

The Sugar Lake News

JULY 2009

2009

Calendar of Events

August 1-SLA Picnic

August 22-Annual Meeting/Board Election*

September 5-Diane's Lights Night

September 19- SLA Meeting*

October 24-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 Cathy Beckman at
10880 Imhoff Ave NW
Annandale, MN 55302
320-274-8623

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 22, or you may vote by mail. Please return your ballot to the SLA secretary, Cheryl Delbow, on or before 8:00 a.m. Saturday, August 22.

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 and raffle entry. Enjoy the great food, drinks, kids' games, educational opportunities, and annual raffle.

Date: Saturday, August 1

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.

After Dark

FIREWORKS

- *Donate to the fireworks fund—see Page 5*
- *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



Raffle Update

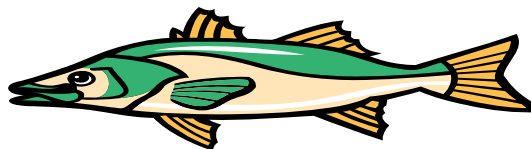
Raffle ticket sales are on track this year. So far, \$2500 has been raised in the annual fund-raising event. Many thanks to all of you who have sold tickets! It's still early enough to get out and sell those tickets to help raise the approximately \$5,000 that was budgeted for raffle income this year. 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 Cheryl Delbow at 320-963-3997.

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 10939 Hart Ave NW, Maple Lake, MN, 55358.

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
07-15-04	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"
07-17-09	10'	70°	63°	17"	22"

Membership

Paid membership to date this year is 283. If you know someone new in your area that might be interested in becoming a member of the SLA, notify Cathy Beckman. She will contact the new property owners with information and make them feel welcome to the area. Notify Cathy of any changes to the directory information including address or phone changes. Contact Cathy at 320-274-8623 or email membership@sugarlake.org.

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.

Visit our website at sugarlake.org for all the latest.

Treasurer's Report

As of July 17, 2009

General Fund	\$33,767.47
Lake Improvement Fund	\$19,053.38
Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund	\$43,259.43
Total All Funds	\$96,080.38

Rainfall

May rainfall was .82 inches. June rainfall was 5.88 inches. Year to date through June 30 was 11.82 inches, about 3 inches below normal. July rainfall through 7/21 has been 1.72 inches. Thanks to Andy Juetten for providing rainfall data.

Celebrate with us

On Sunday of Labor Day Weekend Father Marty Shallbetter will celebrate a Catholic Mass at his family cabin on Sugar Lake. The address is 11777 Gulden Av. NW which is area G on Sunset Point. Mass will begin at 10 a.m.. If you wish to come by boat, you are welcome to tie up at any of the neighboring docks in the area. Some lawn chairs will be available but you may want to bring your own. Mark your calendars and plan on attending, as all are welcome.

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

According to the testing the SLA has been doing for many years, our phosphorus levels appear to be trending down. These reports are encouraging, but not a major change. This year we have had much lower levels of rain that has reduced the amount of run-off of nutrients into the lake. Also the average weather has been cooler. The combination of these could be responsible for our increased water quality, or our efforts to improve the conditions around the lake are starting to make a difference. As a hopeless optimist, I choose to accept that we are making a difference in our water quality.

Directories

The new 2009 – 2010 directory is at the printer. Copies will be handed out at the picnic August 1.

Give Our Lake a Break

As you take a slow cruise or quick power trip around the lake admiring the scenery, stay a little farther out from shore.

In many areas of the lake, if you are too close in to docks and shallow water, you risk your prop cutting invasive plants such as milfoil. The pieces act as seeds to sprout more of such damaging weeds in our lake.

Proxy
Sugar Lake Association
Annual Meeting
August 22, 2009

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, Karen Sutherland or
_____ SLA Member, _____
(Print Member Name)

as holder of my Proxy to vote on my behalf at the Sugar Lake Annual meeting August 22, 2009. 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:

- _____ Sue Dixon
- _____ Ron Elsner
- _____ Karen Gusaas
- _____ Betsy Hanson
- _____ Matt Kutz
- _____ Doc Williams

- Please return this form on or before 8:00 a.m., Saturday, August 22, 2009, to:
Cheryl Delbow
11245 Hollister Ave NW
Maple Lake, MN 55358

Sugar Lake Association Candidates for the Board of Directors

Sue Dixon

Lake Address: 6877 124 St NW, Annandale, MN, 55302

Area: A; Owner/seasonal resident; an association member for 19 years

My family and I bought our cabin in 1990. We have always been very impressed and grateful for the dedicated lake association. We need to continue to work hard at preserving the treasure we have. I would love to be a part of this group and ensure our lake stays healthy for years to come.

Ron Elsner

Lake Address: 11063 Hoyer Ave NW, Annandale, MN, 55302

Area: S; Owner/seasonal resident; an association member for 5 years

This is our sixth summer on Sugar Lake. We have found it to be a wonderful place: The lake is beautiful and the people are warm and friendly. Sugar Lake is a great asset. That, I believe, is due in large part to the devoted members of the Sugar Lake Association. As we visit with family and friends who have places on other lakes, they are impressed by the sizeable invasive species fund and the aggressive approach that SLA takes in maintaining the quality of the lake. We all need to do our part to protect the lake's quality and maintain it's beauty. I'm looking forward to serving the association as a member of the Board.

Karen Gusaas

Lake Address: 11498 Hoyer Ave NW, Annandale, MN, 55302

Area: T; Owner/seasonal resident; an association member for 12 years

We purchased our cabin in 1997. During these 12+ years I have appreciated all the work that this active lake association has done to maintain lake quality and the surrounding property values. I am willing to volunteer and work with others who share this priority. This year I co-chaired the Sugar Lake apparel fundraiser as one way to help make a positive difference and benefit the treatment efforts.

Betsy Hanson

Lake Address: 12269 Hart Ave NW, Annandale, MN, 55302

Area: Y; Owner/full time resident; an association member for 8 years.

I first fell in love with Sugar Lake when my parents had a home on the southeast side in the 1970's and 1980's. In 2001, we were lucky enough to find a "weekend" place on Sugar. By the end of 2007, we had remodeled and moved onto Sugar as full-time residents. Now that I am retired, it is time for me to give back, and there is no better place to start than in my own "back-yard." I want to see Sugar Lake the beautiful, healthy lake it is today for many years to come.

Matt Kutz

Lake Address: 7337 120 St NW, Annandale, MN, 55302

Area: W; Owner/seasonal resident; an association member for 4 years

Having spent most of my life enjoying the water, I know how wonderful a lake we have. My top priority would be to keep the lake in its current state, and continue the improvements that have been made. I would like to spend my time working with the association to help make ideas possible so that we can enjoy the lake in the future as we currently do. If fortunate enough to be elected, I would do everything possible to make sure our lake can be enjoyed by all.

Doc Williams

Lake Address: 11687 Gulden Ave NW, Maple Lake, MN, 55358

Area: L; Owner/seasonal resident; an association member for 13 years

I was a board member of the Association several years ago and felt I had contributed. I am currently the Area Communicator Coordinator, chairman for Diane's Lights Night, Columnist for Area Highlights, Dear Sugar, along with several others. I have made many friendships through my activities and enjoy helping to improve the lake whenever I can. If accepted as a board member I would like to help other property owners to take ownership and become stewards of our lake.

Sugar Lake Apparel

Available at the annual picnic



This year we will have an updated variety of shirts.

A GOOD ASSORTMENT WILL BE THERE FOR SALE AT THE PICNIC.

Don't forget your checkbook!

Youth sizes from XS to XL in fun solid colors could help you with some early Christmas shopping. The pink, brown and primary colors will look great in your lake photos of the kids. Photo on the right.

Adults will love the soft fabrics and new designs. Artisan brand resort quality shirts & sweatshirts will be available in five assorted colors with the "Vertical Name" pattern shown in the photo on the left. Sizes are S through 3XL.



ALSO - You can order hats, golf shirts, and aprons, again in a nice variety of colors for men and women. Those will be delivered in a few weeks, just like has been done in the past. All sizes, even tall, will be available.



Another popular sweatshirt assortment that reads SUGAR LAKE in laser cut lettering will be available for ordering and as long as we can cover the minimum quantities they would also be delivered in just a few weeks. Pictured to the left.

We hope you will like the new items and find this to be a great fundraiser for the lake. All profits will go to the Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund.

For more information contact:

Karen Gusaas at RobKJG@comcast.net or call 952-941-4089

or

Sheree Mattes at danielsheree4@q.com or call 320-963-5295

August 1 Fireworks

As announced in last month's newsletter, due to July 4 falling on a weekend this year, the Sugar Lake Fireworks date has been changed to August 1, the night of the Sugar Lake Association annual picnic. The Sugar Lake Board is sponsoring the organization of this legal, permitted show. It is a one time, one night show. Joel Williams and his crew will again be donating their time to put on the show. However, cost for materials has increased this year. A show as good as last year will require \$6000. Donations are currently at \$3680. Since no Sugar Lake Association funds are used for this display, more donations are needed.

Please make your tax deductible donation payable to the Sugar Lake Association and send to:

Sugar Lake Association
Fireworks Fund
c/o Jim Stewart
10939 Hart Ave NW
Maple Lake, MN 55358



Thank you Joel for offering to do a fireworks show again and thanks to all the members who donate and make this possible.



Minnesota Star Lakes & Rivers program

With receipt of the following letter, Sugar Lake was designated as one of the three first Star Lakes of Minnesota.

SLA should be extremely proud of this designation. It is a tribute to the PEOPLE of Sugar Lake that have banded together to work at protecting and improving the quality of Sugar Lake for some forty years. This award is about the people of Sugar lake, not the lake it self.

The award presentation is planned for the annual picnic, August 1, 2009.

July 20, 2009

Ms Karen Sutherland
President
Sugar Lake Association

Dear Ms. Sutherland:

Star Lake Award Recognition Ceremony

On behalf of the Star Lakes and Rivers Board of Directors, I wish to congratulate the Sugar Lake Association for your efforts to obtain the Star Lake designation. The Star Lake designation not only recognizes Sugar Lake as a valuable resource, but further exemplifies the tremendous contributions of the engaged citizen volunteers.

Our Board would like to help you celebrate your outstanding accomplishment and provide some basic suggestions if you elect to have an award ceremony. We encourage you to plan the event so as many lake association members can attend as possible. As you know, implementing lake stewardship measures requires partnerships with important stakeholders. As such, we encourage you to invite those partners who have been involved with assisting your association with implementing your management plan goals and objectives. Additionally, we hope you feel a sense of accomplishment that can be shared with the local community. Representatives and elected officials from township, county and state/federal government may be considered, as well as any local media outlets who could provide news coverage of your event.

If you elect to have a planned celebration event, the Star Lakes and Rivers Board will have a designated representative attend your event to present your official "Star Lake" designation with a special plaque and sign, along with your well deserved financial award for plan implementation. Please contact me as soon as possible if you plan to publicly celebrate your Star Lake designation so we may plan accordingly. We look forward to sharing in your accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Dale Gustafson
President, Star Lakes and Rivers Board

This program was created by a bill that was passed in 2008 by the Minnesota Legislature. It provided \$100,000.00 to get the program up and running and start to designate Star Lakes and Rivers in Minnesota. The legislation specified a 15-member board to be comprised of 10 appointed members and 5 members from lake associations. Dale Gustafson was nominated to the board by the state Board of Water and Soil Resources. And now serves as president of the Board.

The Star Lake Board was established to encourage and reward citizen-based lake and river associations that actively participate in protecting and enhancing surface waters of Minnesota. The enabling legislation reflects a belief that broad citizen participation provides a very cost effective means of protecting our water resources. The Star Lakes initiative is designed to foster broader citizen participation through financial incentives, educational efforts, and public-private partnerships.

For more information visit this website www.starlakes.org

Vegetation Report

By Dale Gustafson

As part of the State Pilot program for control of Curly leaf pondweed and Eurasian water milfoil, we have concluded the Curly leaf season with almost complete elimination of Curly leaf. Next year we will most likely see a return of this pesky plant, but we have reduced its presence and we should see less next year.

The situation with Eurasian water milfoil is not the same. However we have located and received permits to treat about eight acres of EWM this season. We were not able to partner with the state on the pilot program control of EWM, so we are treating this plant with our volunteers from SLA. Our treatment was done the week of July 20th and will possibly need a follow-up treatment in about four weeks.

The rules have changed about marking chemicals with clear statements about critical times for not irrigating sensitive plants with water from a treatment area. Now neither the manufacturer nor any level of government will give us a set time for not using the water. Instead they will tell us that it is not safe until the content in the water is down to a particular (parts per billion) rating. This year we will attempt to do some follow-up testing in the treatment areas to get an assay of the chemical content. When we get the results we will send a news flash. It will likely be safe to water sensitive plants after about two weeks, depending on the wind and mixing of the water in the treatment area. It is important to remember that the chemical is a 2,4-D product like "Weed-be-gone" that can be used to control dandelions and other broad-leaved plants in your lawn. Turf grasses are not affected by normal doses of this chemical, however flowers, vegetables, and shrubs however can be, and should not be irrigated with water from the treatment areas for a safe period after the treatment. It is best to plan to turn off you lake irrigation system for a couple weeks if you are in a treatment area. You can use your well water during that period to keep your plants alive.

2010 projected treatment cost

It is not possible to know exactly how many acres of EWM and Curly leaf we will be asked to treat next spring, because the testing for presence of the plants will not be done until approximately one week before we need to do the treatment.

It is logical to assume that in 2010 will we have fewer acres of Curly leaf to treat due to treatment the last few years, including cutting and removing this plant. This has most likely reduced the amount of turion (seeds) present in the lake for growth next year. Other lakes that have been treated under this program have seen dramatic reduction in the size of treatments needed after the first two years.

The situation with EWM is different, however. It is likely that we will have as much or more EWM present next spring that needs treatment. Yes, we are treating the bad areas we find, but the plant is all over the lake and it is likely we will find large areas that qualify for treatment next spring. The good news is that we could expect a similar result on the treatment of EWM as what we experienced with Curly leaf.

Because we are in the pilot program, we will be expected to treat both Curly and EWM next year in the areas where it is found in high concentrations. This past year we were asked to treat both plants in 187 acres. The cost for that treatment would have been

\$150,000.00. Because we did not have the funds available, the DNR allowed us to separate the two plants and just treat the Curly leaf as our part of the program.

We need to fight both of these plants, and we really need to take advantage of our acceptance into the pilot program. This is what we have been asking for the last several years and may be our only chance to gain ground on these two aquatic invasive plants. To do that, we should have \$125,000 to \$150,000 in our Invasive Species Fund. This means we need to raise approximately \$75,000 to \$100,000 before next spring. Our most successful efforts in the past was about \$40,000 in one year. Depending on how you do the math, it amounts to an average of approximately \$350 for every current member, which is a big challenge, but one we must meet.

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.

**Eurasian water milfoil
"EWM"**



Remove root system with plant

FOR SALE

Patio furniture, picnic tables, tools, cabin contents for sale on Sugar Lake at 11218 Hollister Ave NW. Accepting all reasonable offers. Available most weekends. Call first. Contact Bob Slama cell# 612-805-2442 or 651-739-0007.

FOR SALE

1991 Ford F350 XLT with snow plow for \$6,200.00
 1996 Lincoln \$5,800.00
 1995 GMC Jimmy \$4,000.00
 1977 John Deer Snow Mobile Spitfire \$500.00
 1988 16' Lund Fishing boating with 25 horsepower moter with live well, 3 seats, trailer, rod rack trolling motor, and electric start \$3,600.00
 Lift with top \$1,700.00
 4 person hot tub \$400.00
 If interested please call 320-274-2005 - will take best offers.

FOR SALE

Steel lift - 4 650# pulls. Will handle 1,300#. \$200 or best offer.
 Contact Dorothy Corens at 320/963-5130.

Newsletter Classified Advertising

The Sugar Lake newsletter is published 7 times per year. April through October. The deadline for ads in the newsletter is the third Saturday of the month. It is usually in the mail by the end of the month. Please contact Don Peterson:

Email: don@sugarlake.org

Mail: Don Peterson, 319 Wayside Rd W, Hopkins, MN, 55343

Phone: 952-212-9524

The Sugar Lake Association
 The Sugar Lake News
 10880 Imhoff Ave NW
 Annandale, MN 55302

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Diane's Lights Night

By Doc Williams

Many people associate Luminaries with festive holiday traditions where people put out paper bag lanterns as a sign of welcome. In the 16th century it was known as the night of Las Posadas which is a Spanish word meaning lodging or inn. It was a festive celebration that was first introduced to the indigenous people of Mexico by European missionaries and is a reenactment of the story of Mary and Joseph's search for lodging in Bethlehem. The tradition has continued into modern times with the decoration of rooftops, walls, sidewalks and driveways of individual homes as a way of guiding travelers to their destination. This Labor Day weekend why not make your lake home a welcoming site and carry on the tradition of Diane's Lights Night. Decorate your dwelling with Luminaries, torches or fires to mark the change of seasons on Sugar Lake.

