding population has gone from about 5,000 in 1987 to about 60,000 in 2017. Not that we don't love swans and geese, but they feed all summer on manoomin.

Climate changes that are of concern are:

- Longer growing seasons that favor other plants. (Burnett County's growing season has increased by approximately 4 weeks from 1950-2006.)
- The impact of pest species
- The impact of invasive species
- More frequent heavy rains
- Increased diseases

You may be inclined to brush off these changes if you do not care to eat wild rice. But recent studies show crops such as rice, wheat, soy and barley produce less nutritious seeds when they grow in higher CO-2 levels which are expected by the end of this century.

(Source: Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission Wisconsin Lakes and River Convention 2020, Wild Rice Susceptibility In the Face of Climate Change, Presenter: Peter David, Wildlife Biologist, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission)

WEEDS OF WISCONSIN

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| BURDOCK | COCKLEBUR | DANDELION |
| HORSENETTLE | HORSETAIL | HORSEWEED |
| NIGHTSHADE | PIGWEEED | PURSLANE |
| RAGWEED | THISTLE | WATERHEMP |
| WILDMUSTARD | WILD RADISH | |

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Good Reads

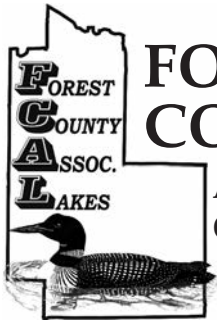
Submitted by Pam Schroeder

Here is an excerpt from the book entitled "A Lakeside Companion" by Ted J. Rulseh, printed by University Press 2018 that we thought you might like to read. We highly recommend this book.

"The Zen of the Jig" ... "Walleyes may be the best tasting freshwater fish alive, but there's more to it than that – mainly the finesse it takes to catch them. You set up over a favorite rock bar. You know they are down there, those greenish-gold spooks with eyes like precision-ground lenses. I am not so sure how they manage to be so light on the take. They seem to lift a jig and bait from the rocks with the touch of a pickpocket, and they will pick you clean if you're not fully attuned.

You move the jig a small twitch at a time. Through a sensitive graphite rod you can feel every bump on a stone and the tug of every weed. You wait for a sensation that is just a bit different, a subtle tik-tik or sometimes just a bit of extra weight that ever so slightly pulls back. A snap of the wrist, and you're fast to a fish. Even when fishing with slip bobbers, the walleye bite is distinctive. The bobber will twitch, pause, and then go down. What I imagine happens is that the fish noses up to the bait, stops, inhales it with a jet of water through the gills (the twitch), pauses for just an instant, and then moves on" ...

There's more great reading – so check it out.



FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES, INC.

Ice Safety

Source: *A Lakeside Companion* by Ted J. Rulsch, University of WI Press

Ever wonder how much ice is "safe" ice? An old saying to live by is: "Thick and blue, tried and true. Soft or crispy, much too risky. If in doubt, don't go out." And here is how the US Army Corp of Engineers defines sound ice:

- Less than 1.75 inches: Keep off
- 1.75 inches: One person on skis
- 2 inches: One person on foot or skates
- 3 inches: One snowmobile or a group of people walking single file
- 7 inches: Automobile
- 8 inches: Pickup truck, 5,000 pounds
- 9 inches: Pickup truck, 7,000 pounds
- 10 inches: Larger truck, 14,000 pounds

In the event that a person does fall through the ice, the most pressing concern is hypothermia, not drowning. In water between 32 and 40 degrees, within 15 to 30 minutes a person becomes exhausted or loses consciousness. While normal body temperature is 98.6 degrees F, 94 F is the point as which amnesia sets in, 86 F one becomes unconscious and below 80F, one cannot survive. So follow the guidelines above, don't chance questionable ice and be extremely careful.

FCAL Objectives...

- 1. Education/Sharing...**To educate the Forest County public and riparian owners on issues and to facilitate dialogue between organizations and governmental bodies.
- 2. Long Range Planning...**To participate in long range planning efforts regarding the water resources of Forest County.
- 3. Regulatory/Enforcing...**Facilitate efforts of the governmental bodies to enforce regulations which affect inland water bodies usage and water quality.
- 4. Cooperative...**Provide a vehicle for greater cooperative efforts between riparian owners, riparian users, appropriate governmental agencies and the citizens of Forest County.

Visit Forest County Association of Lakes at: www.fcgal-wis.org



**Thanks to Our
Forest County Businesses
Supporting FCAL:**
**Johnnies Resort
Associated Bank
Northern Lake
Services**

FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES, INC. 2020 Membership Application

New Renewal

NAME(S): _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

LAKE/RIVER: _____ LAKE ORG.: _____

SUMMER ADDRESS: _____ FROM: _____ TO: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (Check appropriate membership category)

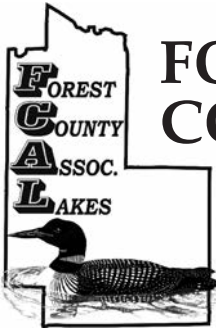
Individual/Families (\$25/One yr.) Lake Organization (\$50/yr.) Business Org. (\$50/yr.)
 (\$100/Five yrs.)

Make checks payable to : FCAL, Inc.
 Return application and check to: Treasurer, FCAL, Inc.
 P.O. Box 68 Pickerel, WI 54465

Additional Donations _____



Members do not need to live on water.



FOREST COUNTY

ASSOCIATION
OF LAKES, INC.
PO BOX 68
PICKEREL, WI 54465

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US POSTAGE
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EAGLE RIVER WI
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PLEASE REMEMBER...

- Thoroughly clean and dry fishing equipment, bait buckets, boats and trailers before using again.
- Empty all water from equipment before transporting.
- Remove all mud, plants and aquatic life from equipment.
- Do not move fish or plants from one body of water to another.
- Be respectful and courteous to one another on all lakes and waterways.

With appreciation from the Forest County Association of Lakes

This newsletter and other interesting information can be viewed online at: www.fcawis.org

| | | | | | | |
|--------|------------|--------|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
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| NWSLTR | Lammers | Vi | 6967 Hamilton Dr., Wabeno, WI 54566 | llammers@gmail.com | 715-473-2633 | Exp. 2021 |
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| BOD | Carty | Clair | PO Box 116, Laona, WI 54541 | claircarty@gmail.com | 715-674-2232 | Exp. 2021 |
| BOD | Bear Lake | | | | | Exp. 2022 |
| BOD | Charlton | Barb | 10109 W. Hawthorne Rd., Mequon, WI 53097 | barchar7491@yahoo.com | 262-787-8713 | Exp. 2022 |
| BOD | Court | Bruce | 2585 Lost Lake Lane Crandon, WI 54520 | brucecourt@aol.com | 715-478-1490 | Exp. 2022 |
| BOD | Henderson | Mike | 1635 Maple Ridge Rd, Wabeno, WI 54566 | hendy2@frontiernet.net | 715-478-1040 | Exp. 2021 |
| BOD | Kircher | Steve | 200 E. Madison St, Crandon, WI 54520 | lcc@co.forest.wi.us | 715-478-1387 | Exp. 2022 |
| BOD | MacPherson | Stu | 8361 County Rd. DD, Pickerel, WI 54465 | stuartmacpherson1970@gmail.com | 715-484-3316 | Exp. 2022 |
| BOD | Nash | Dawn | 5776 West Shore Lane, Crandon, WI 54520 | jdndash@yahoo.com | 715-952-3971 | Exp. 2022 |
| BOD | Resch | Harold | 4287 E. Lakeview Dr., Crandon, WI 54520 | | 715-478-2454 | Exp. 2019 |
| BOD | Schramm | Lester | 4884 Strawberry Bluff Lane, Crandon, WI 54520 | lesschramm@gmail.com | 715-478-5197 | Exp. 2022 |
| BOD | Schultz | Pat | 8036 Jungle Lake Rd., Crandon, WI 54520 | patgrauer@yahoo.com | 920-362-1542 | Exp. 2021 |
| BOD | Smith | Mark | 2619 Lost Lake Lane, Crandon, WI 54520 | supernom059@yahoo.com | 715-902-1575 | Exp. 2020 |
| BOD | Sommer | Larry | 3754 County Hwy W, Crandon, WI 54520 | | 715-478-5001, 715-550-5002 | Exp. 2021 |
| | | | | | Lucerne Lake | Exp. 2021 |

FCAL Board of Directors 2020