

The Sugar Lake News

JUNE 2009

2009

Calendar of Events

July 18-SLA Meeting*

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

Vegetation Report

We finally made it into the Pilot program for treating Curly leaf pond weed and Eurasian water milfoil. We have tried to get accepted so that we could do a better job of containing these Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). The idea of the program is to treat the plants wherever they are found with a low dose chemical in larger areas. This program has been in effect for several years and many lakes have had very good success after a few years. Most lakes reduce the area they need to treat after three years in the program. Because we have been treating some of the areas in our lake for the last couple years, we may have a quicker reduction in those areas.

After being accepted into the program, the DNR did a complete lake survey this spring and initially recommended that we treat 185 acres with much of the area to be treated with two chemicals, one for Curly leaf and one for Eurasian milfoil. (See the map of the DNR proposed treatment area on page 5 of this newsletter) That treatment was far too expensive for the budget we currently have. After much discussion, we were allowed to stay in the program and use the \$23,000 grant from the DNR only treat Curly leaf on a lake-wide basis. (See the map of the areas treated for Curly leaf on page 5 of this newsletter) This fits within our budget, and we will be allowed to treat EWM on our own as we have for the past several years. Because it appears that Curly leaf is a greater threat to Sugar Lake and dispersed more generally around the lake, we felt this was a good outcome for Sugar Lake.

The battle against Curly leaf pondweed is one we need to win. All you have to do is look at the north shore of Lake Sara or the little lake just west of Buffalo on the north side of Highway 55. You don't need to slow down to see that large areas of these lakes were not usable by boaters over the Memorial Day holidays. We don't want that to happen to Sugar Lake. The effort will take a few years, but we can get Curly under control if we take the time and effort. This spring and summer treatments will almost consume our current funds for battling Aquatic Invasive Plants, and we will have to have a strong fundraising effort to continue the battle.

Meanwhile, enjoy the lake and keep us posted when you find areas of Eurasian water milfoil and Curly leaf pondweed. Review the maps of the areas proposed for treatment and the areas treated for Curly leaf in this newsletter.

The Vegetation Committee

Raffle Update

So far, \$1200 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.

Picnic

Date: Saturday, August 1

Time: Picnic begins at noon

Children's games start at 1 p.m.

Drawing starts at 3 p.m.

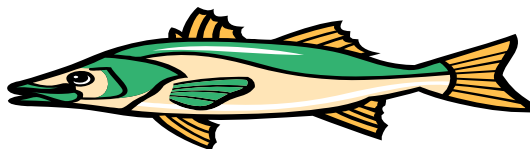
Place: Enghausers', SE corner of the lake

Set-up work begins at 8 a.m. Additional help is needed with many of the activities. One-hour time slots are available. See contact information on page 2 of the newsletter.

- Please consider making a donation at registration for extra guests you bring.
- Dogs are not allowed.
- Anyone under 40 should be prepared to show ID for beer or wine service.
- Please help by picking up after yourself at the end of the picnic.

KASTL'S KORNER

The latest lake report. The physical condition was 2 on a scale of 1 (good) to 5 (poor). 3 Loon families noted.



Date	Clarity	Water Temp	Air Temp	Culvert	
				Inlet	Outlet
06-16-04	9'	75°	85°	24"	29"
06-15-05	12'	64°	72°	26"	31"
06-15-06	10'	59°	81°	22"	27"
06-13-07	10'	75°	85°	20"	25"
06-18-08	11'	68°	78°	28"	33"
06-16-09	12'	62°	70°	18"	23"

Membership

Paid membership to date this year is 247. 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 June 18, 2009

General Fund	\$27,932.86
Lake Improvement Fund	\$17,254.53
Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund	\$21,877.86
Total All Funds	\$67,065.25

Picnic Help Needed

Volunteers are needed to help with picnic activities. 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

Sugar Lake Apparel

Sugar Lake apparel will be available at the picnic again this year. Orders can be placed at the picnic. Samples will be available.

Carp Trap

We are sad to report that the vandalism of the Sugar Lake Association/DNR carp trap at the discharge of Sugar Lake has continued and escalated. An additional lock has been cut, a threatening note was left, and most recently part of the structure has been cut. This activity has been reported to the Wright County Sheriff and the DNR. If you have any information regarding this ongoing incident contact any Sugar Lake Board member or Joel Mackereth with the Wright County Sheriff.

Picnic Prize Donations

If you are interested in donating prizes for the picnic or know someone who is please contact:

Marilyn Andersen
320-963-5527

Nominations

Nominations for the SLA Board were held open to allow more time for the candidate search.

Dear Sugar

By Doc Williams

Dear Sugar: I saw a loon nesting on a platform located in the North Bay but she is no longer there. Did she successfully hatch her eggs? **Looney for Loons.**

Dear Looney: Thanks to the efforts of a few, we now have 3 families of loons on the lake and to my knowledge this is a first in a long time. Although a platform has been placed in the North Bay before, this is the first year it has been successful, let alone a double hatch. The platform on the North West side of the lake must have been placed too late or not to a loon's liking for she found her own spot in the reeds just a few feet away and also had a double hatch. The pair on the south side of the lake seems to have had a single hatch. Now it's up to us and our guests to give them space so they can raise their young in peace. Remember, Loons are a protected bird and it is a Federal offence to harass or injure one. Please keep your distance.

Fireworks August 1

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 slightly under \$3000. Since no Sugar Lake Association funds are used for this display, more donations are needed.

Every year many watercraft gather around Joel's place as evening falls. Many others view his exhibition from nearby shores. All this and NO traffic hassles. Were you one of those in the watercraft around Joel's place or on the shores viewing the show? Would you like to see this event continue? If so, please make a donation for the August 1 fireworks display. The more donations we get and the earlier we get them, the better the display.

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.

HELP Do you have an old pontoon you would like to donate? We are in need of more platform space. If so please contact Joel Williams at 320-274-8878

Give Our Lake a Break

If you are creating a patio or other hard surface area use pavers or permeable surfaces rather than concrete or asphalt to reduce run-off to the lake.

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 25, 2009, from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
- 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.

First Annual Sugar Lake Benefit Golf Outing

The Sugar Lake Association will be holding its first annual golf outing at Southbrook Golf Club in Annandale on Saturday, July 25, with a 2PM shot-gun start. The "tournament" will have a scramble or best shot format. "This is the type of golf that even if you don't have a clue about the game you can have one hell of a good time." We hope to award lots of prizes (longest putt, most putts on a hole, shortest drive, you get the picture), so we need donations of prizes--they can be useful prizes or amusing prizes. We are also inviting individuals or companies to sponsor holes (cost: \$100, tax deductible). Sponsor a hole in honor of your recent high school or college graduate, a wedding anniversary, a birthday, or even to settle a bet. Sponsor a hole to advertise your local business. All hole sponsors will be identified on the course and be listed in the Sugar Lake News.

- Supper of burgers and brats will follow the golf. Invite your wives, husbands, kids, families, and friends for an afternoon of fun.
- 18 holes of golf (including cart and supper) will cost \$60; supper only will be \$20.
- All money raised will be devoted to the Sugar Lake Invasive Species Fund.

Sign-up deadline is July 15. For more information, contact Greg Selle at 763-476-4844 [home]; 612-719-0191 [cell], 320-963-5626 [lake]. or gselle@comcast.net.

Diane's Lights Night

By Doc Williams

Are you one of the new families that now calls Sugar Lake your destination when it's time to relax and have some fun? Have you thought about participating in the enjoyment of Diane's Lights Night? On Saturday evening of Labor Day weekend the Sugar Lake Association sponsors an opportunity for you to join your neighbors in lighting up the night sky and making our lake shine like no other. Each lake shore owner is invited to make a display on their property that others can view as they boat by after dark. The rules are simple; all light sources must come from a natural flame. Originally, everyone was encouraged to use Luminaries which were brown paper bags with a candle inside and arranged in some sort of a pattern. It was later expanded to include any light source that is flame based. This can include any combination of candles, campfires, torches, or anything else you can think of as long as the lighting comes from fire. No electric lights are allowed however, as this would disqualify your display from the competition. Judges will view the various displays and pick 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. The top prize is a free case of Pepsi product for each of the 12 weeks of next summer. Wonder what others have done in the past? Go to the Sugar Lake web site www.sugarlake.org, click on the news letter tab and view any of the September issues. Why not get a group of family or friends together and come up with a winner. I guarantee you will have a great time and add to the enjoyment of the evening for all.



Fishing Contest



The weather looked a little rainy early Saturday morning but by weigh in time at noon we were in the clear. 42 people registered early Saturday. The contest was again hosted by the Bonines. Dan, Lynne, and Chuck pictured to the left.

Special thanks to the great volunteer help. Dan Erdmann, Rick & Mary Olson, and Terry & Cheryl Delbow.



The winners were:

Northern

- 1st 2.11 lb Nathan Budde
- 2nd 2.03 lb Toby Ironside
- 3rd 1.02 lb Courtney Latterell

Bass

- 1st 1.15 lb Peter Giertsen
- 2nd 1.07 lb Al Smith
- 3rd 1.03 lb Pat Wurm

Sunfish

- 1st 9 oz Toby Ironside
- 2nd 8 oz Joe Vanasse
- 3rd 7 oz Anna Lee Vanasse

Crappie

- 1st 9 oz Don Peifer
- 2nd 8 oz Denny Wurm
- 3rd 6 oz Ron Peifer

Walleye

- 1st 2.8 lb Sue Wurm



\$30 of the prize money handed out was donated back to the association.

Thank You

Traveling Trophies

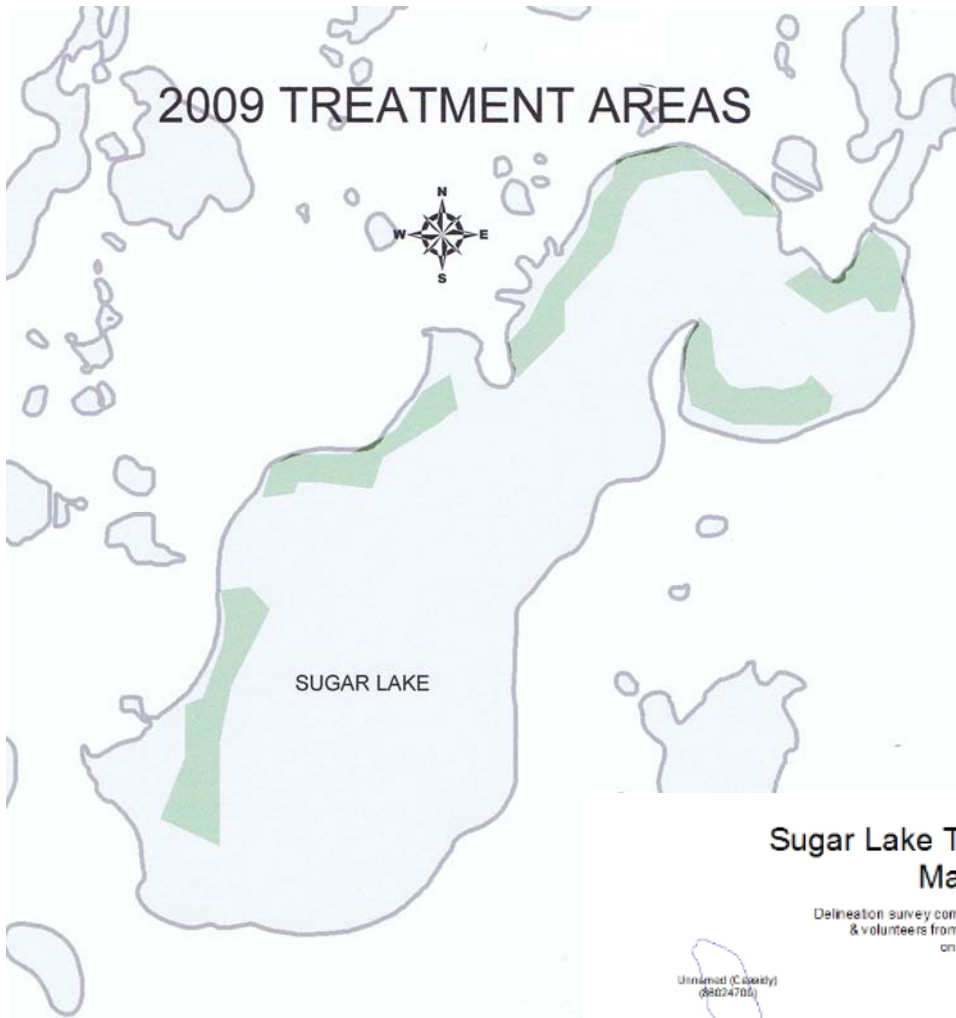
Traveling trophies this year went to Peter Giertson in the children's category and Sue Wurm in the adult category.



Peter Giertson



Sue Wurm

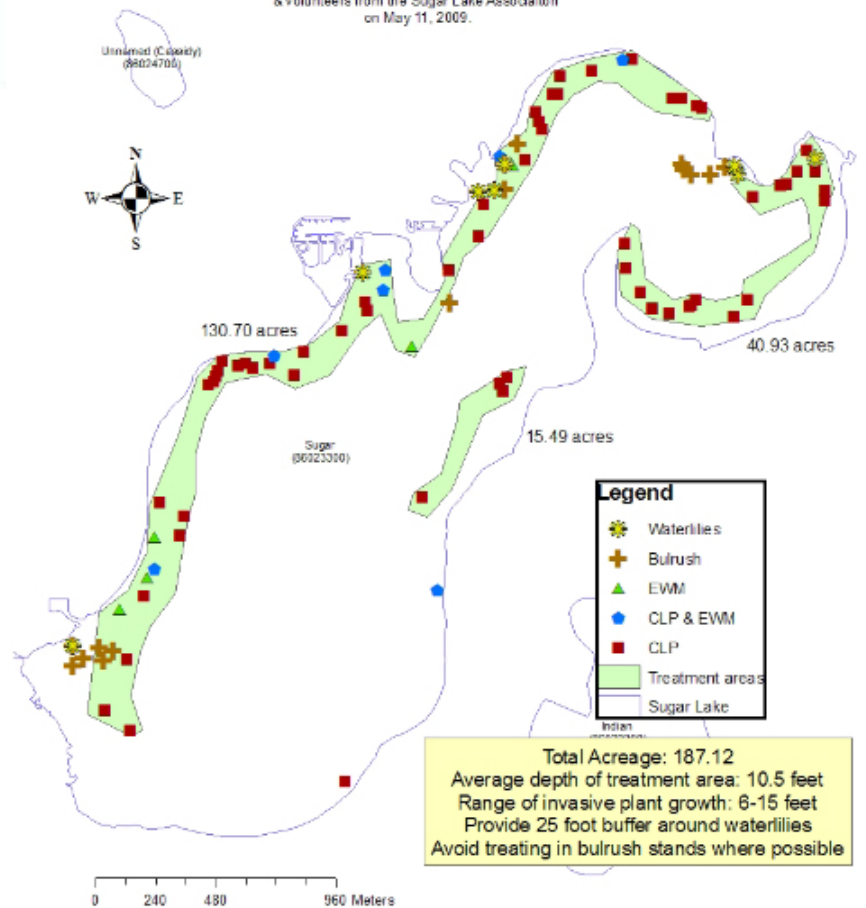


The map to the left shows treated areas of Curly leaf pondweed in the spring of 2009. Shaded areas were treated except where permission to treat was not secured from the land-owner.

The map to the right shows the result of the DNR survey. Shaded areas show the extent of proposed treatment for Curley leaf pondweed and Eurasian water milfoil

Sugar Lake Treatment Delineation May 11, 2009

Delineation survey completed by B. Hummel, S. Hanson, & volunteers from the Sugar Lake Association on May 11, 2009.



Area Highlights

By Doc Williams

Every time you receive a Sugar Lake news letter, one of the columns you always see is "Kastl's Korner" which gives the current conditions of the lake. Jim Kastl has been supplying the information for this column since the 1990s, but data he was gathering about the lake has been in the letter much longer. He moved his wife and 7 children to a cabin on the east side of Sunset Point in 1957. Jim had been living on Indian Lake where he owned 1000 feet of shore land which he had purchased for \$4,500 in 1947. He moved to Sugar because the water was much cleaner and swimming much better. Jim has never been a board member of the SLA, but the work done and data gathered for them was so appreciated that in 2002 he was given a life time membership. Some of his data has been essential in getting grants to the SLA from various state, local and conservation agencies.



Jim was involved in the widening of the outlet culvert in 1986. He later helped appease the land owner, where the water flows after leaving the culvert, after someone blew up a beaver dam on the land. They apparently thought it was hampering the water flow causing high water levels on Sugar.

The data Jim has collected on Sugar Lake fills 3 grocery bags. He took over Secchi disk readings in 1974 and has sent them to the DNR faithfully, up to the present day. Some of the other data in those files include:

- ✦ Swim lake survey data, where in 1967 it was noted there were 226 seasonal and 38 permanent homes on the lake. Also noted were 11 break-ins around Sunset Point on Sept 17th of 91.
- ✦ Water level readings back to 1938 with a note stating the lake level was 9 feet lower in 1936 compared to 1990.
- ✦ Information about the purchase and development of the South Access.
- ✦ Fish stocking data and gill net surveys with a report of a 54" Muskie caught off Sunset Point in August of 97.
- ✦ Information, both pro and con, concerning the proposal for a "Lake Improvement District" which was defeated.
- ✦ All the SLA news letters from 1985 through the present.

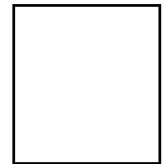
And much more.

When asked why he has done it for so long, his answer was "someone had to do it." How long will Jim continue to do this? Only Jim knows.

FOR SALE

Yard items, tools, some cabin items for sale on Sugar Lake at 11218 Hollister Ave NW. Available most weekends. Call first. Contact Bob Slama cell# 612-805-2442

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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED