

Sugar Lake Association

Sugar Lake, Wright County, Minnesota

www.sugarlake.org

May 2009

Dear Sugar Lake Residents,

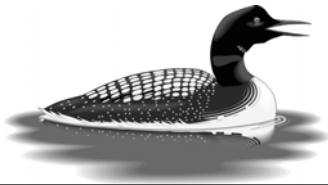
Attached is the May edition of the SLA News and raffle tickets for our annual fundraiser. The raffle prize offerings are a \$500 cash grand prize, a \$200 second prize and a \$100 third prize. We ask for your help in selling 20 tickets at \$1.00 each. The proceeds of the raffle ticket sales will be allocated 100% to the milfoil and invasive species fund and will be used to fight curly leaf pondweed and Eurasian watermilfoil.

The raffle drawing will again be the final event of the Sugar Lake picnic to be held on Saturday, August 1, 2009. 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 1. Please do us a big favor this year and remove the staple from your ticket stubs before you send them in. If you need additional tickets, please contact Cheryl Delbow at 320-963-3997.

See you at the picnic!

Karen Sutherland
Chair, Sugar Lake Association



The Sugar Lake News

MAY 2009

2009

Calendar of Events

May 30 Shoreland Habitat workshop

June 20– SLA Meeting*

June 27-Fishing Contest

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

by: Dale Gustafson
Vegetation Committee

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. 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 to treat only Curly leaf on a lake-wide basis. 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 to 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 those 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 map of the areas that were treated and attend the June General Membership meeting of the association to learn more.

Annual Fishing Contest Saturday, June 27th!

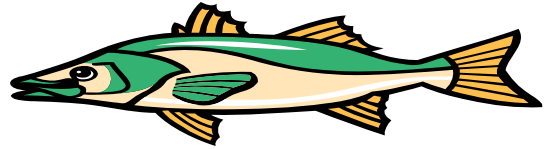
When: 9 a.m. to noon. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Weigh in at noon.
Where: Home of Dan and Lynne Bonine on the north end of Addison Bay.
Cost: \$5 per person. All entry fees applied to the prize fund.
Prizes: First, second, and third prizes awarded for the largest fish in each category.
Who: Open 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.

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
05-14-04	10'	58°	49°	18"	23"
05-20-05	10'	52°	62°	22"	27"
05-21-06	10'	48°	60°	26"	31"
05-12-07	10'	61°	62°	22"	27"
05-16-08	10'	54°	60°	27"	32"
05-15-09	11'	52°	69°	20"	25"

Rainfall

Total precipitation in March was 3 inches. April rainfall was .72 inches. Year to date precipitation through April has been 5.1 inches. May rainfall through 5/26 was .75 inches. Thanks to Andy Juetten for the rainfall information.

Membership

Paid membership to date this year is 214. 20 acres of the lake have been sold. 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 May 15, 2009

General Fund	\$31,896.82
Lake Improvement Fund	\$16,860.96
Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund	\$73,877.53
Total All Funds	\$122,635.31

Board Appointments

Marlin Grant and Tom Tart were appointed to fill open board positions through the end of this fiscal year.

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 Steve Mann:

320-274-6267.

The nominating committee would like to have a slate of candidates ready before the June meeting.

An eighteen-member board administers the SLA. Each board member serves for 3 years and then is required to take a year off before being eligible to be elected again. Board members can serve on committees including water quality, vegetation, education, fisheries, communication as well as helping with annual events like the picnic. It is a great way to learn about the lake and be involved in what is happening.

June Meeting

To Feature

Slide Presentation

The June 20 Sugar Lake Association meeting at the Corinna Town Hall will be a general membership meeting. The meeting will start at 8 a.m. Beginning at 9 a.m., there will be a special slide presentation on three SLA sponsored projects: the buffer strip project sponsored by the Wright County Soil & Water Conservation District, the Hollister Avenue project and the new DNR pilot project for controlling curly-leaf pondweed and Eurasian watermilfoil. Nominations for the board of directors will be finalized at this meeting.

Give Our Lake a Break

Volunteer to help with water quality issues, serve a term on the board, help with the picnic, help with invasive species control, join the water patrol, or any of the other opportunities listed in the newsletter or on the web site.

Consider showing up at the membership meeting.

Decisions are made by those who show up.

Diane's Lights Night

By Doc Williams

On Memorial Day weekend of this year, the Dick DeGroot family received their first place prize for their winning display on Diane's Lights Night of last year. As you may recall their lakeside yard was relatively flat and that presented a challenge in making a display that could be seen by passing boaters. They overcame this by hanging Luminaries at different levels from their sailboat mast. They also made a floating platform using air mattresses & Styrofoam, then placed Luminaries on it at different heights. There was lots of help because much of the family and some friends joined in on the fun. With all that help, I'm sure they will be expected to share in the prize, so it may not last the entire summer.

Diane's Lights Night will again be held this year on Saturday of Labor Day weekend. Need some ideas? Go to the Sugar Lake web site www.sugarlake.org and click on the news letter tab, then browse through the past September issues. There you will find descriptions of many wonderful displays from past years. While



you're there, you may want to look through other great things our web site has to offer. It's not too early to start planning your display for this year, but make sure you build a lot of fun into it.



Loon Platforms

By Doc Williams

The Loon platforms have once again been put out thanks to Tom Hebzynski and Dan & Sheree Erdmann. As of May 17, the one in the North Bay had a Loon nesting on it. This is the first time that platform has been occupied. Two people in a paddle boat were observed close to the nest and frightened the loon off. Fortunately when they left, the loon returned. If it happens too many times however, the Loon will abandon the nest and the eggs won't hatch. We all love to see Loons on the lake and listen to their calls. Help us increase their population on Sugar by keeping your distance from them. If you observe someone near a loon, especially while they are on the platforms, consider asking them to back away and observe them from a distance.

Carp Trap

Years ago the Sugar Lake Association installed a carp trap or gate in the outlet stream at the north end of the lake. It was installed to keep carp out of Sugar Lake. It is opened in the fall about the time of the first frost and closed in the early spring. It requires a considerable amount of maintenance because debris collects against it when closed. Tim Pippo is the current caretaker of the carp trap and spends many hours every year caring for it. The trap is locked when closed. Again this year someone has cut the lock and opened the trap on several occasions. If you or someone you know has a problem with this Association activity please contact a board member or attend a meeting and discuss your concerns.

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 Patrol

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

Are you interested in participating in the Sugar Lake Water Patrol? Call Rick Kanninen at 320-963-2226.

Sugar Lakescapers

The second annual plant exchange was held at Rick & Carol Kanninen's Saturday, May 16, immediately following the May board meeting. The weather cooperated and attendance was good. A profit of \$182 was donated to the SLA Lake Improvement Fund. Grant Everson, with Hasty Woods tree farm & Nursery, was also present with a selection of plants and advice.



Shoreland Habitat Program

By the time you read this the second of three workshops will have been held. In the first workshop we learned about site assessment, site planning and design, resources for design and plant selection, and specific local native plants and flowers. Worksheets to use for site assessment and objectives were passed out as well as a Wright County native plant guide. The second session covered refining your plan, site planning and preparation, tools, techniques and tips.

Both workshops were led by Carolyn Dindorf of Fortin Consulting. The remaining workshop will be held June 20 at 11215 Hollister Ave NW immediately following the June Association meeting at 10:30 am. The June 20 session will be a hands on volunteer opportunity to help plant at the two project sites. All volunteer hours count towards the grant.

If you want more information or have questions contact Don Peterson at 952-212-9524 or email don@sugarlake.org. For information about the Shoreland Habitat Program go to www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/habitat/shoreland.html

***Sponsored by the Sugar Lake Association
with funding provided through a grant from
the MN DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife
Shoreland Habitat Program***

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 26 with a 2PM shot-gun start. The "tournament" will have a scramble format, so non-golfers are encouraged to participate for loads of fun. 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. In addition, we are inviting individuals or companies to sponsor holes (cost: \$100, tax deductible).

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]; 612 719-0918 [cell] or gselle@comcast.net.

WANTED

College student looking for work this summer—putting in docks, lawn care, cleaning, and anything else that needs to be done. Call Chuck Bonine 320-980-2588.

AVAILABLE

Newer 20 foot pontoon trailer for rent. Available on Sugar Lake. Call Lynne 320-963-4525

Sugar Lake Fireworks Date Change

Due to July 4 falling on a weekend this year the Sugar Lake Fireworks date is changing. Joel Williams and the professional crew he works with are busy on the 4th. The board felt a better alternative date would be August 1, the night of the Sugar Lake Association annual picnic. The Sugar Lake Board will again be the sponsoring organization of this legal, permitted show. It is a one time, one night show. Since no Sugar Lake funds are used for this display we need your help. Costs for materials have increased by 20 to 30 percent this year. A show as good as last year will require more than \$6000. We currently have over \$2000. Donations are ahead of last year but we still have quite a ways to go.

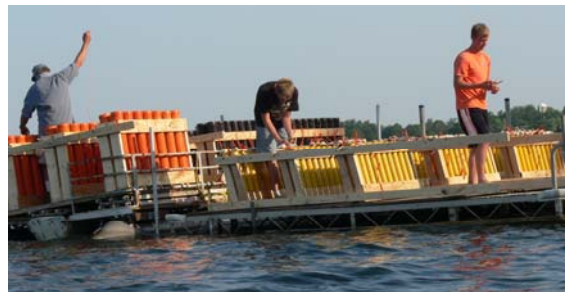


Every year many watercraft gather around Joel's place as evening falls and every one has the best seat on the lake. Still many others view his exhibition from near by shores. All this and NO traffic hassles. Were you one of those in the watercraft around Joel's place or on the shores viewing the show? Would you like to see this event continue? We are asking YOU to give a donation for the August 1 fireworks display. The more donations we get and the earlier we get them, the better the display. If we don't get enough, we may have to cut back the show this year.

Your tax deductible donation will make this show happen. Please make your 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