

# The Sugar Lake News

JUNE 2006

*2006*

## Calendar of Events

**July 15**-SLA Meeting\*

**August 5**-SLA Picnic

**August 19**-Annual Meeting/Board Election\*

**September 2**-Diane's Lights Night

**September 16**- SLA Meeting\*

**October 21**-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 952-361-3026  
E-mail [don@sugarlake.org](mailto:don@sugarlake.org)

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

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

## Picnic Update

**Date:** Saturday, August 5

**Time:** Picnic begins at noon  
Childrens' games start at 1 p.m.  
Drawing starts at 3 p.m.

**Place:** Enghausers, SE corner of the lake

Set-up work begins at 8 a.m. Additional help is needed with many of the activities. One-hour time slots are available.

Please call Tanya Olin if you can help.

Tanya can be reached at  
320-274-5218 or email:  
[tanya.m.olin@wellsfargo.com](mailto:tanya.m.olin@wellsfargo.com)



## Curly Leaf Pondweed Update

By Don Peterson

Thank you to everyone who contributed time and money this year to the fight against Curly leaf pondweed. Chemical treatment was completed in early June by Lake Restoration. At the time of treatment we could identify 27 acres requiring treatment.

We met our fundraising goal for 2005–2006. On page 5 of the newsletter is a copy of the report Marlin Grant made to the Sugar Lake Board regarding the Curly leaf cutting program. We did not come close to meeting our goals in that area.

The worst case scenario projection last year was 90 acres identified this year. Approximately 120 acres have been identified, considerably above the worst case scenario. This is the bad news. The good news is:

1. The areas that were chemically treated this year show stunted growth. Chemical treatment may work.
2. We have learned more what it is going to take to fight Curly leaf and can prepare ourselves this year.
3. We have next year to try again.



This plant has reached the point of being a “nuisance” for many on the lake. It decreases our property values and impacts our use of the lake. If it doubles next year it could be 240 acres. Expect another fundraising campaign this year with a higher goal and when the volunteer coordinator for cutting curly leaf calls, please help.

See the map showing current areas of Curly leaf infestation on the SLA website [www.sugarlake.org](http://www.sugarlake.org)

## Raffle Update

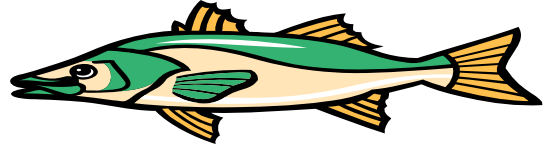
Raffle ticket sales are on track this year. So far, \$1800 has been raised in the annual fund-raising event. Many thanks to all of you who have sold tickets! It's still early enough to get out and sell those tickets to help raise the approximately \$5,000 that was budgeted for raffle income this year. Raffle ticket proceeds will all go to the Milfoil 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 Nancy Dunn at 320-274-8689.

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 10597 Hollister 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). 3 Pair loons noted. One pair with one young, one pair with two young.



Date	Clarity	Water Temp	Air Temp	Culvert	
				Inlet	Outlet
06-12-01	10'	65°	69°	21"	26"
06-13-02	9'	68°	77°	21"	26"
06-17-03	11'	72°	85°	23"	28"
06-16-04	9'	75°	85°	24"	29"
06-15-05	12'	64°	72°	26"	31"
06-15-06	10'	59	81°	22"	27"

## Membership

Paid SLA membership for 2006 has reached 294. If you haven't paid your 2006 dues, please send your \$25 check payable to the Sugar Lake Association to: Sugar Lake Association 11102 Hoyer Ave NW., Annandale, MN 55302.

### Please welcome new members:

David & Joan Jenkins

Bill & Carol Swope

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 kap8900@yahoo.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. News Flash sale ads will be sent out on Wednesdays. Please have any ads to Tanya by 10 a.m. Wednesday morning.



**Irene Klein**  
1916—2006

There will be a mass & memorial at St Lukes Church in Clearwater, MN on August 12 at 10:30 a.m. for Irene. Following mass there will be a lunch served.

## Treasurer's Report

As of June 17, 2006

General Fund	\$18,661.84
Lake Improvement Fund	\$16,344.06
Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund	\$47,297.51
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b>\$82,303.41</b>

## Give Our Lake a Break

Keep up the good work in staying away from the bulrush stands. The remaining areas look healthy. Bulrush are very sensitive to boating activity.



## Water Patrol

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Sugar Lake water patrol please contact Rick Kannianen at 320-963-7344.

## Additional donations

As of June 17, 2006 additional donations were received from the following members:

### \$100 and under

Chris and Brenda Behm

Joyce and Orv Doering

John and Alta Fossum

Gloria Groenke

Jerry Hertel and Toni DeRosier

Dennis and Mary Langhoff

Mike Madden

Mark and Donna Mengelkoch

Tanya Olin

Gerald and Janet Schafer

### \$1000 and over

Doug and Martha Miller Foundation

## Eurasian Watermilfoil

A midsummer treatment is planned for milfoil. Two new areas of dense growth have been identified and will be treated.

Now that the Curly leaf is done for the year there is no need to cut **any** submergent vegetation including milfoil. If you spot what you believe is milfoil please contact one of the board members or an area communicator.

## Dear Sugar

The Loon that was occupying the nesting platform is no longer there. Can you give me an update? **Empty Nester.**



**Dear Empty Nester:** I am pleased to inform you that as a result of our efforts, not one, but two more baby loons now call Sugar Lake home. The chicks were hatched June 10<sup>th</sup> and the entire family stayed around the nesting platform for a few days. We were getting concerned because the other loons on the lake had already hatched their young. Our worries were for not, however. They seem to have now taken up residency in the Sunset Point bay. At the June SLA meeting, Jim Castle reported 3 sets of Loons on the lake. The pair on the south end has one chick and ours, in the bay, have 2. There is another pair with no chicks and we are thinking they may be first time returnees from the Gulf of Mexico. Loons spend the winter in the Gulf. The first year chicks stay there for 3 years before returning to the same lake where they were born. They must find proper accommodations upon arrival, or they won't bare any young. They may then move on to another lake. Several factors determine the number of loons a lake can support. It is said that the more loons on a lake, the healthier the lake. The nesting season is now over and the platforms have been removed.

It is now up to Mother Nature and the parents to bring the chicks to maturity. We can help, however, by giving them space. Remember, Loons are wild creatures and need a lot of it. Enjoy their beauty and grace from a distance.



## 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

- Junk Amnesty day is scheduled for Saturday, July 29, 2006, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Visit the Corinna Township website at [www.corinnatownship.com](http://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

## Corinna Township Comprehensive Plan

The township planning task force is at work developing the comprehensive plan. They meet at the township hall every Second and Fourth Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

Wright County is considering an ordinance requiring Corinna property owners to obtain permits, variances, etc, from the county as well as from the township, should Corinna elect to do its own planning and zoning. To allow time for public comment this item was continued to the July 20, 2006, hearing at 7:30 p.m. It is important for Corinna Township residents to attend this hearing and be involved and informed about possible changes in the township.

## Corinna Township Gravel Mining Hearing

On Tuesday, June 6, the Township board passed a moratorium on the establishment or expansion of gravel mining operations. The moratorium ordinance provides for a one year study period for Goal, Policies, and Implementation Strategies to be identified and for the potential adoption of enhanced zoning controls that will provide for consistency and/or increased standards as may be currently required by the Wright County Zoning Ordinance Regulations.

## Diane's Lights Night

Have you organized your clan to decorate your lake home for Diane's Lights Night yet? The summer has just started, but we all know how fast it goes by. Labor Day Weekend will be here before you know it. Your design doesn't necessarily need to be an elaborate production. Last



years winners, the Scinto's, spelled out the word HOPE on their front lawn with luminaries. It was the size and appropriateness that made it a winner. The year before that the Groenke's had rows of luminaries, tiki torches, fire pits, and candles stretching from their shoreline to the windows of their home. It's easy to do. The lay of your land may give you a clue as to what might look best. The key is to get as many people as possible involved. Great minds, working together, can produce a winner. Wouldn't you like to have the pride of knowing you had the best design on Sugar Lake for 06? Wouldn't you like to receive a case of Pepsi products for each of the 12 weeks of summer next year? Better get started.



# Fishing Contest



The weather cooperated in providing a great day for the annual fishing contest held June 24. Forty seven people registered for the contest. Lunch was provided at the noon weigh-in. The contest was hosted by Dan and Lynne Bonine, pictured to the left. Thanks also to Rick and Mary Olson for cooking the hot dogs and Dan Erdman for weighing the fish.



## The winners were:

### Northern

- 1st Steve Powers 1 lb 13 oz
- 2nd Steve Harnett 1 lb 12 oz
- 3rd Denny Wurm 1 lb 10 oz

### Bass

- 1st Pat Wurm 2 lb 6 oz
- 2nd John Wurm 2 lb 1 oz
- 3rd Pat Newell 1 lb 14 oz

### Sunfish

3 way tie for First place with 7 oz  
Jeff Joulson  
Albert Kowalczyk  
Pat Newell

### Crappie

- 1st Denny Wurm



## Traveling Trophies

Traveling trophies this year went to Pat Newell in the children's category and Pat Wurm in the adult category.



Pat Newell



Pat Wurm

The following report was made at the June Sugar Lake Board meeting by Marlin Grant. It was decided that the entire text of Marlin's report should be printed in the June newsletter:

## Curly leaf pondweed cutting report

By Marlin Grant

The best way I can describe our war against curly leaf this year is by saying we lost the battle this year. When I say "we" I am referring to every property owner on the shores of Sugar Lake, all the members of our association, and any and all persons who enjoy or have an interest in Sugar Lake.

We planned an attack against the weed with a volunteer army. Unfortunately we had only 4 true volunteers from our lake, one 86 years old, one 79, one 70, and one in his 60's. Four others agreed to help when called. Three other volunteers from St Cloud Muskies Inc made the trip to our lake to help and would have provided more help but our cutting equipment broke. By the time we get it operating again it may be too late to cut anymore this year. The curly leaf will have already sunk to the lake bottom, reseeding itself for next years cycle.

### **So what do we do now?**

If we are serious in our quest to save Sugar Lake from Curly leaf pondweed infestation and treasure our lake and want to be able to swim and boat in it all summer long we must regroup and each and every one of us dedicate ourselves to this cause for next year and the years to follow.



Not everyone can provide physical labor or substantial money to this cause. However, everyone needs to do something to help. To protect the value of their own property, every property owner should be able to donate an additional \$100 over and above the association annual dues. \$100 is a drop in the bucket compared to what they will lose if they can't get to their property by water because of Curly leaf infestation. Being able to get to one's property should be worth a sizeable amount of money each year.

We are fortunate that there are some on our lake who work continuously to save the lake, including those who have more knowledge of weeds, the divers, those who work on fundraising, and many others. We owe these people a great amount of thanks. Our lake needs more people like them.

### **What should our association do for next year?**

1. The Curley leaf must be located this year to determine where to treat and cut next spring. Dale Gustafson and I will be doing this.
2. Our association must have committed volunteers this year to provide the labor for next year. The time period is estimated to be two weeks between May 15 and June 15 or a fourteen day period. We will need 20 workers per day for 14 days equaling 280 work days. For 60 volunteers this would be 5 days per person, for 100 volunteers only 3 days per person. These volunteers need to select this year which of the 14 days they will make themselves available to work. Those who are not retired may need to plan vacation during this period. Those who are physically unable to help due to illness or or age perhaps can get family members or friends to fill in for them. If volunteers can't be found the association will need to hire people to do this work. If such persons are even available to work for an approximate two week period. If such workers could be found at a rate of \$25 per hour times 8 hours per day times 280 days the cost would be \$56,000 for the labor only. Once the required labor is lined up the association needs to line up the equipment and determine the cost.
3. There may be some property owners who feel that by the use of their weed rollers or their individual chemical treatment of their beach that they have done what is necessary or expected of them. Unfortunately this weed grows out to 16 feet of water depth so weed rolling or chemical treatments along the shore do not cover an area of that magnitude.
4. Those who aren't concerned because Curly leaf is not growing in front of their property need to to reconsider. It is like living in a forest where there is a fire across the forest from you. If you don't help put out the fire it will spread and consume your property eventually.

Our association must find a way to get financial and labor commitments from those that use and enjoy the lake in one form or another. It must be done this year to be ready for next year's battle against Curly leaf pondweed.

The board of directors and the entire lake association has a huge task to accomplish. Good luck.

Thanks to those who volunteered and helped with the Curly leaf cutting. Ken Anderson, Irvin (Scotty) Scott, Rick Kannianen, Al Smith, Darryl Dahl, Brad Williams, Mike McManus ( Marlin Grant's new son-in-law), Marlin Grant, and three members of St Cloud Muskies Inc. Please welcome St Cloud Muskies Inc as new association members and thank them for volunteering to help with exotic weed removal.

### **Free Boat Lift**

Can be seen on the east side of Sugar on the shore. You haul it. Brown cabin on the hill with pink trim. Sign on it. Contact Tony 612-384-0908 or help yourself. Works great! Sold boat!

### **Wanted**

A jet ski trailer to tow an older jet ski.  
PLEASE call Joe Lavin at 763-773-3220

**FOR SALE**

48 ft. roll-in Porta Dock; galvanized steel; 2 sections; poly wheels; cross chains; 8x8 platform w/bench seat; wood decking, \$900. Replacement cost \$2,800

Hobie Wave catamaran; Mainsail plus optional Jib kit and padded back rest wings; Mast floatation device; great family sail boat. \$2,950 Replacement cost \$6,250

Contact Toni deRosier or Jerry Hertel day: 612-867-8036 // evening 651-698-6428

**FOR SALE**

1975 Ankor Craft, 16 foot, tri hull speed boat. Has 85 HP Evinrude Motor, runs good + trailer with new tires. \$ 1700.00

Aluminum, 20 foot, cantilever boat lift with 2 year old canopy, Has rear boat guides. great shape. \$1600.00

Will sell everything for \$3000.00 Call Doc Williams at 320-963-6776 or 952-888-9884

**Area Highlights**

By Doc Williams

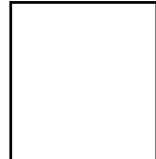
**The Sugar Bowl Dance Hall**

Back in the dust bowl days of the mid 30's, Sugar Lake was a lot smaller. A farmer on the west side grew corn in what is now Addison Bay. The North Bay was also a lot smaller and rumor has it, that a man could walk from Sunset Point to the opposite shore without having to swim. There were no privately owned lake homes on Sugar at the time, although there were 8 resorts; but that's for another article. The fishing was as good as ever. A man by the name of Herman Kaiser was reported to have speared a 33 pound Northern. Although times were hard, there was still a need for people to get together and have fun. Al Swanberg owned some property, by what is today the north landing. That land is now underwater and part of the lake. He was a wheeler dealer and sensing money to be made, decided to build the Sugar Bowl Dance Hall. It was a place where people from around the lake, as well as Silver Creek, Annandale, Monticello and Maple Lake would gather 1 or 2 nights a week for dances. Sometimes upwards of 150 people would show up. It cost 30 cents to get in and 3/2 beer, which was legal during prohibition, was a nickel. It was also available for wedding receptions. Al had 4 brothers: Ray, Franz,

Harry, and Walt. Ray was the band leader and played accordion at the Sugar Bowl. Walt's wife Sis, played the piano and Franz was the drummer. Asa Smith (no relation) was the sax man. Did I mention that Ray was also a wheeler dealer? Besides being the band leader, he ran a barber shop inside the Silver Creek State Bank. When opportunity knocked, he bought the local hardware store, and you guessed it, moved his barber shop over there. The Sugar Bowl only lasted 2 & 1/2 years, before one night, it burned to the ground. This wasn't all bad because the lake had started to rise and Al was loosing land. Undaunted, he headed to Indian Lake where he built yet another dance hall and called it.....the Sugar Bowl. Alas, it burned down in only 2 years. No one knows, or is willing to say, what Al may have been doing in the back room, after hours, to cause the fires, but one can only surmise. So goes the saga of Al and the Sugar Bowl Dance Hall.

Do you know of some history about Sugar Lake that might be of interest to others? Like to see it published in this column? Give Dave (Doc) Williams a call (I'm in the phone book) and I will get-er-done.

**The Sugar Lake Association**  
**The Sugar Lake News**  
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Annandale, MN 55302



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