

# **LMILO ANNUAL MEETING 2007**

**Registration News**

**Friday, October 5 & Saturday October 6th.**

**Illinois Beach Resort and Conference Center**

**Illinois Beach State Park, Zion**

*In recognition of the lifetime contribution,  
and indomitable spirit of*

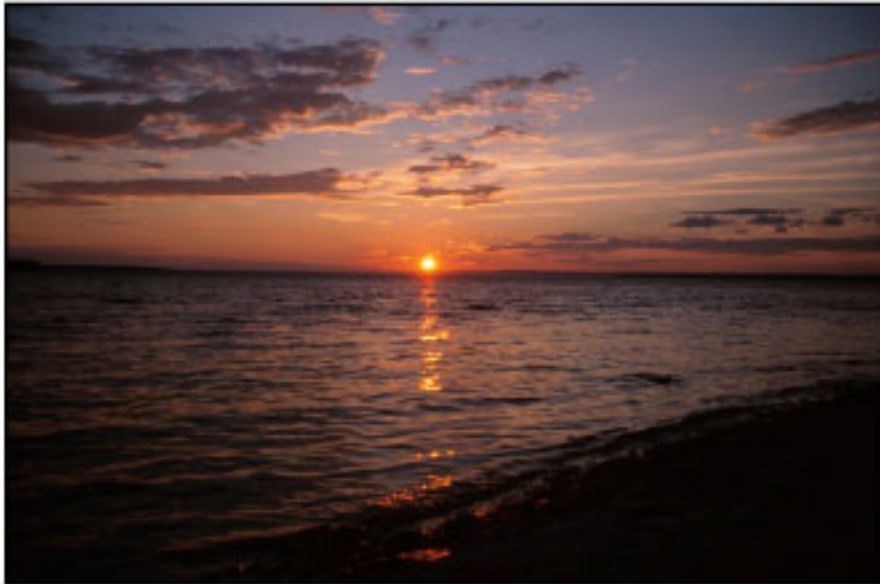
*Harriet Schlesinger and Marjorie Fisher*



# '25, 85, 15' ❖ News From LMILO

25% of the World's, and 85% of N. America's, fresh water is in the Great Lakes. Lake Michigan has 15%

## ANNUAL MEETING EDITION



### ILLINOIS HOSTS LMILO 2007 ANNUAL MEETING:

**Friday, Oct. 5th & Saturday, Oct. 6th,  
At the Illinois Beach Resort and Conference Center,  
Illinois Beach State Park in Zion.**



Nestled along the coastline of Lake Michigan on 4,100 acres of natural beauty in a protected state park, the Illinois Beach Resort and Conference Center will sweep you away from the noise, hustle and bustle of metropolitan life and into a scenic paradise. The resort is the only hotel in Illinois located directly on Lake Michigan. Located in Zion Illinois, we will be just 40 minutes from both Chicago and Milwaukee.

### **Add your voice to our program for 2008 and beyond.**

In addition to the serious business of League, we always learn much of interest about the area in which we meet. We enjoy seeing old friends and making new ones, and most important of all — we have fun!

We have planned a varied schedule of events that we hope will pique your interest, beginning on Friday afternoon with the following tours:

- i. North Shore Sanitary District sludge burner in Zion, the first in this country which turns waste into reusable glass aggregate!
- ii. Des Plaines River Wetlands Demonstration Project, a previously abandoned 550-acre farm and gravel quarry pits, rehabilitated ecosystem, which is a living bio-laboratory showing the restorative power of wetland ecosystems.

**Come and join us for a weekend of exhilarating companionship!**



### IN THIS ISSUE:

ANNUAL MEETING  
FRIDAY TOURS  
SATURDAY TOUR  
REGISTRATION INFO &  
FORM

**Agenda Issues**  
BYLAWS PROPOSED CHANGE  
PROPOSED NAME CHANGE  
PROPOSED 2008 BUDGET

LMILO ON THE WEB:  
SIGN UP FOR E-NEWS

MICHIGAN ENERGY FAIR  
STATE ISSUES

GREAT LAKES CITIES AND ST. LAWRENCE INITIATIVE  
ANNUAL MEETING

*"and, as I watched, I saw again - as if for the first time - that all embracing love of wind and waves, sand in the air, mystery and magic,....."*



*and the promise of tomorrow." [anon]*



### Friday Tours:

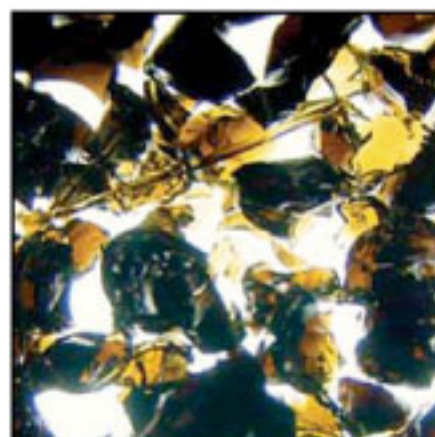
**1.00 - 3.00 pm**

The North Shore Sanitary District (NSSD) owns and operates three sewage treatment plants which service over 300,000 customers in Lake County, Illinois. NSSD recently replaced its traditional landfill disposal of sludge with an innovative process that combines a drying and melting process.

The sludge recycling facility (SRF) in Zion, which went on line in September 2006, is housed within a single building and consists of three major process systems. Dewatered sludge cake from the sewage treatment plants is unloaded and pumped into storage silos.

A closed-loop, oxygen enhanced combustion then bakes sludge cake to a vitrified glass aggregate granulate form.

Energy recovery, as part of the system operation, provides fuel for combustion, an air scrubber for odor treatment, and a mercury removal system. This facility is the first of its kind in the world. The process eliminates the consumption of valuable land, eliminates potential risk for soil and groundwater contamination and produces a useful construction product. Their web site includes a virtual tour of this innovative technology. [photos courtesy of Minergy web site: <http://www.minergy.com/facilities/northshore.html>]



### 3.30 - 5.50 pm Tour: Des Plaines River Wetlands Demonstration Project

[Information courtesy of: US Geological Survey Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center [www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/habitat/ripareco/desplain.htm](http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/habitat/ripareco/desplain.htm)]

"In 1980, near Chicago, Illinois, a group of scientists, engineers, public officials, and citizens banded together to develop a convincing case for wetland restoration by forming Wetlands Research, Inc., with Dr. Donald Hey as director. Their goal was to develop and test design principles, construction methods, and management programs needed to re-create and maintain wetlands (Hey 1988). They also intended to show how reconstructed wetlands function. The ultimate goal was to redirect and reform current environmental policies and thereby change investment and management programs. The strategy for achieving these goals and objectives was to be embodied in a wetlands demonstration project.

The Des Plaines River is polluted with both nonpoint source contaminants from a variety of land uses, including agriculture, and point source contaminants from small wastewater treatment plants. Vegetation was heavily grazed, and the site contained three abandoned gravel pits.

The site was owned by the Lake County Forest Preserve District and received relatively minor recreational use by fishermen. A baseline inventory of the site was used as the basis for the conceptual plan. The inventory included collecting data on landforms, soils, hydrology, water quality, vegetation, wildlife, public access and land use. The Project sought to establish the use of wetland restoration as a viable, economical, and preferred method for stream improvement along similarly degraded streams and water courses in the U.S."



**FRIDAY Evening:** [Select your dinner choice on the registration form on page 7].

**Our After Dinner Speakers are, Joyce O'Keefe and Debra Nelson.**

Joyce O'Keefe is a former League President, city council person and much more. She is currently vice-chair of the Natural Resources Advisory Board of the IDNR and on the board of the Illinois Environmental Council. [Continued Page 3]

*Debra Nelson* is a dunes expert with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and will talk about her specialty. We hope, also, to have the latest on the clean-up of near neighbor Waukegan Harbor and other issues of concern.

**SATURDAY:** We will meet for a light breakfast buffet and our Annual Meeting. If you have any questions or wish to add to the Agenda, please contact Judith Johnson or Jeanette Neagu. The Agenda will include (but not be limited to):

1. Proposed Budget Approval [see page 6];
2. Approve By-Laws changes [see below]
3. Approve program for 2007-2008;
4. Discuss name change [see below]



**SATURDAYTOUR:** Illinois Beach State Park:

[Information & Photo courtesy of Illinois DNR

[<http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/Landmgt/parks/rz/ilbeach.htm>]

“Stretching leisurely for six and a half miles along the sandy shore of Lake Michigan the Park encompasses the only remaining beach ridge shoreline left in the state.

Illinois Beach was created by the titanic forces of glacial advance and retreat and the steady winds that breathed across expansive Lake Michigan. The park has dunes and swales with sprawling marshes, forests of oak and vast arrays of animal life and vegetation.

The 4,160-acre park, boasts more than 650 species of plants recorded in the dunes area alone, including colorful wildflower, prickly pear cactus thriving in large colonies in the dry areas, and the wet prairies are carpeted with a wide variety of grasses and sedges. Large expanses of marsh in the swales support dense stands of cattail, bluejoint grass, prairie cordgrass, reed grass, big bluestem and sedges.

**LMILO ORGANIZATION: PROPOSED NAME CHANGE**

Can we advocate for all the Great Lakes, as we do now, without an all inclusive name plus the additional approvals needed to take any action? This major undertaking needs the input from the entire membership.

Over the past year, LMILO has had much discussion about the name of our organization. We are now more widely known by virtue of our Great Lakes issues education, advocacy and action activities.

The fact that we are a part of the League of Women Voters grants us respect for our unbiased message, yet our name does not reflect that membership. So we sometimes have a lot of extra explaining to do of who we are and what we do.

At the December meeting, the Board decided *Lake Michigan League of Women Voters* would be a better informative title of the image we wanted to convey.

However, since that time, we have come to recognize that we do not advocate for Lake Michigan in isolation and the Great Lakes are all one ecosystem.

Consideration has been proposed of a name which

encompasses all the Great Lakes, as in *Great Lakes League of Women Voters*, or a version thereof.

This will be a topic to be discussed at the Meeting.

**LMILO ORGANIZATION: PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES**

**ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

Currently, Section 1 reads: The Officers of the LMILO shall be a President or Co-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Bulletin Editor.

The Board recommends a change to insert Vice President and remove bulletin editor.

Section 5, which refers to the Bulletin Editor, then will be replaced by Vice President and read: The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President or Co-Presidents. The Vice President shall perform such other duties as directed by the board.

**ARTICLE V – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 1. Manner of Selection and Term of Office. The Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the Board, shall consist of the officers of LMILO; (adding) a Bulletin Editor appointed by the Board; and two representatives (adding) and two alternates appointed by each of the state boards of IL, IN, MI and WI.

[Continued Page 4]