

President's Message

By Brad Matuska, SRCLA President



SRCLA President Brad Matuska

In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks.
-John Muir

Like most issues, this issue of The Chain Link will describe a lot of the incredible work that your Sauk River Chain of Lakes Association (SRCLA) is doing to execute its mission. I am so thankful for the passion and talent of our Board and the countless volunteers that contribute their time to help! For example, Matt Noska is moving on after volunteering to join the Board in 2012.

Here is Matt's farewell:

It seems like only yesterday that I threw my name in the hat at the SRCLA Annual Meeting in 2012 to join this team. The mantra of the SRCLA, 'Stewards of the Sauk River Chain of Lakes', is one that I am passionate about and I believe the work of our association becomes more meaningful each year. This has been an incredible learning experience, and I am honored to have been a part of such a dynamic and impactful organization. Unfortunately, my personal and professional commitments have become too great for me to be able to fulfill my duties on the Board. At this time, it is best for me to make room for someone with the time and dedication to devote to our lakes. I have complete confidence in the continued success of the SRCLA, and I am committed to ensuring a smooth transition to whomever replaces me on the Board. I want to thank all of the lake home owners for the trust you have placed in me as both a Board member and past Vice President of the SRCLA. It has been such a privilege to work alongside the many dedicated individuals that have served this organization both now and in the past. I wish the entire board and the SRCLA continued success in their future endeavors.

Thank you Matt, and I am also very thankful for our members and other stakeholders that make it all possible.

In addition, this issue is about *experiencing* the beauty and wonder of the Sauk River Chain of Lakes. We asked you to submit cover photos and were overwhelmed by the quantity and quality of the pictures! There were so many examples of how people love and enjoy the Chain! Also, you are going to read about a kayak adventure on the Chain as well as a tour bus of about 60 people that visited "lakescaped" properties all along the Chain which are designed to reduce stormwater runoff and pollution. It seems that every time we go out on the Chain, we experience something beautiful and different. From watching an osprey dive into the water for its prey, to fishing as the sun goes down, to getting in that early morning waterski before work, the Chain is for everyone!

We hope you enjoy this issue of *The Chain Link* and please remember that we need your help! Please consider being a member, volunteering, and/or gambling a bit at Shady's. In addition, please consider not using fertilizers to manage your lawn. About 70% of fertilizers applied end up in the lakes! Last, please consider doing a lakescape project on your property. Lakescaping is our last line of defense in minimizing excessive plant growth in the Chain. Don't forget to continuously visit our website at srcl.org for resources and updates. And most of all, thank you for being a friend of the Sauk River Chain of Lakes!

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