

Sugar Lake Association
Wright County, Minnesota
May 31, 2004



Dear Sugar Lake Association Members,

Another summer season at the lake has arrived. Thankfully the temperatures are finally warming up so we can enjoy our lake activities!

Attached please find the May edition of the SLA News and raffle tickets for our annual fundraiser. The raffle prize offerings are a \$500.00 cash grand prize and a chance at a \$250.00 second prize and a \$50.00 third prize. The prizes that are offered should make them easier to sell than ever before and we ask for your help in selling 20 tickets at \$1.00 each. The proceeds of the raffle ticket sales will be allocated 100% to the lake improvement fund.

The raffle drawing will again be the final event of the Sugar Lake picnic to be held on Saturday, August 7, 2004. Winners of the raffle prize drawing need not be present to win. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets to this annual event and enjoy the food and games while having fun with your neighbors from the lake.

Please return your sold ticket stubs and tax-deductible checks, payable to the Sugar Lake Association, (NO CASH please) in the enclosed envelope by August 5. If you need additional tickets, please contact Michelle Pippo at 320-963-5024.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Sugar Lake Association, we thank you for your recent generosity with charitable donations and your quick response in returning your annual dues payment. We also thank you for your past and current efforts in selling raffle tickets to help support the work of the Sugar Lake Association. Your help is much appreciated! We also hope to see you at the picnic!

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Mann". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Stephen Mann
Chairman, Sugar Lake Association

THE SUGAR LAKE NEWS

MAY 2004



2004

Calendar of Events

June 19- SLA Meeting*

June 26-Fishing Contest

July 17-SLA Meeting*

August 7-SLA Picnic

August 21-Annual Meeting/
Board Election*

September 4-Diane's Lights
Night

September 18- SLA Meeting*

October 16-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 952-935-4201

E-mail donpeterson@maxigard.com

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

Karen Pitra

11102 Hoyer Ave NW

Annandale, MN 55302

320-274-8153

Or

Tanya Olin

11145 Hoyer AV NW

Annandale, MN 55302

320-274-5218

E-mail: tanya.m.olin@wellsfargo.com

Annual Fishing Contest June 26th!

When: 9 a.m. to noon. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Weigh in at noon.
Where: Home of Dan and Lynne Bonine on the north end of Addison Bay.
Cost: \$5 per person. All entry fees applied to the prize fund.
Prizes: First, second, and third prizes awarded for the largest fish in each category.
Who: Open to members and friends. The Kids contest is for ages 0-8 and 9-15. Kids can share in the prize money if they pay the entry fee.
Hot dogs and refreshments will be served afterward.
If you have any questions, call Lynne at 320-274-2005.

If you have one of the traveling trophies awarded last year, please return it to Lynne Bonine before the fishing contest, or call Lynne and arrange to bring it to the contest.

Picnic Volunteers Needed!



The annual Sugar Lake Association picnic is planned for August 7. Help is needed with many of the activities. Two-hour shifts are available. Your help is needed to make this event a success.

Please call Steve Harnett if you can help.
Steve can be reached at 320-274-5497

Give Our Lake a Break

If you have a load of black dirt delivered or expose the dirt on your lake lot for a landscaping project, remember to put up a silt fence or completely cover it with plastic to prevent any of the soil from washing into the lake.

Thank you

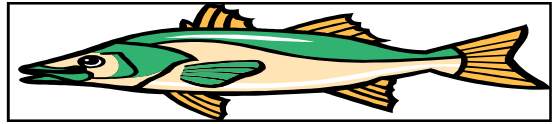
A special thank you to the Sugar Lake Association for the generous check for Dan's memorial. I and my family want to thank the many members who attended the Memorial Mass and the gifts given in his behalf. From the bottom of our hearts we all say many thanks and God bless.

Irene Klein and family

Sugar Lake Association Board Nominations

If you are interested in becoming a Sugar Lake Association board member or know someone interested in becoming a board member, please contact Suzanne Quinn-McDonald 763-427-5519. The nominating committee would like to have a slate of candidates ready before the June meeting.

MAY 15TH ASSOCIATION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



KASTL'S KORNER The latest lake report.
 The physical condition was 2 on a scale of 1 (good) to 5 (poor).
 Loon Count: 4

Date	Clarity	Culvert		Inlet	Outlet
		Water Temp	Air Temp		
05-13-99	9'	50°	50°	22"	27"
05-15-00	8'	58°	70°	20"	25"
05-16-01	8'	55°	78°	24"	29"
05-15-02	9'	48°	49°	23"	28"
05-15-03	9'	59°	66°	24"	29"
05-14-04	10'	58°	49°	18"	23"

Treasurer's Report - report as of May 15, 2004.

General Fund	\$15,647.02
Lake Improvement	\$14,382.93
Milfoil Fund	<u>\$46,773.18</u>
Total All Funds	\$76,803.13

Paid SLA membership for 2004 has reached 301. If you haven't paid your 2004 dues, please send your \$20 check payable to the Sugar Lake Association to: Sugar Lake Association 7285 120th St NW., Annandale, MN 55302.

EXTRA DONATIONS. Sugar Lake Members have been extremely generous in making extra donations beyond the \$20 dues payment. Extra donations have been received from the following:

Dan and Lynne Bonine	Dirk and Julie Moorhead	Edward and Margaret Scinto
Marlin and Wilma Grant	Craig Peterson	Greg and Judy Scinto
Paul and Mary Hobday	Mark Peterson	Greg and Joni Selle
Dennis and Mary Langhoff	Ralph and Judy Pucci	Joel and Linda Williams
Steve and Sue Mann	Clara Rasmussen	Gary and Mary Williamson
Fred and Geraldine Menth	Elmer and Mercedes Schwartz	

Please welcome new members :

Toni deRosier	Joe Lavin	Rosemary Pitra
Robert Harken	Ronald and Judith Libertus	Greg and Joni Selle
Mike and Jane Kluge	Dirk and Julie Moorhead	Shallbetter Family

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 kak8900@aol.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 for sale items. Please keep your e-mail address updated with Tanya.

Effective immediately News Flash for sale ads will be sent out on Wednesdays. Please have any ads to Tanya by 10 a.m. Wednesday morning.

Fishing Resources

Are you concerned about the fish population on Sugar Lake? The fisheries committee, formed last year, is looking for new members. The focus of this group is to gain a better understanding of the cause and effect relationship of all factors that influence fish population, educate the principal users of Sugar Lake of those effects, make suggestions regarding fish habitat and stocking, and continue to work with the DNR to improve our current relationship. If you are interested in joining this group please contact Lynne Bonine 320-274-2005.

Diane's Lights Night

Doc Williams

The docks and boats are back in the water. The fishing gear has been checked and readied for another season. The pontoon has been cleaned and prepared for idle cruises around the lake. All is ready for Memorial weekend, the official start of summer on Sugar Lake. I can almost feel the warm sun on my face as I anticipate the fun-filled days of boating, fishing, and swimming that lie just ahead. We should all count our blessings to have such a pristine lake on which to enjoy our summer activities. Is it too early, however, to think about Diane's Lights Night? The Peifer's, on the north shore, don't think so. As last year's winners of Diane's Lights Night decorating contest, they will receive a "summer of free Pepsi" products, starting on Memorial weekend. The planning for their display was a family effort and it took them most of the day to put it together. They had candle lanterns hanging high in the trees, luminaries, a candle lit star for Diane, as well as many other decorations. What teamwork! The Peifer's have agreed to judge this year's event, for they have set the standard.



Have you been thinking about your display for the September 4 occasion? Why not involve your entire family, or several families as a team. Remember, the only light source can be from a flame. Anything from a candle to a campfire will qualify but no electric lighting please. The thought of inviting news media to cover this annual event was discussed at the April SLA meeting. The consensus was that added exposure of Sugar Lake might have a detrimental effect, so it was decided not to do so.

Area Communicators

The area communicator program is being established to promote communication between the association and its members. An area communicator will act as a contact person for their neighborhood. They will direct neighbors where to get questions answered and inform them regarding issues such as milfoil or curly leaf treatments in their area. The new directory being printed this year will include detailed maps of each lake area. The area communicator contact information will be listed on each map. We are still looking for volunteers in the following areas: C,D,E,J,K,M,N,Q,S,U,W. If you are interested in participating please contact one of the individuals listed below:

Dale Gustafson	763-544-4215	Suzanne Quinn-McDonald	763-427-5519
Steve Harnett	320-274-5497	Don Peterson	952-939-0172

Education

Jr. Limnologist Program

Announcing a new program for kids ages 5-12 who would like to learn more about the waters of Sugar Lake. A Limnologist is a "person who studies lakes", and we would sure like to encourage anyone who is interested to take part. Here is how it works:

1. There will be several simple projects outlined in the June newsletter in addition to the secchi disc project presented in the April newsletter. Pick at least one project that looks interesting to you.
2. Complete your project and record your data (write down what you found out).
3. Bring your data sheets to the Sugar Lake picnic on August 7, and turn them in.
4. Collect a special prize and Jr. Limnologist certificate!
5. Have fun!!

Sugar Lake Association Scholarship Application

You are eligible to apply for a \$500 scholarship if you are a member, child of a member, or grandchild of a Sugar Lake Association member who will be attending a post-secondary school in the fall of 2004.

Applications are available by contacting Deb Beltrand - dkbeltrand@msn.com or 952-944-1526.

Application deadline: July 23, 2004

Return to Deb Beltrand at above e-mail or 5816 W. 70th St. Edina, MN 55439

Sugar Lake Calendar Being Developed!

The education committee of the Sugar Lake Association is in the process of developing a calendar complete with tips on how we can work together to keep our waters healthy. We need pictures! If you have any photos of scenes or events around the lake (with a broad appeal—recent or historical) and would like them to be considered for inclusion in this year's calendar, please send them to: Jan Quinn, 7696 106th St. NW, Annandale, MN, 55302. Hard copy or disk accepted. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like them returned. Also, please let us know which area of the lake the photo is from. Thanks.

Picnic

Planning for the annual picnic to be held on Saturday, August 7, is underway. Volunteers are needed for a variety of activities. Two-hour shifts are available so you can have time to enjoy the picnic as well as help out. If you can help please contact Steve Harnett at 320-274-5497.

Vegetation Committee

Curly Leaf Pondweed

The Vegetation Committee has been hard at work this spring identifying and treating areas of curly leaf pondweed. We have identified and treated areas by the north public landing, in Addison Bay, and the Northwest Bays. This year is the first time we have treated Curly leaf pondweed, and in order to have any positive effect on this plant we must continue treatment for several years. It is likely that it will take three to five years to even be able to see if we are having a significant effect.

In order to reduce the numbers of “seeds” (called turions) that are produced, we need to interrupt the turion production cycle. That can be done either with chemicals in the early spring or by cutting later in the spring. We want everyone to be looking for this pest and report it to your area communicator or someone from the Vegetation Committee. Once identified and mapped, we will ask you to remove or cut in your area. (Our hope is that neighbors will get together and perform this task.) It is not possible that the Vegetation Committee can do this on its own, and if we need to hire professionals to do the work it will get rather expensive. Let’s see what we can do by working together.

It is important to remove the plants from the lake for two reasons: one, it is a state law, and, two, if the plants are not removed they will decompose and release the nutrients back into the water, contributing to algae development and harming the native vegetation.

Eurasian water milfoil

We will be treating the EWM again this year in a couple of stages. We have identified two significant patches at this time that we intend to treat soon. One is in a previous location in Addison Bay by the culvert, and the other is a new batch at the entry to the northernmost of the northwest bays.

We have hired Buddy Divers to do a lakewide search most likely during the second week of June. That survey, along with the information from our Millfoil spotter crew, will determine where we treat this summer. It is our hope to treat those areas in mid to late June, and we encourage everyone to look in the next few weeks for any new batches of Milfoil.

To date we have been either lucky or successful at keeping the quantity of EWM small in Sugar Lake. We are clearly the exception. In most lakes it spreads rapidly once it gets started and becomes a huge problem. We must remain diligent in protecting our lake. These are critical times for our lake and we need to go that extra mile to do everything we can to protect our resource. We all can do little things, so let’s remember to “Give Our Lake A Break.”

Curlyleaf Pondweed



Curlyleaf pondweed most likely arrived in Minnesota near the turn of the century in containers used to bring common carp from Germany to the United States. It is native to Eurasia, Africa, and Australia. The DNR has identified it in Sugar Lake. It has reddish-green leaves that are wavy at the edges. The leaves have fine teeth along the edge and are oblong, measuring about 1/2” wide and 2 to 3” long. The plant grows from shore to depths of 15’. Its growth cycle begins in the fall September to October time frame when it has little competition from native plants. The main method of new growth is from winter buds called “turions”. With its growth cycle beginning under the ice, curlyleaf pondweed is one of the first nuisance aquatic plants to appear in the spring. It forms dense surface mats in the spring that severely impact recreational activities including fishing, swimming, and boating as well as restricting the growth of

native species. The plant dies back in early summer at the same time the algae population is growing rapidly. The curlyleaf decomposition increases the amount of phosphorus in the lake and contributes to algae blooms. Control options include cutting and mechanical harvesting. Some aquatic herbicides can be used to control curlyleaf pondweed. Herbicide control can be difficult due to the plants similarity to native aquatic species. The best time to look for and treat curlyleaf pondweed is in the spring soon after ice-out.



Water Patrol

Remember to renew or obtain your swim raft permit. Contact the Wright County Sheriff's Department at 763-682-7622. Your permit # must be displayed and the raft must be reflectorized to reflect light from all directions.

Sugar Lake Water Patrol contact list 2003

Dan Bonine	320-274-2005	Area W
Earl Foster	320-274-3902	Area Q
Mike Huro	320-274-2104	Area S
Tanya Olin	320-274-5218	Area S
Bob Stockstead	320-963-3345	Area D

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 31, 2004, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 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

Water Quality Improvement

106th Street Project - The PCA permit has been received by the Corinna Township so they can now continue with the construction on 106th street and a holding pond. Construction should start after Memorial Day.

115th Street Project - Wright County Soil and Water has approved going ahead with a buffer strip on this property. The Sugar Lake Association would like to thank the landowners, **Larry and Marion Sandfort**, for participating in this program. **Gene Smith**, who farms the land, was also instrumental in putting this project together. The motion passed last month to spend \$500 on a one-year grass crop for this buffer strip was rescinded. A new motion was made and passed to spend \$650 for the cost of seed and planting the buffer strip in native perennials. Tony with North American Prairies Company has been retained to plant 5 acres of grass and wildflowers.

Rainfall

If you were thinking the lake level is down a little this year, our rainfall totals help explain it.

Average annual precipitation for this area is 28.5 inches.

Total precipitation for 2003 was about 22.5 inches.

Total precipitation for 2002 was about 37.5 inches.

April 2004 total was 1.35 inches.

Dear Sugar

Dear Sugar, I have switched to phosphorus free fertilizer for my lake lot but have some left-over fertilizer that contains phosphorus. What should I do with this fertilizer? From Worried about fertilizer.

Dear Worried about fertilizer: Incorporate your left-over fertilizer into your compost pile or soil. Once phosphorous is in the soil it is locked to the soil particles until plants use it.

Education Opportunities

Also look for information on a fall Shoreland Volunteer Education time

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/water/shore/plantID.htm>

wetland plant identification

EAGAN \$35 WRC 4-1

6:00-9:00, Friday, July 30 AND

9:00-3:00, Saturday, July 31

Location: Lebanon Hills Visitor Center

Contact: Ron Struss, 651-480-7700

NISSWA \$35 WRC 4-2

6:00-9:00, Thursday, August 5 AND

9:00-3:00, Friday, August 6

Location: Nisswa Community Center

Contact: Eleanor Burkett, burke044@umn.edu

aquatic plant identification

EDEN PRAIRIE \$35 WRC 5-1

6:00-9:00, Thursday, July 15 AND

9:00-3:00, Friday, July 16

Location July 15: ELC, Water Treatment Plant

Location July 16: Bush Lake Izaak Walton

League Lodge

Contact: Ron Struss, 651-480-7700

ALEXANDRIA \$35 WRC 5-2

6:00-9:00, Monday, July 19 AND

9:00-3:00, Tuesday, July 20

Location: Douglas County Extension Office

Contact: Amy Rager, 320-589-1711

Wright Co. Cooperative Lake Monitoring Program

Did you know that we are a part of a program designed by the state to establish trends in the water quality of MN lakes? We have volunteers who have been collecting data once a month, May through September since 2001, on water clarity, amount of total phosphorus, and chlorophyll-A (algae).

The data is turned in to Wright Co. Soil and Water Conservation in Buffalo. They in turn send it into Environmental Laboratories Inc, in Detroit Lakes for analysis. The results are published on this website:

www.rmbel.info Check it out! Kind of interesting to compare Sugar Lake's data to the other 34 lakes in Wright Co. who are participants. We have also been turning in data on water clarity to the state for analysis since 1974. Data for participating lakes in Wright Co., published in November of 2003, identified Sugar Lake as one of three lakes who had a significant negative trend in transparency. Seventeen lakes exhibited no change, and seven showed a significant improvement in transparency over time. For more information about this data, you can contact the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul, MN 55155-4194, phone number: 651-296-6300.

We would like to extend a big thank-you to our data collectors, Ed and Jan Quinn, Jim Kastl, and BJ Bjorkman. For all those Jr. Limnologists out there, who want to know exactly how this data is collected, here's how it works:

1. Water clarity is measured in the middle of the lake using a secchi disk, which is dropped over the side of the boat and watched until it is no longer visible. Depth is measured by half foot increments on the rope the disk is attached to.
2. The phosphorus sample is collected by transferring water from a sampling tube to a 1/2 pint plastic bottle. A vial of sulfuric acid is then added to preserve the phosphorus.
3. The water sample to be analyzed for chlorophyll-A (algae) is taken from the sampling tube and placed in a 2 liter amber bottle, which is placed in a cooler with an ice pack.

Watch for a pontoon boat in the middle of the lake (when the lake is quiet— usually morning or evening) on these upcoming dates: June 20, July 18, August 15, Sept. 19 . Feel free to say 'hi' and watch the data collectors at work.

First Shoreline Garden Club Meeting

The first garden club meeting will be held at Quinn's cabin- 7696 106th St. NW (South Shore, Area O), on June 5th at 10:00 am. We will be setting our summer schedule (one meeting per month), and discussing what we would like to do as a group. Possible suggestions include:

- a) Touring Lake Sylvia to check out their 'Lakescaping' ideas
- b) Planning a Warner Nature Center visit to view beautiful native plants.
- c) bringing in a speaker to learn more about shoreline restoration
- d) meeting new people on the lake and sharing our own knowledge and shoreline gardening tips.
- e) helping to organize and participate in group planting projects to restore shoreland in key areas on the lake.
- f) come up with a name for the group!

Please e-mail Suzanne Quinn-McDonald at smcdonal@ties2.net if you are planning on attending. Thanks, hope to see you there!

Riverfest Monticello

For more information: www.monticellochamber.com

The Monticello Chamber welcomes you all to our Riverfest Celebration, held the week of July 9, 10, 11. Begin the weekend with our talent show, held at the Monticello High School. Top talent will keep you entertained, beginning at 7 p.m. On Saturday be sure you don't miss Art in the Park and Taste of Monticello. This top quality, outdoor arts and crafts fair, also provides entertainment and wonderful food booths from local great restaurants. The fair is from 9 to 3, located at Ellison Park on the Mississippi River. Watch for shuttle bus signs at the Deputy Register, Monticello Times and Monticello Middle School. Saturday evening kick up your heels as the Killer Hayseeds perform an outdoor dance and concert at the Monticello Firehall from 7 to 11. Beer gardens, as well as concessions will leave your feet aching for a dance or two. On Sunday, load up the car with the kids and the neighbors and head to the Monticello Parade at 12:30. Following the large parade, join Monticelloans at Ellison Park for a great chicken dinner, the Great Monticello Duck Race, Coronation, and lots of games for the kids.

For Sale

Boatlift-Shorestation Aluminum vertical lift. 9 feet wide with canopy \$1400

Pontoon Lift- Aluminum \$500

Contact Lynette Gagnelius 320-274-3683