



The Sugar Lake News

AUGUST 2012

Sugar Lake Association Minnesota Waters' 2010 Lake Association of the Year 2009 Star Lake Recipient

2012

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 1-5K Run/Walk

September 1-Diane's Lights Night

September 15- SLA Meeting*

October 20-SLA Meeting*

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

September & October meetings at 9 a.m.

Send Newsletter submissions to:

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Home 952-939-0172
Work 952-361-3026
E-mail don@sugarlake.org

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

contact Marianne Borgeson at
12282 Hart Ave NW
Annandale, MN 55302
320-963-2674

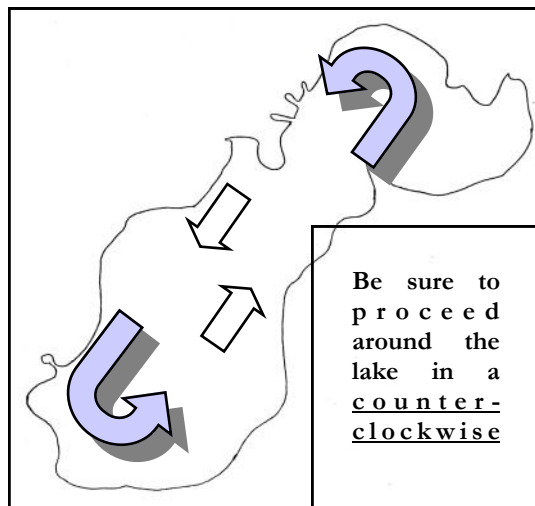
E-mail membership@sugarlake.org

Diane's Lights Night By Doc Williams

As the Summer draws to a close and the days get shorter we on Sugar Lake have one more event to look forward to and that's Diane's Lights Night. It's a beautiful way of saying good bye to another wonderful season on Sugar Lake. Hopefully you have chosen to participate in this year's event. On Saturday of Labor Day weekend, assemble your display and as darkness approaches, light your candles and be part of the show. Watch as others go by enjoying what you have assembled or be part of the parade of boats viewing our lake at its finest. Remember, all lighting for your display must come from a flame of some sort. Candles, fires, torches, or any other fire you can think of are allowed but no electrical lighting please. You can use either brown or white lunch bags, milk cartons, glass jars, etc, for your luminaries and tea-lights work well for illumination. Folding the top of the bag over on itself will help stiffen them in the wind and sand or stones in the bottom keeps them in

place. We ask that those who have swim rafts either illuminate them in some way or bring them into shore to help prevent accidents. Reflectors though legal, can't be seen at night. All watercraft should proceed around the lake shore in a counter clock wise manner to prevent congestion. The Pugh and Urista families, last year's winners, will be out judging to pick the 3 top displays. The first place winner will receive a free summer of Pepsi products. The results will be in next month's newsletter.

A big thanks to Bernicks Beverage, the Pepsi distributor for the St. Cloud area, for donating the prizes as well as the soft drinks at the picnic. Enjoy the evening.



Brandon Beckman Memorial Sugar Lake 5K Run/Walk September 1

The third annual Sugar Lake Run/Walk in memory of Brandon Beckman will be held on Saturday September 1, beginning at 9 a.m. All profits go to SLA Lake Improvement Fund.

It is not too late to register. Download a registration form from the Sugar Lake website www.sugarlake.org. Registration will also be available the day of the race. Registration/ check-in begins at 8 a.m. at the Corinna Township Hall on Ireland Ave, 1/3 mile north of County Road 39.



Water Quality Report.

By Dan Erdmann

The latest lake report. The physical condition was 2 on a scale of 1 (good) to 5 (poor).

Date	Clarity	Water Temp	Air Temp	Culvert	
				Inlet	Outlet
08-15-07	8'	79°	79°	15"	20"
08-14-08	8'	75°	74°	16"	21"
08-13-09	10'	81°	71°	18"	23"
08-18-10	7.5'	77°	72°	23.5"	29.5"
08-17-11	12'	78°	74°	31"	36"
08-15-12	10.5	76°	79°	15.75"	21.75"

Membership

Paid membership to date this year is 284. If you know someone new in your area that might be interested in becoming a member of the SLA, notify Marianne Borgeson. She will contact the new property owners with information and make them feel welcome to the area. Notify Marianne of any changes to the directory information including address or phone changes. Contact Marianne at 320-963-2674 or email membership@sugarlake.org.

News Flash

The Sugar Lake Association maintains two email lists for communication with membership:

News Flash: This list is used to send information about invasive species treatment, event announcements, member information, government information, etc. To subscribe to this list send an e-mail to newsflash@sugarlake.org requesting addition.

For Sale: This list is used to send information about items "for sale" by the membership. To subscribe to this list send an email to forsale@sugarlake.org requesting addition.

If you wish to unsubscribe follow the instructions in the email you receive from the list or send an email requesting removal to the addresses listed above.

For the latest news on Sugar Lake visit our website:

www.sugarlake.org

Newsletter

Help save postage and printing costs by subscribing to the electronic version of the Sugar Lake News. You will receive a PDF file by email that looks like this newsletter **but in color**. Contact newsletter@sugarlake.org with your email address if you are interested.

Fireworks Recap

Thanks Joel Williams and Waconia Pyrotechnics for a great show the night of the annual picnic. Thanks to the audience on the lake for keeping the perimeter clear. The sound system worked great—it could be heard across the lake.

Treasurer's Report

As of August 18, 2012

General Fund	\$39,184.67
Lake Improvement Fund	\$24,857.82
Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund	<u>\$90,982.18</u>
Total All Funds	\$155,024.67

Rainfall

July rainfall totaled 3.4 inches. August rainfall through the 22nd has been 1.35 inches. Thanks to Andy Juetten for providing monthly rainfall totals.

Township News

Corinna Township Town Board meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays of every month at 7 p.m. The Corinna Town Hall is located on Ireland Ave, 1/3 mile north of County Road 39.

Clerk: Mary Barkley Brown 320-274-8049

- Visit the Corinna Township website at www.corinnatownship.com.

Clearwater Township Town Board meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. The Clearwater Town Hall is located on Highway 24, 3-1/2 miles south of Clearwater.

Clerk: Jean Just —Town Hall Phone: 320-558-6790

- Visit the Clearwater Township website at www.clearwatertownshipmn.gov/office2.com.

Outdoor Catholic Mass

On Sunday of Labor Day weekend Father Marty Shallbetter will celebrate a Catholic Mass at his family's cabin which is on the west side of Sunset point. The address is 11777 Gulden Av. N W (area G). Mass will start at 10 AM and refreshments will be served after. Some chairs will be provided however, you may want to bring your own. If you wish to come by boat, you may tie up at any of the neighboring docks. All are welcome.

Sugar Lake Board Election Results

The Annual Meeting and Board elections were held on August 18. The results are:

New Board Members

(Terms expire August 31, 2014)

Gary Borrell
Joann DeGrood
Laurie Erickson
Dale Gustafson
Paul Gustafson
Jeff Jonswald

Trudy Richter was also confirmed to complete the term of Charlotte Schreiner.

Elected officers for 2012/2013:

Chair—Don Peterson Treasurer—Jon Juntunen
Vice Chair—Paul Gustafson Secretary—Andrea Welter

Thank You

Thanks to the following outgoing board members.

Pictured left to right: Doc Williams, Sue Dixon, Karen Gusaas, Betsy Hanson, Matt Kutz, and Ron Elsner.



Fundraising

The following individuals have contributed money beyond their dues. These contributions will allow us to treat invasive aquatic species according to our plan. We will be able to continue the work of maintaining and improving the water quality of Sugar Lake to the benefit of all property owners. (Contributions July 1 through August 23, 2012)

Thank You!

John & Deb Hoaby
Lyndon Johnson
Chris & Mary Kastl
Duane & Nancy Lipinski
*Jim & Sandi Martin
Mike & Suzanne McDonald
Larry & Anna Purcell
Scott & Betsy Radtke
Peter & Charlotte Schreiner
Greg & Joni Selle

Al & Cheryl Smith
Frank Vinella
Jeffrey & Mary Weiss
*William & Susan Zietz

* We would like to recognize and thank these people for their generous donation of an "acre" or more.

Vegetation Report

Dale Gustafson – Vegetation Committee

This is a year of bad news and good news for the vegetation management of Sugar Lake. The biggest problem was the fact that we had almost no winter this past year and both Curly leaf pondweed and Eurasian water milfoil kept actively growing last fall into what would usually be winter. Then with early "ice out" last spring these plants got an extra head start on the native vegetation. That resulted in larger areas of both of these plants had to be treated and that dramatically increased the cost for invasive plant treatment and significantly depleted the funds in our Invasive species account.

In the past we have decided that we should attempt to maintain a balance of at least \$100,000. That means we need to renew our fundraising effort.

The good news this year is that we were very effective in controlling both Curly leaf pondweed and Eurasian water milfoil with our treatments. The treatments were expensive, but effective, and we hope that next year we should have less to treat. Another good news item was the changes that were made in the DNR permit process made the permit process much better for us.

We have decided that we need to do another Whole Lake Plant Survey to be sure that our native plants are remaining healthy and plentiful. That survey will be done by Blue Water Science this fall and will include a summary of surveys over the last few years.

Water Quality

Dale Gustafson – Water Quality Committee

The Water Quality Improvement Committee is continuing to work on two major projects this year. We have been working with the Wright Soil and Water and have recently made some exciting progress on both projects.

Hollister Creek is the project on the south end of the lake that we have been working on for years. We discovered last year that we needed to make improvements to handle larger rain events. We have managed to get general acceptance of the major parts of the project from the surrounding land owners, including the farm community. We will be conducting a series of meetings in the next week or two to review the details of the engineering for this project.

The project at Hollister and 110th has found its way into the funding path and we hope that we will be able to do part of the project as early as this fall.

Both of these projects could be funded in a manner that the SLA will only have to provide 25% of the cost. That is about the best we can expect to receive from any source and this has been the same ratio that was used with earlier projects. Because we have the opportunity to work on both projects, it will mean that our budget for project (Lake Improvement Fund) will most likely not be adequate. Again that means fundraising, but opportunities like this do not come that often, in fact we have been waiting for several years. With this opportunity in front of us we should make every attempt to take advantage of the situation and do both projects.

PICNIC 2012





Picnic Recap

Picnic photos by Cindi Peterson

Perfect weather drew a crowd of 650 for this year's picnic. The picnic committee chairs this year were Deb Beltrand and Betsy Hanson, pictured to the left. A large volunteer staff is needed before, during, and after the picnic. Thanks to Deb, Betsy and all the volunteers who worked so hard to make the annual picnic a success.



Expenses came in under budget. Raffle sales totaled over \$3800. Raffle income was deposited in the milfoil and invasive species fund. Thank you for the extra donations for extra guests.

Thanks to Karl Enghauser and his wife Enith for again hosting the picnic on their grounds.

Raffle winners were:

- 1st: Cheryl Delbow
- 2nd: Jeanne Ciminski
- 3rd: Marilyn Andersen



Picnic Thank You

to the following merchants and individuals for donating prizes for the Sugar Lake Picnic. Their generosity is greatly appreciated. Please remember these merchants as you shop.

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| A Meats | Cathy & Doug Beckman |
| Bernicks St Cloud | Karen & Rob Gusaas |
| CK Septic | Steve Harnett, Keebler |
| Ron & LuAnn Elsner | Betsy & Jim Hanson |
| Martha & Doug Miller | Annandale Grad. Party |
| The Klobes | |
| Jan & Ed Quinn | |

Special thanks to Mike and Janet Mengelkoch for donating prizes for the games again this year.

Did you know...

the lake is currently at its ordinary high water level of 15.75 inches. Historically, it is at this level at this time of year. (Last year, however, it was at 31 inches).

Here is the DNR definition of the ordinary high water level:

The **ordinary high water level (OHWL)** is a reference elevation that defines the DNR's regulatory authority over development projects that are proposed to alter the course, current or cross section of public waters and public waters wetlands. For lakes and wetlands, the OHWL is the highest water level that has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave evidence on the landscape. The OHWL is commonly that point where the natural vegetation changes from predominately aquatic to predominantly terrestrial. For watercourses, the OHWL is the elevation of the top of the bank of the channel. For reservoirs and flowages, the OHWL is the operating elevation of the normal summer pool. The OHWL is also used by local units of government as a reference elevation from which to determine structure setbacks from water bodies and watercourses.

This is a great opportunity to take note of this important benchmark. Historical information on water level is published in every newsletter. Go to www.sugarlake.org to view past newsletters.



Chairman's Corner

With this issue, I say 'Farewell', as my term as Chairman and a member of the SLA Board have both come to an end. If I was asked to summarize my term on the Board in a single word, I would say it was 'Gratifying'. During my term, I came to know the inner workings of a very capable and conscientious organization that stays true to its mission. The actions of the Board and the Association are a reflection of the people who make up the organization; that is YOU, the members. Having met and worked with many of you for the first time in the past several years, it easy to see why the SLA was recognized by its peers as the 'Lake Association of the Year' in 2010. We have a lot to be proud of!

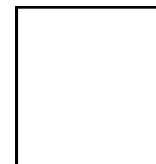
During the past year, we had some rather difficult issues to deal with. We accomplished some things we set out to do, and fell short on a few others. The Association has plenty of needs that can benefit from your involvement. I hope that you all recognize that you don't have to be a member of the Board to be involved. I will leave you with the same challenge that I made to the Board members a year ago: Pick out an area of interest, and commit to helping out. You **CAN** make a difference.

Thanks to all of you for your support. I enjoyed meeting many of you in the past year, and look forward to working with you in the future. Hope to see you on the lake!

Best regards,
Ron

PS: And remember, as always – **Be Safe!!**

The Sugar Lake Association
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Annandale, MN 55302



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