

The Sugar Lake News

JULY 2008

2008

Calendar of Events

August 2-SLA Picnic

August 16-Annual Meeting/Board Election*

August 30-Diane's Lights Night

September 20- SLA Meeting*

October 25-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:

Don Peterson
319 Wayside Rd W
Hopkins, MN 55343
Home 952-939-0172
Work 952-361-3026
E-mail don@sugarlake.org

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

contact Craig Johnson at
3312 132 St W
Burnsville, MN 55337
952-894-3593
E-mail membership@sugarlake.org

Annual Meeting and Board Election

Proxy vote ballots and candidate statements for the candidates interested in serving as Board members are enclosed. You may cast your vote in person at the annual meeting, August 16, or you may vote by mail. Please return your ballot to the SLA secretary, Karen Sutherland, on or before 8:00 a.m. Saturday, August 16.

Annual Picnic

It is annual picnic time! Come out and enjoy the day with your friends, family, and neighbors from around the lake. Check in at the membership table for your name tag(s) and raffle entry. Enjoy the great food, drinks, kids' games, educational opportunities, and annual raffle.

Date: Saturday, August 2

Place: Enghausers, SE corner of the lake.

Schedule of events :

8 a.m.	Setup
12 noon	Picnic starts
1 to 3 p.m.	Kids' games
3 p.m.	Raffle and door prize drawings

Food will be served all afternoon until it is gone.



- Please clean up after yourself, and be sure you don't leave anything behind on the grounds.
- Please note that this year registration and a name tag will be required for food and drink. Please register as soon as you arrive.
- Please leave your dogs at home.
- If you are bringing extra guests consider making a donation to help cover the cost.
- Anyone under 40 should be prepared to show ID for beer or wine service.

There are still one-hour shifts available for serving food.

Please donate an hour of your time at the picnic to help make it a success for everyone.

If you can help please contact:

Deb Beltrand 952-944-1526

email: dbeltrand@comcast.net

If you were interested in donating door prizes for the picnic and were not contacted by

Raffle Update

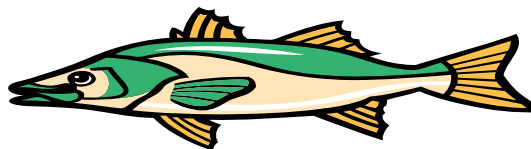
Raffle ticket sales are on track this year. So far, \$2,500 has been raised in the annual fundraising event. Many thanks to all of you who have sold tickets! It's still early enough to get out and sell those tickets to help raise the approximately \$5,000 that was budgeted for raffle income this year. Raffle ticket proceeds will all go to the Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund. As always, there will be additional opportunities to buy more raffle tickets at the picnic.

If you would like more tickets to sell, please contact Karen Sutherland at 651-698-2284 or 320-490-4047.

If you would like to return your sold ticket stubs and checks (NO CASH PLEASE!), made payable to the Sugar Lake Association, please send them to SLA Treasurer 7285 120 St NW, Annandale, MN, 55302.

KASTL'S KORNER

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
07-18-03	7'	84°	84°	23"	29"
07-15-04	10'	80°	84°	20"	25"
07-14-05	8'	70°	90°	24"	29"
07-15-06	7'	78°	78°	18"	23"
07-17-07	11'	78°	85°	16"	21"
07-16-08	11'	75°	75°	25"	30"

Membership

Paid Association membership for 2008 has reached 248. If you haven't paid your 2008 dues, please send your \$50 check payable to the Sugar Lake Association to:

Sugar Lake Association
3312 132 St W
Burnsville, MN 55337.

You can also pay at the picnic when registering.

If you know someone new in your area that might be interested in becoming a member of the SLA, notify Craig Johnson. He will contact the new property owners with information and make them feel welcome to the area. Notify Craig of any changes to the directory information including address or phone changes. Contact Craig at 952-894-3593 or email membership@sugarlake.org.

We extend our sympathies to the family of Obert Nelson who passed away in November.

SUGAR LAKE NEWS FLASH:

Want the latest information on what's going on at the lake? If you are not getting the occasional e-mail from the Association it's probably because we do not have your up to date e-mail address. Please just send an e-mail to webmaster@sugarlake.org and you will be added to the list. We maintain two lists, one for News Flashes and one for "For Sale" information.

Treasurer's Report

As of July 19, 2008

General Fund	\$15,556.54
Lake Improvement Fund	\$24,972.66
Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund	\$81,977.98
Total All Funds	\$122,507.18

Rainfall

May rainfall was 4.93 inches, June was 3.92 inches. July rainfall through the 23rd has been 1.7 inches. Year to date through 7-1-08 we have had 14.79 inches. That is close to normal. Thanks to Andy Juetten for providing rainfall data.

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: Vi Novotne 320-274-5179

- 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: Sharon Lee 320-558-6725

- Visit the Clearwater Township website at www.clearwatertownshipmn.govoffice2.com.

Water Quality Improvement

By Dale Gustafson

The Hollister Creek project is now a reality. Well, at least the project has started. You can see by this picture that the land is now cleared, and by the time you read this the new creek bed will be substantially complete. Watch for further updates.



Give Our Lake a Break

Follow the instructions provided later in this newsletter; remove any Eurasian water milfoil in the near shore area around your dock and boats.

**Proxy
Sugar Lake Association
Annual Meeting
August 16, 2008**

Sugar Lake Association Bylaws, Article 4, Section 10;

A vote may be cast in person or by proxy, provided that proxies shall be in writing, shall be only for the particular meeting designated therein, and shall be filed with the Secretary before the appointed time of the meeting.

I appoint SLA Chairman, Steve Wiltermuth or
 SLA Member, _____
(Print Member Name)

as holder of my Proxy to vote on my behalf at the Sugar Lake Annual meeting August 16, 2008. My proxy for Directors should be cast as shown below.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

I am a Sugar Lake Association member.

Select up to 6 Candidates for Director:

- Marilyn Anderson
- Cathy Beckman
- Deb Beltrand
- Mike Kluge
- Greg Selle
- Jim Stewart

- **Please return this form on or before 8:00 a.m., Saturday, August 16, 2008, to:**
Karen Sutherland
464 Mount Curve Blvd
St Paul, MN 55105

Sugar Lake Association

Candidates for the Board of Directors

Marilyn Anderson

Lake Address: 10761 Hendricks Ave. NW, Maple Lake, MN, 55358

Area: M;

We have owned our property on Sugar Lake since 1960. After a 40 year stint living in Texas, I decided to make a move back to MN. I moved to Sugar Lake in 2001, so I guess you could say It's been almost 50 yrs.

This is a beautiful lake and it is my hope that we can keep working hard to maintain what we have here. I would certainly enjoy working with the Sugar Lake Assoc. to help keep up the good work they have been doing.

Cathy Beckman

Lake Address: 10880 Imhoff Ave NW, Annandale, MN, 55302

Area: R; **Owner/full time resident**

I am a lifetime resident of Annandale and have resided on Sugar Lake with my husband Doug, and two children for the past 21 years. Doug has been on Sugar Lake since his family purchased a cabin here in 1966. We have always been proud to call Sugar Lake home. It is a beautiful lake. We know that this is directly due to the continued efforts of so many generous people that have volunteered their time and talents. Our children are grown, and I feel that it is now my turn to volunteer my energies and hopefully talents to ensure that Sugar Lake will continue to be a precious gift for future generations to enjoy!

Deb Beltrand

Lake Address: 11532 Hoyer Ave NW, Annandale, MN, 55302

Area: T;

My family and I have lived on the lake for 51 years. As past SLA Board member (from 2003-2006), I am ready to serve again to help continue the work that has already been started on the lake. I am the current organizer of the Sugar Lake Picnic and realize the history of that event. I want to see the relationships between members/owners continue to grow through events like the SLA picnic.

Mike Kluge

Lake Address: 12035 Hart Ave NW, Annandale, MN, 55302

Area: Y; **Owner/full time resident; an association member for 6 years.**

Thank you for considering me for a position on the Board of Directors. I have been using Sugar Lake for over 20 years and have caught more trophy fish from this lake than other lakes that I have fished. Believe me, I have fished plenty on many other lakes. I have been lucky enough to be with my oldest son when he caught his first 2 Muskies and also my youngest son catching his first of many fish from Sugar Lake. Please allow me to help keep Sugar Lake the quality lake it is through my assistance on the Board of Directors. I would love to pass Sugar Lake on to the next generations in as good of condition or better than it has been for me over the years.

Greg Selle

Lake Address: 10829 Hollister Ave NW, Maple Lake, MN, 55358

Area: L; **Owner/seasonal resident**

I have been in love with Sugar Lake for 25 years. The Lake has given me so much over the past quarter of a century, that it is time for me to give back. I am running for a position on the board. I firmly believe that keeping our precious "Sugar" clean and healthy is a top priority. I have been impressed with the boards efforts on that topic. I think I can make a difference. We all have a great investment in our lake. Let's educate the shore owners and those who use our waters to the do's and don'ts of keeping our lake clean. I would also like to see more social activities. When the old resort was there, people got to know everyone on the lake. Let's try to meet more of our neighbors.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jim Stewart

Lake Address: 10939 Hart Ave NW, Maple Lake, MN, 55358

Area: L; **Owner/full time resident; an association member for 30+ years.**

I have enjoyed the beauty of Sugar Lake for most of my life as a family seasonal cabin owner. Recently I have become a full time resident and am committed to efforts that will preserve this lake for future generations. I believe through the efforts of the people using this lake, it can remain clean and healthy. I am particularly interested in issues related to runoff, weed control and reestablishing natural shorelines.

My experience in excavating and land use may be helpful in defining lake improvement efforts.

The following article is reprinted from the July-August issue of the “From Shore to Shore” newsletter from the University of Minnesota Extension. If you are interested in learning more about this great newsletter go to:
www.shorelandmanagement.org/shore_shore/index.html

Get the Lead Out!

Non-lead Fishing Tackle is an Effective Alternative,

Tackling the problem

Lead is a toxic metal that, in sufficient quantities, has adverse effects on the nervous and reproductive systems of animals. Found in most fishing jigs and sinkers, this metal is poisoning wildlife such as eagles, loons, and other waterfowl. More anglers are using fishing tackle made from non-poisonous materials such as tin, bismuth, steel, and tungsten. And these alternatives are becoming easier to find.

Price point

Expect to pay a bit more for non-lead tackle. But consider all the other costs involved in a fishing trip — a few cents more to avoid lead poisoning of wildlife is well worth it.

Trolling for change

Minnesota is fishing country. We buy a lot of tackle. That’s a big reason why our focus is on educating and partnering with others to stimulate the marketplace and speed the transition toward lead-free angling. Today, more environmentally friendly tackle is being made and sold, and growing numbers of anglers are going lead-free.

In Minnesota, there are no bans on the sale or use of lead weights and jigs. In many areas though, non-lead tackle isn’t just a good idea — it’s the law.

- Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont have banned the use or sale of lead sinkers in recent years. Massachusetts prohibits their use in certain key wildlife areas. Canadian national parks and national wildlife areas have banned the use of lead sinkers and jigs weighing less than 1.76 ounces (50 grams).
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has or is planning restrictions on lead sinker use in over two dozen national wildlife refuges and Yellowstone National Park.
- The European Union has banned lead in all consumer products, including fishing tackle.

What’s the risk? Weigh the evidence:

While it is hard to get an accurate count of water birds and birds of prey that die from ingesting lead tackle, current research indicates that lead poisoning is a serious concern — and that such poisoning is avoidable because non-toxic alternatives are available.

Research around the nation has found that lead poisoning from lead fishing tackle is responsible for 12 to 50 percent of adult loon deaths.

The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota has monitored injured bald eagles for lead since 1980. Lead poisoning has been the cause of admission of 315 out of a total of 1,398 eagles, or 23 percent. Eagles are exposed when they eat fish that have ingested lead tackle.

Teach your tadpoles

Create a lead-free tackle box for your kids or grandkids. Choose from the tin split shot, bismuth jigheads, and tungsten composite worm weights. They are non-toxic and safer for youngsters to handle. Plus, it’s a great way to help instill a strong conservation ethic.

Don’t throw old lead tackle in the trash

Bring it to your local household hazardous waste collection site during your next visit. Some scrap metal recyclers may also accept lead.

This information comes from a fact sheet produced by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. For more information (including a list of lead tackle exchange events, how to order educational kits, and a list of lead-free alternative retailers and manufacturers) or to download the fact sheet, visit <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/oea/reduce/sinkers.cfm>.



These pebbles and sinkers were found in the gizzard of a lead-poisoned loon. Loons mistake lost weights for pebbles they eat to grind their food.

July 5, 2008 Fireworks

Thank you Joel Williams and fellow pyrotechnics!

The Saturday, July 5, fireworks show was phenomenal, the music was great, and the weather was perfect. A large crowd of boats and pontoons jockeyed for position in front of Williams before dark. Thanks to everyone who donated to make the show possible. Thanks again to Joel and crew for the many hours of preparation that go into setting up the show.

We still need your donations for this year and to start planning for next year's show. If you watched the show and enjoyed it, please send a contribution to help with the cost. This fireworks display is supported entirely by your specific donations. Send your contribution to:

Sugar Lake Association
Fireworks Fund
c/o Lynne Bonine
7285 120 St NW
Annandale, MN 55302

There will also be a donation box at the registration table at the picnic.



Vegetation Report

By Dale Gustafson

About the weekend of July 12th our vegetation spotters located several new areas of Eurasian water milfoil. These areas are dense batches of EWM that have started to crowd out the native vegetation. This was good timing because on July 18th we had our DNR Aquatic Plant Specialist visit the lake to review our earlier permit request to treat EWM along the west shoreline. After reviewing these areas of new growth of EWM, she encouraged us to apply for treatment of these new areas as well. She agreed with us that the best approach is if we do the treatment ourselves because we are willing to locate the plants very accurately and treat just the areas of infestation without harming the native plants nearby these pockets of infestation. Our thanks to Dan Erdman and Marlin Grant for spending time to locate these areas of infestation for us. It was very convincing when I could take our DNR agent directly to a marker and show her the plants.

Unfortunately, we have found several more areas of dense EWM along the west shore. These areas are around and under docks and boats and very close to the shore and pose a serious problem. Every time a boat or other watercraft goes through these areas, they have the potential to drag along fragments of the plant and spread it to new locations around the lake. The locations of these plants pose a couple of serious problems for control. First, because these areas are around and under all the docks and boats, it is almost impossible to get to them with our lake association pontoon to spread the chemical. Second, because some of the chemicals that could be used to treat EWM can affect flowers, shrubs, and vegetables, the water cannot be used for irrigation for 14 days after treatment, and this could pose problems for lakeshore owners. We would need to have permission from every irrigation system owner in the treatment area before we could treat those areas.

Because of these limitations, we feel that the best solution is that these plants in the near shore area are removed by hand. (See the insert on removing Eurasian water milfoil.) This will be a difficult task, but we really need to rally our members, and with the help of friends and neighbors, the task could get accomplished.

One alternative to hand removal of the entire plant is to hire a company like Lake Restoration to do a chemical treatment for you. This is not cheap, nor as effective as hand removal, but the chemical they can use will kill the plant to the ground. With repeated treatment, this will reduce the amount of EWM in the treated area. Another drawback is that the rules for a permit to treat will only be given to you for an area no larger than 50 by 50 (2500 square feet) or half of the width of your lot at the shoreline. For professional treatment, contact the company and they will submit the permit for your property. At the present time, we know that there are a large number of properties on the west side of the lake and in Addison Bay. We know that EWM is present in other areas of the lake, but we have not identified those locations. Please inspect the near shore area of the lake by your property, and let us know if you find EWM in your area.

EWM Removal (Eurasian water milfoil)

It is extremely important that you attempt to remove all the EWM in the areas close to shore by your property. This is generally the area from the end of your dock to the shoreline. Because EWM is a plant that grows back from the root system, it is important to remove as much of the root system as possible. Simply cutting, raking, or pulling does very little good because the plant grows back extremely fast.

What you need to do is to remove the root system of the plant and also remove the top of plant at the same time. The best way to do this is to use a shovel or similar tool and dig around the plants roots to loosen the soil and then use your fingers to dig out the entire root system. As the water gets deeper, the process becomes much more of a challenge. However, because several of us have done it, we know it is possible.

Hopefully this sketch can help you to understand the task. This task may be a "little" messy, I bet it will not be as messy as it was for the guys that I saw last week up at Clearwater playing mud volleyball. However it might be close to a match.

Eurasian water milfoil **"EWM"**



Birder's Corner

By Steve Wiltermuth

We had only one sighting of a new species this month. It was the Eastern Kingbird. When I talked to my biologist son he said it was not noteworthy. I thought it was. Apparently in North Dakota there are many Eastern Kingbirds.

We had a strange occurrence. A loon was hanging around our dock and not moving much. I was concerned that it was sick. I walked out to the dock, and he remained not more than three feet away from me and did not seem to mind me being there. Diane and I surmised that he, perhaps, had lost his mate and was very lonely. That prompted me to do some reading. I always had heard that a loon mates for life. It may mate for life if the pair is successful in raising a family. If they are not, the male will sometimes "divorce" the female and find another mate. There is not evidence that a mated pair will migrate or spend the winter together. This information was taken from a wonderful coffee table book entitled Fascinating Loons by Stan Tekiela. Remember, if you see a bird that is not usually here, or one you don't often see, email me at swilter@gmail.com and I will pass it on to our members.

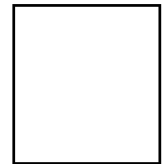
Diane's Lights Night

By Doc Williams

Time is growing near for Diane's Lights Night. This year's event will take place on Saturday, August 30th with the judging starting at dusk. If it is raining on Saturday at 1 PM or anytime thereafter, the event will be postponed until the following evening. In order for your display to qualify for the competition, the rules are simple. All illumination in your display must originate from a natural flame. This includes candles, campfires, torches, or anything else you can think of. No electrical lighting is allowed, so you should turn off all outside lights during the judging time. The first place winners will get 1 case of Pepsi product for each of the 12 weeks of next summer. There will also be prizes for 2nd and 3rd place. If you have any questions as to the rules or possible rain delay, you can call Doc at 320-963-6776. Have fun and remember, everyone who participates is a winner, because together we will make Sugar Lake shine like no other.



The Sugar Lake Association
The Sugar Lake News
11955 Hart Ave NW.
Annandale, MN 55302



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