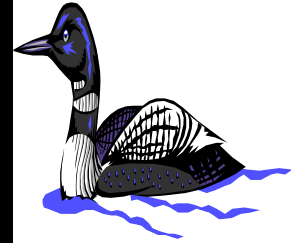


THE SUGAR LAKE NEWS OCTOBER 2003



2004

Calendar of Events

February 21-Mid-winter meeting

April 17-SLA Meeting*

May 15-SLA Meeting*

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 at

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

SLA Radio Celebrities

Tune in to KRWC 1360 AM on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:05 a.m. right after the Tradeo program for a radio program on local lake issues.

The program features SLA members Karla Heeter and Dale Gustafson discussing local lake topics. The program has aired in October and November with plans to continue through the winter.

October and November shows covered "Loving our lakes to death," the transition of how we are using our lakes and the importance of the shoreland environment for lake health. Upcoming shows will focus on lakeshore septic issues and county related lakeshore issues with Brad Wozny of Wright County Soil and Water.

Mid-winter meeting to be held in Monticello

A mid-winter SLA meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, February 21, 2004, from 9:00 a.m to Noon, and will be held at the Monticello Community Center. This is not an official meeting of the SLA, rather it is a planning meeting to get a jump on projects/issues for the 2004 summer season. The meeting agenda will include:

- 2004 calendar
- Review the purpose of the Sugar Lake Association
- Align our goals with this purpose
- Develop action plans to accomplish the goals

All members are welcome to attend and are encouraged to submit comments/suggestions by February 1 to SLA Chairman Steve Mann. Phone: 320-274-6267

manns79@aol.com

Help Protect and Preserve Sugar Lake

The expenses of the SLA continue to increase and we are committed to maintaining our Milfoil fund reserves and adding to the Lake Improvement funds. Beginning this year, the Sugar Lake Association is paying for milfoil treatment. Your support is needed to continue this important activity.

Please consider a generous year-end donation to the Sugar Lake Association using the enclosed form. All donations are tax deductible. Your help, consideration, and enthusiasm is greatly appreciated.

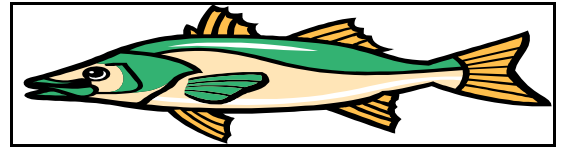
OCTOBER 11 ASSOCIATION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

KASTL'S KORNER - the latest lake report.

The physical condition was 2 on a scale of 1 (good) to 5 (poor). 2 loons noted.

On October 10, 2002 we were 9" above average rainfall.

On October 10, 2003 we are 4.2" below average rainfall.



Date	Clarity	Water Temp	Air Temp	Culvert	
				Inlet	Outlet
10-14-98	14'	51°	58°	15"	20"
10-14-99	10'	51°	46°	17"	22"
10-06-00	14'	45°	45°	9"	14"
10-10-01	14'	56°	60°	9"	14"
10-14-02	13'	51°	44°	27"	32"
10-8-03	13'	70°	82°	13"	18"

Treasurer's Report - report as of September 30, 2003

General Fund	\$ 7,469.82
Lake Improvement Fund	\$ 45,815.80
Milfoil Fund	\$ 13812.02
Total All Funds	\$ 67,097.64

The approved budget for 2003-2004 is as follows:

	<u>General</u>	<u>Milfoil</u>	<u>Lake Improvement</u>
Beginning balance 8/30/2003	\$7,890	\$45,481	\$13,773
Projected income	\$12,020	\$2,616	\$6,271
Projected expenses	\$9,500	\$5,170	\$4,830
Projected balance 8/30/2004	\$10,410	\$42,927	\$15,214

Please note:

- Dues: 100% will be allocated to the general fund.
- A dues invoice will be mailed this winter, prior to the April 2004 meeting.
- Raffle proceeds will be 100% allocated to the lake improvement fund.

Sugar Lake Association Scholarship

The Sugar Lake Association (SLA) is committed to protecting and preserving the resources that contribute to the natural beauty of Sugar Lake; as well as preserving and improving it's water quality. We feel there is a need for the ongoing education of current and future lake residents. To help promote this mission, the Water Quality Education Committee of the SLA, would like to offer a scholarship opportunity to any SLA member, child, or grandchild of a member, who will be attending any post-secondary school in the fall of 2004.

A motion was made and passed to institute a scholarship program to be funded by specific donations or grants. Dues money will not be used to sponsor this scholarship so we are counting on the generosity shown by many in the past to fund this effort.

Donations for the scholarship fund are being accepted at any time by Lynne Bonine, SLA treasurer – 7285 – 120th St NW, Annandale, MN 55302. Applications are available by contacting Deb Beltrand – dkbeltrand@msn.com or calling 952-944-1526.

Membership

2003 MEMBERSHIP Members paid for Year 2003 to date are 352, a new record high enrollment.

We would like to extend our sympathies to Anna Mae Kuhlmann Quiggle, and the rest of her family. Dr. Arthur Quiggle, passed away at home on Sugar Lake on Wednesday evening, October 1, 2003, at the age of 81.

His daughter, Charlotte, says: "Many of the best times of my Dad's life were spent here at Sugar Lake. He bought the property back in 1954 and built our house in 1957. We kids grew up here, spending every summer at the Lake; my parents retired to this house about 10 years ago."

A new directory is planned for 2004. Information for the directory will be gathered from the return form on the dues invoice scheduled for mailing in February 2004.

EXTRA DONATIONS. Sugar Lake Members have been extremely generous adding over \$4,500.00 in extra donations (over and above their dues contribution). The breakdown of the additional donations are: \$763 to General Fund; \$966 to Lake Improvement; \$1,619 to Milfoil; \$515 to the Walleye Fund and \$825 not specified. Contributors of extra donations, not previously mentioned, include: Andrea Welter. The Association thanks everyone for their support.

If you know anyone new to the Sugar Lake area, please let Karen Pitra or Tanya Olin know. An information packet will be mailed. For address additions, deletions or changes, please contact Karen at 320-274-8153 or Tanya at 320-274-5218 or e-mail at tanya.m.olin@wellsfargo.com.

SUGAR LAKE NEWS FLASH: This e-mail service is available for Sugar Lake members, family, and friends. Contact Tanya at tanya.m.olin@wellsfargo.com with your e-mail address to get on the Sugar Lake News Flash list.

Lake Vegetation

Crystal-Pierz Marine of Maple Lake is helping SLA with our pontoon boat engine repair. We want to thank them for their involvement in helping SLA maintain it's Aquatic Plant Management efforts. A special thanks to Pam Klemz the Store Manager and SLA member for her help.

Water Quality Improvement

The water quality improvement committee met Saturday, December 6, at Quinn's. Agenda items included major project progress and planning, education plans for 2004, a 'Stream Protection' power point presentation, and a 'Restore Your Shore' video presentation.

Township News

Both Townships want to remind you it is a violation of state law to push snow across a road or pile snow on the road right-of-way. Please keep vehicles, boats, trailers, docks, and other equipment off the road right of way.

Annual meetings will be held for both Clearwater and Corinna Townships March 9, 2004, at 8:15 p.m. This is a great opportunity to participate in democracy at the grass roots level. Township supervisor elections are held, budgets for the next year are approved, and other Town business is acted on.

Corinna Township The township brush drop off is still open for property owners in 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

Clearwater Township Town Board meetings are held the third week 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

Give Our Lake a Break

Clean up after yourself this winter. Anything you leave on the ice ends up in the water.

****SOMETHING NEW****

in the newsletter...Introducing "Dear Sugar"- a spot for questions (from you our association members) and answers (from board members and various resources) about Sugar Lake... anything goes—water quality, permit requirements, social events, shoreline gardening, whatever! Send your questions to our newsletter editor, Don Peterson, 319 Wayside Rd W, Hopkins, MN 55343, or email donpeterson@maxigard.com

Dear Sugar

Dear Sugar, "Where can we buy Sugar Lake T-shirts, sweatshirts, and other gift items? I've looked at a few of the gift shops in Annandale, but didn't see any Sugar Lake items." From, Shopping for Sugar.

Dear Shopping for Sugar, For Sugar Lake apparel, including sweatshirts and t-shirts, you can contact Joanie Chapple at 763-780-4134 or email at jchap51@yahoo.com. Joannie has a full line of Sugar Lake items. You may have seen her display at the annual picnic.

Ice safety tips from the Minnesota DNR

Recommended minimum ice thickness

4" of new clear ice is the minimum thickness for travel on foot

5" is minimum for snowmobiles and ATVs

8"- 12" for cars or small trucks

(Remember that these thickness' are merely guidelines for new, clear, solid ice. Many factors other than thickness can cause ice to be unsafe.)

Wright County LARA

The formation of the WCLARA is still underway and a leadership committee is working on the structure and programming. There will be announcements for spring programs coming early in the year so watch for more information.

The WCLARA can use your help in contacting and getting other lake associations involved in this effort. Talk to people you know on other Wright County Lakes and Rivers and ask if they are involved in the LARA. If they are not, they can contact Dale Gustafson at 763-544-4215 or dalegus@AOL.com

Curlyleaf Pondweed Workshops

The Minnesota Lakes Association, University of Minnesota Extension Service, and Initiative Foundation will host a series of workshops in early 2004 on Curlyleaf Pondweed, an "invasive exotic" aquatic plant that can choke out native vegetation and adversely impact fisheries, wildlife habitat, and recreational uses. An increasing number of lakes in Minnesota are infested with this exotic plant. The workshops will help shoreland owners and lake associations understand the unique life history of curlyleaf pondweed and recognize the special challenges involved in attempting to control this exotic plant. This workshop will also cover options for management and the permitting process. Participants will have a chance to talk with other shoreland owners and lake associations about their experiences with curlyleaf pondweed management. The workshop cost is \$15.00. After December 1, interested participants can register online at www.extension.umn.edu/water/shore/ or check the MLA website (www.mnlakes.org) under Hot Topics/Opportunities for more registration information. For a brochure or more information contact: Eleanor Burkett, Extension, at (218) 587-8280, burke044@umn.edu; Minnesota Lakes Association at 218-824-5565, lakes@mnlakes.org; or Don Hickman, Initiative Foundation, at (877) 632-9255, dhickman@ifound.org. Locations and dates are:

January 24; 8:30- 12:30 a.m. Salida Event Center, Big Lake

2003/2004 Sugar Lake Association Board of Directors

Terms expiring August 31, 2004

	<u>Lake Phone</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Area</u>
Andy Juetten	320-274-2264	Same as lake	O
Don Peterson	320-963-8843	952-939-0172	K
Steve Wiltermuth	320-274-6133	763-441-2625	W
Lynne Bonine	320-274-2005	Same as lake	W
Richard Choate	320-963-3048	Same as lake	K
Gordon Koring	320-274-2442	Same as lake	N

Terms expiring August 31, 2005

	<u>Lake Phone</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Area</u>
Mike Mengelkoch	320-963-8518	763-546-1945	K
Suzanne Quinn-McDonald	320-274-3226	763-427-5519	O
Dave (Doc) Williams	320-963-6776	952-888-9884	H
Steve Harnett	320-274-5497	Same as lake	U
Shirley Hillstad	320-274-8633	Same as lake	T
Michelle Pippo	320-963-5024	Same as lake	F

Terms expiring August 31, 2006

	<u>Lake Phone</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Area</u>
Debbie Beltrand	320-274-8299	952-944-1526	T
Debbie Grant	320-963-6630	952-885-0823	C
Steve Mann	320-274-6267	Same as lake	X
Karen Pitra	320-274-8153	763-535-0517	S
Lorenchia Scott	320-274-3801	Same as lake	A
Tanya Olin	320-274-5218	Same as lake	S

2002/2003 Officers

Chairman:	Steve Mann
Vice-Chairman:	Suzanne Quinn-McDonald
Treasurer:	Lynne Bonine
Secretary:	Michelle Pippo

Standing Committee Chairpersons October 11, 2003

Government Liaison	Andy Juetten
Fishing Resources	Mike Madden
Fundraising/Grants	Al Wojchowski
Lake Vegetation	Dale Gustafson
Membership	Tanya Olin/Karen Pitra
Newsletter	Don Peterson
Nominating	Lynne Bonine
Parliamentarian	Steve Wiltermuth
Picnic	Steve Harnett
Water/ Snow Patrol	Mike Huro
Water Quality Improvement	Dale Gustafson
Water Quality Report	Jim Kastl
Website Coordinator	Don Peterson
Historian	Lynne Bonine
MLA Liason	Dale Gustafson

Obituary

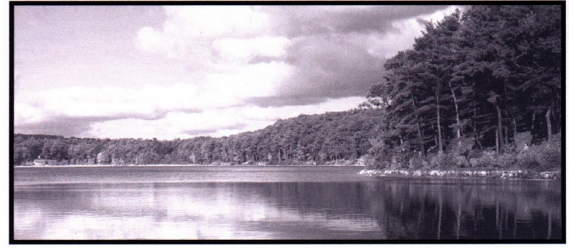
Lake Care Campaign Launched

The ad to the right recently ran in the Minneapolis Star Tribune and the St. Paul Pioneer Press:

The ad was placed by the Metro WaterShed Partners to draw attention to their educational campaign "Minnesota Water — Let's Keep It Clean." Metro WaterShed Partners is a group of more than 40 public, private and nonprofit organizations engaged in educating Twin Cities residents about how to care for Minnesota's precious water resources. Learn more about Metro WaterShed Partners at www.cleanwatermn.org.

The web site provides tips for yard care that closely parallel the SLA water quality improvement committee recommendations. Add this website to your favorites and watch for more information from the Sugar Lake Association

Patricia, Lake



Lake Patricia, age 12,830, after a long and grueling battle with contaminated runoff. Patricia is survived by 9,999 lakes and hundreds of rivers and streams. An active member in the aquatic community, Patricia contracted damaging amounts of algae due to high phosphorus levels given off by leaves and grass clippings that entered her system. In lieu of flowers, loved ones are asked to rake or sweep leaves from nearby streets and stormwater drains, and to mulch or compost this fall.

For more details visit
www.cleanwatermn.org

MLA / DNR update

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is in the middle of a three-year evaluation of its Aquatic Plant Management Program. This review was mandated by the legislature and started with a report to the legislature on October 15, 2002.

Since that time several issues have been addressed, including aerial surveys of sample lakes and the development of an extensive questionnaire and sampling method to determine the attitudes of lakeshore owners regarding aquatic plant management. Dr. David Fulton from the University of Minnesota has been hired to conduct this survey effort.

As a member of the Minnesota Lakes Associations Aquatic Plant Management committee I have had the opportunity to work with association members from around the state to develop a position on plant management. Our committee had the opportunity to meet for two half-day sessions with the DNR, and it was especially encouraging to see eight to ten DNR staffers spend that much time listening to our input.

One of the current joint efforts between MLA and the DNR is a pilot program for "certified" Aquatic Plant Management programs developed by lake associations. This "certification" would allow for greatly expanded authority and responsibility for managing lake vegetation. It is probable that there will be a pilot program in effect this year and Sugar Lake could be a pilot association.

Watch for more information on this subject. If you are selected to complete a questionnaire, please be sure to help out with that effort.

Dale Gustafson, "Vegetation Committee"

The following article is reprinted with permission from the September 2003 Reporter published by the Minnesota Lakes Association.

Protect Septics From Freezing Again

The winter of 2002/2003 was a very hard year for onsite septic systems due to the lack of snow cover combined with cold temperatures. In some counties, up to 30 percent of the septic systems were frozen. Even in a normal Minnesota winter, freezing can occasionally be a problem. Identifying and correcting a potential freezing problem is far easier than dealing with a frozen system.

Some of the common causes of septic system freeze-ups can be: lack of snow cover, compacted snow, compacted soils, lack of plant cover, irregular use of the system, leaking plumbing fixtures, pipes not draining properly, cold air entering the system, and a water-logged system.

What To Do if the System Freezes?

If your septic system freezes, the first step is call an onsite professional. If you have a pump and hear water constantly running in a pump tank (a sign that the system may be frozen), disconnect your pump and call an onsite professional. Many pumpers and installers have steamers and high-pressure jetters to try to unfreeze system piping. Unless the cause of freezing is corrected, the piping will refreeze. Other methods used to help fix a freezing problem include adding heat tape and tank heaters. If the treatment area is full of ice, or there is evidence of leaking, there is no need to thaw the lines leading to the treatment area as it cannot accept liquid until the area is thawed in the spring.

If it is not feasible to correct the problem, the only other option is to use the septic tank as a holding tank until the system thaws naturally. In this case, reduce water use and in the spring, find the cause of the freezing problem so it can be addressed to prevent future freeze-ups.

There are many misconceptions about how to deal with a frozen septic system:

- Do not add antifreeze, salt or a septic system additive into the system.
- Do not pump sewage onto the ground surface.
- Do not start a fire over the system to attempt to thaw it out.
- Do not run water continually to try to unfreeze the system.

What Can You Do to Prevent Freezing?

There are several steps you can take to prevent septic systems from freezing. It is not necessary to do all of these, pick and choose what is best for your situation.

- 1) Place a layer of mulch (8-12 inches) over the pipes, tank, and drainfield area to provide extra insulation.
- 2) Let the grass in your lawn get a little longer in the late summer/fall over the tank and drainfield to provide extra insulation.
- 3) Use water, the warmer the better! Usually water conservation is the best practice, but if freezing is a concern, spread out water use, possibly doing a warm/hot load per day, using your dishwasher and maybe even taking a hot bath. Do not leave water running all the time because it will overload the system.
- 4) If you know you are going to be gone for an extended period of time, plan accordingly to have someone use sufficient quantities of water in your home or pump out your tank before leaving.
- 5) Fix leaking plumbing fixtures or appliances in your home.
- 6) Keep all types of vehicles and high traffic people activities off of the septic system—it's a good rule to follow year round.
- 7) Make sure all risers, inspection pipes and manholes have covers on them.
- 8) Keep an eye on your system. If any seeping or ponding occurs, contact an onsite professional to determine the cause and remedy.

For more information, see: <http://septic.coafes.umn.edu/homeowners/index.html> or call 800-322-8642.

Article excerpted from "Freezing Problems with Onsite Sewage Treatment Systems" by Sara Christopherson and Ken Olson, University of Minnesota Extension Service.

The article reprinted above is an example of the informative articles printed in the MLA Reporter. A subscription to the reporter is one of the benefits of individual membership in the MLA. Visit www.mnlakes.org for membership information or watch for a special offer mailed with your dues invoice this winter.

For Sale

'Steve Mann's Brother-in-Law is selling his very nicely equipped Yarcraft-boat, fully set up for Great Lakes or other large bodies of water. He lives in Door County, Wisconsin but can make arrangements for viewing. This is a very nice boat with lots of power and a smooth, dry ride:

1993 YarCraft, 17ft., 135hp w/15 hp kicker, both Mariner, 52lb. trolling motor, sonar w/GPS, fish finder, VHF, trailer and cover, many extras. Will store this winter. Great condition - must see. \$7500.00

Call Jeff @920-868-1663 (evenings).
Or jsteffen@dcwis.com

For Sale

1995 Dodge Ram 1500 SLT Laramie Pickup 4X4. Color: Driftwood
Miles: 99,000 Engine: 350 V8
New Transmission in March 2001 at 83,000 miles (still under 3-year/36000 mile warranty)
Topper, AT, AC, PS, PB, am-fm cassette, receiver hitch, overhead Console (compass, temp, map lights), power mirrors, auto dim rear-view mirror, center console on front seat, sliding rear window, loaded etc., etc.

Runs excellent, some rust.

Asking 7000.00 but will consider any reasonable offer.

Contact Tanya at (320)274-5218 or
(612)718-5721

For Rent

Spacious Sugar Lake house for rent. Enjoy great views, 3+ bedrooms, large family areas, good beach, large yard, double garage.

Available immediately. No Smoking or pets. \$1000.00/mo plus utilities. Call
(320)274-8987

Winterizing Tip

This is a tip from a Sugar Lake Resident, Marlin Grant in regards to winterizing cabins. He offered this advice:

If anyone was planning on turning off the water to prevent disaster in case of frozen pipes over the winter- It's better to shut off the circuit breaker to your pump- that way you don't need to worry about expansion and it's better for your water heater.

The Sugar Lake Association
The Sugar Lake News
7285 120th Street NW
Annandale, MN 55302

