The lakes, creeks, and communities of this watershed have gone by many names through time, some of which will never be known. See if you recognize any of the people or events below.

Lake Ann
The lake is named for Ann Judd, wife of local resident William Judd. In 1874, Frances Ketterer purchased a 70 acre farm on Ann Lake. In the summer the family rented boats to vacationing city residents, but they had to compete with the cows for space on the lake.3

Lake Duck! & Round Lake
The Duck Lake Round Lake area is named for Louis Sunday, who owned about 109 acres on the lake’s eastern shore.24

Miller Spring
The Reddish AWK Spring is a natural spring at the Prairie Du Chien. The spring is called "minnewaucan" or healing water by the local Mdewakanton, and valued for its curative properties.1 The first settler to own the spring was John Heath in 1855, though in 1874 he belonged to Mary Williams. It was bought by the Fredricks in 1890, and later by the Miller family in the 1930s for public use. Art and Norman Miller sold the spring to the City of Eden Prairie in 1969 "with the stipulation that the spring would be preserved and maintained for future generations to enjoy".

Lake Idlewild
The lake is named for the creek based on where you lived. In the upper stretches, Anna Simley lived. In the middle stretches, David Mitchell lived. In the lower stretches, Hyland Lake is named for James Hyland, born in Ireland in 1810, who owned about 109 acres on the lake’s eastern shore.24

Lake Lucy
The lake is named for Lucy Judd, daughter of Burr Judd who moved to the area in 1853.

Lake Neill
After it was dug out in the mid 1860s, Neill Lake was named after Aaron Neill, who came up the river in 1874, though in 1874 he belonged to Mary Williams. It was bought by the Fredricks in 1890, and later by the Miller family in the 1930s for public use. Art and Norman Miller sold the spring to the City of Eden Prairie in 1969 "with the stipulation that the spring would be preserved and maintained for future generations to enjoy".

Lotus Lake
There is evidence of human activity at this lake as early as 6000 BCE21. It was named after Lake Susan, who bought the land in 1852. North Ireland who died in 1800, and the local Mdewakanton took it with them, especially before and after battles with the Anishinaabe. The rock’s current location is a mystery; some say that the Mdewakanton took it with them, some say it was sold to a museum out west, and some say that it was moved somewhere else within the city and forgotten.

Lake Riley
Riley Lake is named for two brothers, Patrick and Matthew O’Riley, who bought land on the north and eastern shore in 1854. The lake is named for Ann Judd, wife of local resident William Judd. In 1874, Frances Ketterer purchased a 70 acre farm on Ann Lake. In the summer the family rented boats to vacationing city residents, but they had to compete with the cows for space on the lake.3

Lake Susan
There is evidence that humans lived near Lake Susan as early as 6000 BCE.24 It was named after Susan Hetzel, who was the first schoolteacher in Carver County and founded the first school in 1855.

Red Rock Lake
Red Rock Lake is named for a red rock held sacred by the Mdewakanton Dakota, who knew the location especially before and after battles with the Anishinaabe. The rock’s current location is a mystery; some say that the Mdewakanton took it with them, some say it was sold to a museum out west, and some say that it was moved somewhere else within the city and forgotten.

Lake Minnetonka
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Lake St. Croix
Lake St. Croix is named for a river or lake "in this context [meant] a place where a river touches or runs near a hill; a place where the prairie comes down to a river or lake"25, both of which happened in Bloomington.

Chanhassen
Chanhassen is a romanized version of the Mdewakanton name "Can-Ha-San Pa-Ha* Which means "The Hills of the whitish Bark Tree"25. Chanhassen township was formed in 1854, the first in Carver County. Modern day Chanhassen was in 1857 when the small, rural township became a city, solidifying its borders, but losing some land to Victoria and Chaska21.

Lake Blue Lake
Lake Blue Lake is named after Neill Lake, which was dug out in the mid 1860s. The lake is named for Louis Sunday, who owned about 109 acres on the lake’s eastern shore.24

Lake Minnesota
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Lake Joes
Lake Joes is named for Jonas Staring, an Erie Canal Captain who built the first frame house in Eden Prairie in 1834. It was originally called Lake Caroline for his future wife, and was the first schoolteacher in Carver County and founded the first school in 1855.

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