

WINTER SOCIAL

January 17, 2026 – Saturday
Social Hour 5:30
Dinner 7:00
TACONITE CANTEEN
240 Curtis Ave
Ironton, MN

Buffet Menu:

- Prime Rib with Au Jus
- Champagne Chicken
- Garlic Mashed Potatoes
- Dinner Rolls
- House Salad with choice of French or Ranch Dressing
- Green Beans
- Dessert

Cost is \$30 - includes gratuity and tax.

Pay at the door the night of the event

Please call/text for reservations by January 12.

Ejie 952.334.5849

~ Friends and Family Welcome ~

Door Prizes

RCCCLA SOCIAL GET TOGETHERS

January 17th Winter Social
April 4th Get Together
June 6th Get Together
July 18th Annual meeting
August 1st Get Together
October 3rd Get Together
December 5th Get Together
Details to follow.

HIGHWAY 6 SPRING CLEAN-UP

**Saturday, May 6, 2026
9:00 am**

The association takes responsibility for cleaning up the right of way on two miles of Highway 6 each spring and fall. Cleanup will begin at 10 AM at the Clinker Lake Landing. Bags and safety vests will be provided.

Thanks to all that participated in the spring clean up!

RCCCLA Board Fall Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2025 9:00 am

Woodtick Inn

Attendees: Karen Albers, Steve, Earhart, Chris Emerson, Scott Haas, Ejie Hanson, Tom Hintz, Gayle Larson, Rad Royer, Melissa Stagman, Mike Stagman, Bob Stokes, Rick West, Jon Wittnebel, Jon Williams

Agenda items

1. Membership direction

- a. **Annual Dues Amount.** There was discussion regarding what amount that RCCCLA annual dues should be. Dues are currently \$30/year. The annual dues of nearby lakes are as follows: Serpent=\$35, Bay=\$30, Ossawinnamakee=\$30. There was lively discussion regarding what the annual dues amount should be from \$30 to \$50. The question at large became as follows: Do you increase dues, increase membership or both? There were various opinions supporting each of the three strategies. In discussion, it was brought up that a \$40 annual dues amount effective January 1, 2026, had been passed at the Spring 2025 Board Meeting. After that, no further discussion regarding annual dues amount was had.
- b. **Dues Invoice.** There was discussion regarding the Annual Dues Invoice. A motion was made by Steve Earhart for a separate invoice mailing including a RCCCLA self-addressed envelope. The motion was seconded and passed. Mike Stagman will draft the invoice and distribute for Board approval.

2. 501c(3) – non-profit status

- a. There was discussion that RCCCLA's current 501c(3) status does not allow for members to deduct dues and other contributions such as AIS treatment, Walleye stocking, or anything else, to be deductible by members for Federal Income Tax purposes. A motion was made by Jon Wittnebel, seconded by Scott Haas and passed for Treasurer, Melissa Stagman, to check into and complete the process for RCCCLA's status be changed to allow member Federal Tax deductibility for dues and contributions payments.

3. Water testing for 2026

- a. There was discussion initiated by Rad Royer regarding RCCCLA Lakes water testing that was last done approximately 5 years ago by A.W. Research Laboratories, Inc. of Brainerd, MN. The current quote received from A.W. Research was for \$1,700. Discussion included the quote cost and that water quality is one of the key initiatives that RCCCLA is responsible for. A motion was made by Karen Albers and seconded by Ejie Hanson for the Water Testing to be completed in 2026. The motion passed with one dissenting vote. Scott Haas will lead this initiative.

4. Shoreline safe wake boat areas

- a. Discussion was initiated by Rad Royer that wake boating is considered safe by the Minnesota DNR if wake boats are 200 feet from shore and in 20 feet of water or greater. No planned action was identified or motion was made as discussion ended.

5. Walleye stocking

- a. Jon Williams talked with Mike Knapp, Minnesota DNR Brainerd Area Fisheries Supervisor about whether, or not, RCCCLA could legally stock walleyes in East and/or West Rabbit Lakes. The following is what was learned in summary:

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

I trust everyone enjoyed the beautiful summer, and now we face what looks like cold and snowy winter months ahead. I also hope you were able to join one or more of the RCCCLA social events that were held around the area. Our RCCCLA board was busy this year, and to discover just how busy take time to read our meeting minutes, via our web page or Newsletter, for details. Listed is a recap of some accomplishments of 2025: 1). The new RCCCLA web page is informative and wonderful (www.rcccla.org); 2). We have changed our membership/renewal approach and have a participation rate over 55%, 170 members, which is a new record to build on; 3). RCCCLA are completing the application for the association to become a 501c(3) non-profit entity. Next year RCCCLA will be supplementing the DNR's walleye stocking. We will also conduct January and summer water testing with AW Testing lab out of Brainerd. This has been done every 5 years for the past decade to monitor lake trends and the overall health of the Association Lakes. Don't forget that 2026 means a new and much improved County 31 bridge, slated for this coming summer! Log on to our web page at our webpage for updates and completion status.

Please remember RCCCLA's mission statement:

The Association will promote environmental stewardship for preserving and enhancing the quality of Rabbit, Clinker, Cuyuna, and Carlson Lakes.

This is only accomplished is only accomplished by each of us individually acting as a whole.

Rad Royer

radroyer@hotmail.com

218 831 5125

RCCCLA NEW WEBSITE

RCCCLA has a new website! You can now complete your annual membership registration online! Go to www.rcccla.org to register. If you have suggestions on website content you'd like to see, please email Mike Stagman at mstagman@gmail.com.

Or scan this QR code with your phone camera:



Due to the uncertainty of the scheduling of the Highway 31 bridge construction, the bridge, the road and waterway closure, RCCCLA boat parade will not be able to take place.

Walleye fingerlings are currently stocked in the Fall of odd years.

East Rabbit. East is already at the DNR's allowed maximum of 2 lbs. (484 lbs. in total)/littoral acre.

West Rabbit. We could buy, and stock, another pound/littoral acre (165 lbs.) so we could buy up to 165 additional lbs. of fingerlings from a vendor and have them stocked in West Rabbit. RCCCLA stocking needs to be coordinated with, and happen at the same time as the Fall odd year DNR stocking.

- A permit is required from the DNR for this additional stocking at no cost.
- The DNR does not sell fish to stock so we would have to work with a private vendor. The costs of additional fish are approximately \$1/fish or \$20-\$25/lb. depending on the vendor according to Mike Knapp. So, if we stocked 165 lbs. of walleyes in the West Basin, it would cost \$3,300 to \$4,125 for one stocking. Private stocking by an Association like RCCCLA needs to be coordinated with and occur at the same time as the DNR's odd year stocking.
- The perfect size fingerling for stocking is 15-25 fish per pound. Mike Knapp, DNR Brainerd Fisheries Supervisor, recommended not going any bigger than 10 fish/lb.
- A lot of fish will be lost the first year. Some will just die and many will be lost to predation (e.g. Northerns).
- A motion was made by Steve Earhart, seconded by Jon Wittnebel and passed as follows: Increase walleye stocking in West Rabbit in the Fall of odd years to 2 lbs./littoral acre (a total of 330 lbs.). This stocking needs to be coordinated with the MN DNR. Jon Williams will lead this initiative. The motion also included putting a Walleye Stocking Donation line on the revised Dues Invoice that Mike Stagman will be drafting.

6. Other.

- a. **Access Monitoring.** Rad Royer mentioned that current Crow Wing County monitoring hours may be cut to 400 hours. Rad mentioned that monitoring is needed to ensure that other Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) do not get into RCCCLA lakes. A motion was made by Bob Stokes and seconded by Tom Hintz to use existing AIS funds to maintain the current 400 hours of access monitoring. The motion passed with one dissenting vote.
- b. **Access signage.** There was discussion regarding Public Access signage. Jon Williams noted that the broken Aquatic Invasive Species signage is owned by, and must be fixed, by RCCCLA. Jon said he would contact the Crow Wing County Sheriff's office again regarding a new "No Wake" sign to replace the current damaged sign. Chris Emerson, Melissa and Mike Stagman will help Jon with installing/fixing the signs.





10% off any Rabbit Lake item
Good for the month of February 2026



COLDWELL BANKER
CROWN REALTORS®



Vern Lewis
Broker Associate
218-838-3041
Vern.Lewis@CBCrown.Com

Team LAKESHORE KINGS

www.LakeShoreKings.com



At



Preston Peters
218-232-2713

Steve Leary
218-821-5655



4 Season Resort & Campground

Direct Access To Bike Trails

23457 County Road 31 Crosby MN 56441

218-838-6858

Reservations @ RedRiderResort.Com

Jesse Williams
Guided Fishing Trip
Book at Oars-N-Mine Bait and Tackle
218.831.0267



Open daily from 6am-3pm.
Serving breakfast all day, homemade soups
and daily lunch specials!
12 West Main Street, Crosby



Navigating Your Financial Future

Stan Nagorski
Financial Advisor

Office: 218.546.6625

Cell: 218.820.0697

Fax: 218.546.6626

stann@efsadvisors.com

MN ID# 40045730

21642 North Raider Court
Crosby, MN 56441

www.efsadvisors.com



Open daily at 10:00am, Saturday at 8:00am



Contact Chris Hage
Norscapeinc@gmail.com
612.282.2662

Oars-N-Mine Bait & Tackle

22640 Highway 6 North

Crosby, MN 56441

218 546-6912

Oars-N-Mine Bait and Tackle has volunteered to remove and install our safety buoys.

Please thank them for helping us with this project, by using their products and services.

Besides bait and tackle, they sell licenses, boat lifts and docks. They also fill propane tanks and provide boat storage



If you have any questions/concerns or would like to submit an article for the RCCC Lake Association Newsletter, please contact:

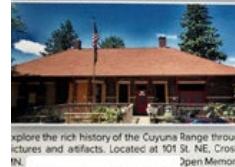
Ejie Hanson at:

952.334.5849 ~ 218.527.0014

We take ads and service announcements from members at no cost.

The deadline for the Summer Newsletter is June 1, 2026.

500 LINE DEPOT MUSEUM



Explore the rich history of the Cuyuna Range through pictures and artifacts, located at 101 St. NE, Crosby, MN.

Open Memorial Day weekend thru Labor Day weekend Tuesday thru Saturday, 10 AM - 4 PM

Learn about the worst mining disaster in Minnesota history where 41 lives were lost when water flooded the Milford Mine.

View the life size replica of the space capsule that was launched from Portsmouth Open Pit Mine and which carried Dr. David Simons into space in 1957.

WEBSITE: cuyunahistory.org | **Office phone:** 218-545-1166 | **Museum phone:** 218-546-6178



Holmvig Excavating, LLC

For all of your excavation service needs, contact Holmvig Excavating, LLC in Crosby, MN. Our services range from basements and driveways to site prep. We are licensed, bonded, and insured for your protection. Contact Holmvig Excavating, LLC today at 218-546-6103 for more information. You may also contact us at 218-820-2447 (Cell) for more information.

BRIDGE PROJECT

For more information on the bridge project: <https://www.rcccla.org/blank>

Grading and bridge replacement

Crow Wing County is actively planning to replace the bridge at the Rabbit Lake Landing on County State Aid Highway 30. The current bridge was installed after the closing of the Kennedy Mine. The bridge has met the engineering life span and is being replaced. The new bridge have 12-foot lanes and 6-foot shoulders. It will also be taller and wider for boat traffic.

Project Schedule

Final Design: 2024-2025

Permitting: 2025

Right-of-Way Acquisition: September – December 2025

Project Letting: March 2026

Memorial Day: May 25, 2026

Close Road/Implement Detour: July, 2026

Boat Restrictions Through Narrows: Periodically; dependent on MnDNR Permitting

Project Complete: Late fall 2026



RCCCLA Mission Statement

The Association will promote environmental stewardship for preserving and enhancing the quality of Rabbit, Clinker, Cuyuna, and Carlson Lakes.

Membership dues are vital in helping RCCCLA work at our mission statement.

Regular committee agenda items include:

Aquatic Invasive Species Monitoring and safeguards
Monitor and report Lake Level
Ensure safety buoys are present
Hwy 6 road side cleanup twice a year
Fish
Open/informative webpage
Winter Social

Boat landing safeguards for importing AIS
Continue and report Secchi disc readings
Provide Loon nesting platforms
Provide annual loon count
Water quality monitoring
Annual Meeting picnic
Boat Parade

Your Lake Association volunteers are committed to take on the issues that come forth in the Lakes behalf. Your membership is important, without it we cannot fund the environmental stewardship needed to help preserve and enhance the quality of Rabbit, Clinker, Cuyuna, and Carlson Lakes.

**It is not too late to be a member. Please complete the attached form.
Please include your current email address so we can update our files.**

RCCC Lake Association
P. O. Box 212
Crosby, MN 56441

Membership Application 2026 _____ New Member _____ Renewal of Membership _____

Name(s) _____

Lake Property Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mailing address (if different from address above) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cell phone _____

Email address _____

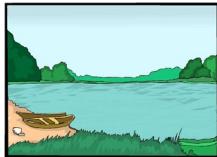


Membership fee \$40.00 (January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026)

Membership fee \$ _____

Donation to AIS fund \$ _____

Click on QR code to pay fee online



RCCC Lake Association
P.O. Box 212
Crosby, MN 56441

Help keep Rabbit, Carlson, Clinker and Cuyuna Lakes the best that they can be! Send in your membership application today!

— BECOME A —
MEMBER



RCCCLA Newsletter

(Rabbit, Clinker, Cuyuna, Carlson Lake Association)

No. 61

Winter 2025

Check out our new website:
<https://www.rcccla.org/>

RCCCLA is now on Facebook! Be sure to like our page! Search for Rabbit, Clinker, Cuyuna, Carlson Lakes Association or go to this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068915091709>