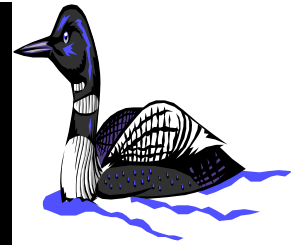


THE SUGAR LAKE NEWS

AUGUST 2004



2004

Calendar of Events

September 4-Diane's Lights Night

September 18- SLA Meeting*

October 16-SLA Meeting*

*SLA meetings are held at the Corinna Township hall at 8:00 a.m.

Send Newsletter submissions to:
Don Peterson

319 Wayside Rd W
Hopkins, MN 55343
Home 952-939-0172
Work 952-935-4201

E-mail donpeterson@maxigard.com

For membership, address, e-mail, or property owner changes contact

Karen Pitra
11102 Hoyer Ave NW
Annandale, MN 55302
320-274-8153

Or
Tanya Olin
11145 Hoyer AV NW
Annandale, MN 55302
320-274-5218

E-mail: tanya.m.olin@wellsfargo.com

Thank You

to the following merchants and individuals for donating prizes for the Sugar Lake Picnic. Their generosity is greatly appreciated.

Action Moving
Annandale Dollar Store
Annandale Hair Care
Beratellos Pizza
Black Dog Real Estate
Coborns
Country Lane

Culligan Buffalo
Dairy Queen
Dura Supreme Cabinets
Gardendale
H&H Sports
Karen's Hallmark
Keith's Kettle
Lake Center Bar & Grill
Little Jim's Bait

Lori's Hair Care and SPA
Lundeen Ford
Maple Lake Bank
Maple Lake Lumber
Miller's Jewellery
MPC Collision Center
NAPA Buffalo
Oak Real Estate
Peace Of Nature

Pierz Marine
Purcell Electric
Purcell's Heating & Plumbing
Rob's Upholstery
Southbrook Golf Course
State Farm Insurance

We would also like to thank Flicker Appliance in Monticello for the use of their Public Address system and Waste Management for getting the waste containers to us on very short notice after our former supplier backed out.

Diane's Lights Night Sat, 9/4/04 By Doc Williams

When we gather together with family and friends on Labor weekend, we will bid farewell to another fun-filled summer on Sugar Lake. The good times we have had this past season will be stored in our memories to be replayed time and time again this winter. Before we say goodbye, however, we have one more event and that is Diane's Lights Night, the grand finale of the summer. We, on Sugar, have an opportunity on this night to show the pride we have in our lake and make it shine like no other. The beauty of luminaries, set in various displays, lighting up the shoreline, is unmatched by any other lake I know of. This annual event will take place on Saturday of Labor Day Weekend, starting at dusk. Again this year we will have prizes for the 3 best displays with first place getting a free case of Pepsi for each of the 12 weeks of summer next year. The winner may choose from a variety of Pepsi products including Pepsi, Mountain Dew, Aquafina, Mug root beer, and many others. Remember, for your display to qualify, the illumination must come from a flame such as a candle or campfire. Electrical lighting of any kind will disqualify you. To enhance yours and your neighbor's displays, we ask that you turn off any yard lights and turn down your in-house lighting. For safety sake, we ask the owners of floating rafts to remove them for the night or illuminate them with a solar light or simply put several luminaries on them. To avoid congestion and possible accidents, anyone wishing to view others' displays by boat are asked to proceed **clockwise around the lake**. If you are unsure of what direction that is, simply face the lake and look to your left. Do you have a neighbor who is uncomfortable with boating at night? Why not invite them to join you on your watercraft. Good times are always more enjoyable when shared with others and together you can "ooh" and "aah" over the various displays.

Let's make this Diane's Lights Night the best ever. Lets all participate in some way, and to those that are going for the Pepsi, good luck. Above all, let's make this night one of the good times we will replay in our memories this winter.

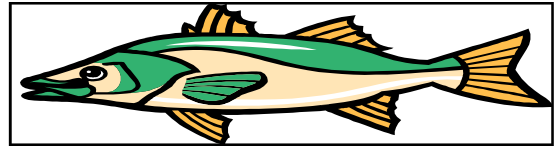
The tradition of lighting up the shore with luminaries was renamed in 2000 in memory and honor of Diane Radtke who started the Sugar Lights Night tradition in 1996. Diane donated the proceeds of her hand-made luminary sales to the Lake Improvement Fund and in the process created a great tradition of fun and beauty that seems to draw the Sugar Lake community together.



AUGUST 21 ASSOCIATION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

KASTL'S KORNER-the latest lake report.

The physical condition was 2 on a scale of 1 (good) to 5 (poor). 6 loons noted.



Date	Clarity	Water Temp	Air Temp	Culvert	
				Inlet	Outlet
08-17-99	9'	75°	80°	17"	22"
08-17-00	9'	75°	85°	15"	20"
08-14-01	7'	78°	81°	12"	17"
08-12-02	10'	74°	72°	25"	30"
08-15-03	9'	80°	88°	17"	22"
08-11-04	9'	65°	68°	17"	22"

Treasurer's Report- as of August 21, 2004

General Fund	\$ 13,231.37
Lake Improvement Fund	\$ 17,142.48
Milfoil Fund	<u>\$ 34,311.26</u>
Total All Funds	\$ 64,685.11

Membership

- Paid SLA membership for 2004 has reached 360. If you haven't paid your 2004 dues, please send your \$20 check payable to the Sugar Lake Association to: Sugar Lake Association 7285 120th St NW., Annandale, MN 55302.
- Please welcome new members: Seth McCulloch and Ron & LuAnn Elsner.
- Sugar lake members have been extremely generous in making extra donations beyond the \$20 dues payment. Extra donations have been received from the following: Richard & Barbara Goldstein, Bucky & Sue Zietz
- We extend our sympathies to the family of Curtiss Larson. Curt had a cabin in Addison Bay purchased in 1958, seven years before he even bought a house. He was a former board member and actively worked on association issues as well as the physical work of cleaning and monitoring the carp traps. Curt passed away at his home in Minneapolis on August 9, 2004.
- If you know someone new in your area that might be interested in becoming a member of the SLA, notify Karen Pitra. She will contact the new property owners with information and make them feel welcome to the area. Notify Karen of any changes to the directory information including address or phone changes. Contact Karen at 320-274-8153 or email kak8900@aol.com.
- **SUGAR LAKE NEWS FLASH:** This e-mail service is available for Sugar Lake members, family, and friends. Contact Tanya Olin at tanya.m.olin@wellsfargo.com or call 320-274-5218 with your e-mail address to get on the Sugar Lake News Flash list or to submit news items or sale items. Please keep your e-mail address updated with Tanya. Effective immediately News Flash sale ads will be sent out on Wednesdays. Please have any ads to Tanya by 10 a.m. Wednesday morning.
- A motion was made and passed to increase annual dues to \$25. The five dollar increase will all go to the Lake Improvement Fund to support planned initiatives such as the shoreline restoration efforts mentioned in this newsletter.

Sugar Lake Board Election Results

The Annual Meeting and Board elections were held on August 21. The election judge committee consisted of Jim Kastl and John Rivers. The results are:

New Board Members (Terms expire August 31, 2007)

Pat Dahl	Nancy Dunn
Tom Hall	Carla Huro
Arv Klemz	Linda Williams

Shoreline Restoration Project By Suzanne Quinn-McDonald

Be sure to take a look at the latest Sugar Lake shoreline restoration effort during your next boat ride around Sugar Lake. Located on the edge of the Quiggle property (east shore, area L), the project is marked by a Shoreline Restoration sign and a cedar brush bundle wave break. The site was chosen by the Sugar Lake Association (SLA) Vegetation Committee, and worked in conjunction with the newly formed Sugar Lakescapers group. Plants were purchased at wholesale prices through North American Prairie, and were paid for by the SLA. By creating a buffer zone of deep-rooted native plants at the point where runoff water enters the lake, the plants will deter erosion as well as act as “kidneys for the lake.” Without shoreline plants and aquatic plants, chemical fertilizers and other sources of phosphorus wash right in to the lake, creating algae. The project is a tiny foothold contributing to Sugar Lake’s long-term health and beauty, with the hope that the ideas and plants can flourish.



A permit was obtained from the DNR as some of the plants were placed in the water (a permit is necessary anytime lakeshore vegetation is removed or put in a lake), while others were planted on the shore. Several bulrushes were transplanted from another area of the lake, which also required a DNR permit. Additional plants included new hard stemmed bulrushes, arrowhead, sedge, bulbs (will yield purple flowers), with purple iris to be planted soon. A biolog made from coconut husks stabilizes the waves at the waters edge, while the cedar bundles help defuse the wave power further out. Planters included Dale Gustafson, Charlotte Quiggle, John Rivers, Dan Erdmann, Suzanne Quinn-McDonald, Brock Klobe, Steve Klobe, and Darrell Dahl. A special thanks to Dan, Brock, and Steve Klobe, milfoil divers on the lake, for donning their wetsuits and taking on the tough job of transplanting the larger bulrushes. Special thanks also to Steve Mann and his neighbor, Bruce Chamberlin, who removed, bundled, and donated several cedar trees from their property for the project.



Another shoreline restoration project can be found in front of John River’s property (southeast side of the lake, area N). John was concerned about the runoff entering the lake via a culvert behind his property, and chose to restore the shoreline in front of his property in an effort to filter the runoff water as it entered the lake, as well as well to reduce erosion along his shoreline. This commercial endeavor, with Dale Gustafson as the project’s manager, is a great example of an effort to establish natural shoreline beauty.



The Star Tribune ran an excellent article on shoreline restoration on August 18 titled *Lakeshores go wild* by Kim Palmer. It is a great article that reinforces what we are trying to do on Sugar Lake. See the article at: <http://www.startribune.com/stories/418/4932587.html>

Automatic Dishwasher Soap Promotion



The association especially thanks those members who are doing everything they can to keep our lake clean, including the use of the phosphorous-free dishwasher detergent, which Marlin Grant sold on behalf of the association at the picnic. Our association has inventory of the Seventh Generation phosphorous-free 50-ounce dishwasher detergent, both in powder and liquid form, which Marlin Grant is



storing for the association. Call Marlin at 320-274-7242 to purchase it. Buy two or more and Marlin will personally deliver to your lake home.

Dear Sugar

Dear Sugar, I want to make some improvements to my shoreline, where do I find information on how to get started? *Needs Direction*

Dear *Needs Direction*, The association has an excellent video called Save Our Shores available for members to check out. The video is a great starting point to learn about shoreline restoration. Contact education committee co-chairs Suzanne Quinn-McDonald at 763-427-5519 or Deb Beltrand at 952-944-1526.

Rainfall

July rainfall was 2.87 inches. The total for the year has been about 18 inches. Days with rainfall over one quarter inch include:

- 7/7 .75 inches
- 7/11 .97 inches
- 7/29 .45 inches
- 7/30 .45 inches

Give Our Lake a Break

Treat your septic system right to keep it in good working order.

- **Use toilet tissue that breaks up easily when wet** to help prevent clogging. To test tissue quality, place a piece in a jar half-full of water and shake. If the tissue breaks up easily, it is suitable. The color of the tissue has no effect on septic system action.
- **Eliminate the use of garbage disposals.** Ground-up garbage does not decompose easily, causes rapid build-up of solids in the tank, and may move out of the tank into the drainfield, clogging distribution pipes and soil pores. If you have a disposal—don't use it. When building or remodeling—don't install one.

From University of Minnesota Extension Service Shoreland best management practices.

Vegetation

No new areas of milfoil have been found. The Sugar Lake dive team, Steve Klobe and Dan Erdman, continue to experiment with placing chemical at the plant base of existing infestations. Some success has been noted. In the past two weeks they have also been trying hand removal of individual plants. Steve and Dan tirelessly research and experiment with other milfoil control methods as pictured here.



Catholic Mass

An outdoor mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m., Sunday, September 12, at the Shallbetter cabin. They are located on Sunset Point (area H, 1177 Gulden Ave. NW.) A free-will offering will be taken up during the mass with proceeds going toward lake education. Refreshments and social will follow. All are welcome. Bring your own lawn chair.

Picnic Recap

690 people attended the picnic. The weather was beautiful, the food was great, and everyone had a good time.

Raffle sales totaled \$4,859. Expenses were \$1,239 resulting in net income of \$3,620. Last year raffle sales totaled \$3,897. All income was deposited in the Lake Improvement Fund.



Thanks to picnic committee chair, Steve Harnett, for organizing this year's picnic, and many thanks to all who worked to make this event a huge success.

Expenses were right on the \$2500 budget for the picnic. Total expenses for 2003 were \$2522. For comparison 2003 expenses were \$2470.

Raffle Winners
1st: Lynn Baldy
2nd: Sean Nonoff
3rd: Don Dahlke



Thanks to Karl Enghauser for once again hosting the annual picnic on his property



Picnic 2004



Sugar Lake Association scholarship

The SLA offered a \$500 scholarship opportunity for the first time this year. Eligible entrants included SLA members, children or grandchildren of members attending any post secondary school in the fall of 2004. Entry instructions were as follows:

Please write short essays to answer the following:

1. What does community spirit on Sugar Lake mean to you?
2. Interview a person who has been a long-time resident of Sugar Lake and relate what you learned about the environmental history of the lake.
3. Sugar Lake is currently facing several issues that affect the water quality. They are as follows:
"First Flush" stormwater pollution,
Outdated or full septic systems
New construction landscaping
Erosion
Phosphorus from fertilizer and leaves

Please choose one issue and answer the following question: How would you help to improve the water quality of Sugar Lake?

The winner of the 2004 scholarship awarded at the annual picnic was **Kristin Beltrand**, daughter of Dennis and Debbie Beltrand.

Entrants sent a cover page with personal information including where they will attend school in fall 2004 and how they are related to someone on the lake. Those cover pages were separated from their essays before the essays were sent to the three judges. The judges unanimously chose Kristin's entry as #1, with the other entries in exactly this order - #2 Heather Zieska and #3 Bryan Mengelkoch. Second and third place entries can be seen on the SLA website www.sugarlake.org. The judges were Steve Wiltermuth, Tim Pippo, and Karen Gusaas

Here is Kristin's entry:

Community spirit on Sugar Lake is something that is hard to explain to those who haven't experienced it. It's a special connection that all Sugar Lake residents embrace, but no one else can understand. "Community" is defined in the Webster's Dictionary as "a body of people living near one another and in social relationships." "Spirit" is defined as "the emotional attitude or frame of mind characteristic of a group of people." These two definitions put together equal the feeling of Sugar Lake. It is a group of people who live near each other and share the same feelings and thoughts. Although there are people of all different race, gender, ethnicity, and culture, we all have the same belief that Sugar Lake is the best place to be.

Whether it's a neighbor or a fellow lake resident, everyone is always willing to help each other or just say "hi." There is no other place in the world I can go and have people who I don't know wave and smile at me. It's so comforting to drive around the lake in the boat and see friendly faces. It's a great feeling that makes me believe that I'm at home. The annual Sugar Lake picnic is a great demonstration of camaraderie among fellow lake residents. My family has also been blessed with two sets of great neighbors. We don't hesitate to lend each other food, boat gas or just a helping hand. It's nice to know that such great people are there for you if you need them.

It's community spirit on Sugar Lake that makes me want to make it a permanent part of my life. I want my children and grandchildren to experience and understand the special connection that all Sugar Lake residents share. I don't think that I could find this kind of spirit on any other lake.

When thinking about which long-term resident of Sugar Lake I would interview I could think of several great people. My grandparents were obviously the first people who crossed my mind, but then I decided to reach out a little further to learn from some one else's experiences and thoughts. I could think of several people on the lake who are either family friends or knowledgeable people. Any of them would have been fine choices but there was one person in my mind who stuck out.

Ultimately I decided to interview Jan Quinn, who is both a friend of my grandparents and was my pre-school teacher. I asked her about septic systems on Sugar Lake since that's what issue I decided to write on for the third essay. The most important thing that Jan told me was that her family was lucky enough to have the chance to buy an extra plot of land for run-off to go.

She then pointed me in the direction of Andy Juetten, and said that he would have more information about septic systems. He said the most crucial element of septic systems is proper care. This includes pumping the systems every three years, maintaining them regularly, evening out the water usage, using only certain soaps, and not parking or driving on them.

This was great information that I learned from interviewing these residents. Much of it is similar to what I wrote about in the third essay, but it was nice to hear it from someone I know and trust.

(Scholarship entry continued)

Sugar Lake is currently facing several issues that affect the water quality. Although all of the issues presented are important, I decided that I could relate to septic systems because we've had problems with ours. Septic systems are on-site sewage treatment systems that safely recycle wastewater back into the natural environment. Twenty-five percent of Minnesota households use septic systems, and it is the owner's responsibility to operate and maintain the system correctly in order to avoid problems.

I can help to improve the water quality of Sugar Lake by using good management practices of my septic system. First, I need to ensure that my septic system is in code with local ordinances and properly operated and maintained. There are certain products that can't be put down the system and residents need to conserve water. Second, I need to practice good lawn maintenance and establish a shoreland buffer zone of natural vegetation. Fertilizing needs to be limited, waste needs to be kept out of the lake, and pesticide needs to be reduced or eliminated. Erosion and infiltration of nutrients into the lake need to be prevented by buffers, and gentle sloping and terraced landscaping should be in place. Third, I can help by being a safe boater and practice catch-and-release fishing. I need to follow local boating regulations and safety rules, and enjoy fishing while only keeping the appropriate fish. Fourth, I need to prevent the spread of exotics, such as water milfoil. Everyone needs to check their boat before and after launching into the water. Finally, I will try to work with local officials, become part of the local decision making process, make concerns known to legislators, and support the Minnesota Lakes Association. Attending meetings, getting to know others in the community, and supporting the Sugar Lake Association will help me and all of the residents of Sugar Lake. Educating the lake residents on important issues is key. If we work together at the local, county, and state levels, we can make a difference in the water quality of Sugar Lake.

If these management practices are not enforced, improperly treated sewage can impact human health and the environment. We need to be alert of the most common causes of improper systems in order to prevent human health and environment problems. System failure may be identified by sewage backup into the house, water or sewage surfacing in the yard, sewage odors, high levels of nitrates or coliform bacteria in well water tests, alarms from the system sounding, or algae blooms and excessive plant growth in the lake. Problems are most commonly the result of improper design or installation of the system, overuse of water in the home, or lack of proper maintenance.

An outdated or full septic system is one of several issues that Sugar Lake is currently facing. It is an issue that my family has faced and is something that I can easily prevent. By following the previously mentioned management practices and being alert of the causes and warning signs of system failure, we can help the water quality of Sugar Lake.



Note from Kristin

Dear Sugar Lake Association,
I would like to thank you for the opportunity to apply for the scholarship. I have already put it towards paying off the interest on my school loans. It is nice to know there are opportunities like this.

Thanks,

Kristin Beltrand

Public Access

The Association plans to help greet people and remind them about exotic species control at the north and south public accesses on Labor Day if enough volunteers can be found. If you can donate an hour or two please contact Lynne Bonine 320-274-2005.

Can cooler and travel mug sale

Can coolers and travel mugs with a Sugar Lake logo are available for sale. The can coolers are \$2 each, travel mugs \$5 each with proceeds benefiting the milfoil fund. Contact Karen Pitra at 320-274-8153 for information or stop by Karen's Hallmark in Annandale.



FOR SALE

14 foot aluminum fishing boat. 9-1/2 HP Johnson motor. No trailer. Contact Al 952-922-1739.

FOR SALE

5 seat paddleboat. 4-5 years old. \$200 Call Bill 651-210-0932

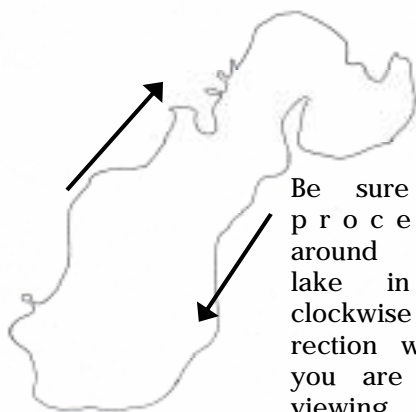
LOST

On Sun, August 15, in the afternoon sometime, we lost a slalom ski on Sugar Lake. It's an O'Brien ski with blue and white coloring. It even still has the price sticker on it. Anyone who finds it or may think they have seen it can call Jim Peterson at 763-557-1012. Thank you so much

LEFT AT PICNIC

A Heidi Songtehy, sorry if the name is misspelled, purchased a box of 7th Generation dishwasher soap but forgot to pick it up at the close of the picnic. If anyone knows her phone number please call Marlin Grant at 320-274-7242 .

Diane's Lights Night

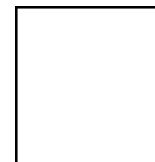


Be sure to proceed around the lake in a clockwise direction when you are out viewing the Diane's Lights Night displays.

Sugar Lake Association History

Ed Quinn sent in a copy of the August 1972 Sugar Lake Association newsletter advertising the first annual picnic at Enghauser's on Sunday, August 20, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Members were advised to bring their favorite lunch and beverages for the first annual summer outing.

The Sugar Lake Association
The Sugar Lake News
7285 120th St NW
Annandale, MN 55302



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