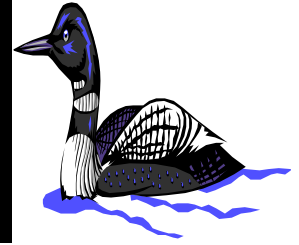


THE SUGAR LAKE NEWS

OCTOBER 2004



2005

Calendar of Events

February 12-Mid-winter meeting

April 16-SLA Meeting*

May 21-SLA Meeting*

June 18- SLA Meeting

June 26-Fishing Contest*

July 16-SLA Meeting*

August 6-SLA Picnic

August 20-Annual Meeting/
Board Election*

September 3-Diane's Lights
Night

September 17- SLA Meeting*

October 15-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

Mid-winter meeting to be held At the Robert Ney Memorial Park Reserve

Not just another boring meeting!

The primary focus of this meeting will be educational. Exciting, relevant material will be presented about what you can do along your shoreline to improve water quality in Sugar Lake.

A mid-winter SLA meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, February 12, 2005, from 9:00 a.m. to Noon, at the Robert Ney Nature Center. This is not an official meeting of the SLA, rather it is a brief planning meeting for the 2005 summer season and primarily an educational opportunity. The meeting agenda will include:

- 2005 calendar
- Shoreland vegetation and water quality education
 - Two brief videos on shoreland topics
 - Guest speaker on a shoreland vegetation topic
 - Sugar Lake specifics
 - Question and answer period
 - See examples of what kind of plants to use
 - Learn how to stabilize your shore
 - Know when you need permits and from whom
 - Learn how a natural shoreline benefits the lake

Come have a wonderful time at the charming Nature Center very near Sugar Lake. Bring you skis or rent some there to take a tour of the trails.

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The Robert Ney Nature Center is off CSAH 8, 1-1/2 miles north of Maple Lake.

Help Protect and Preserve Sugar Lake

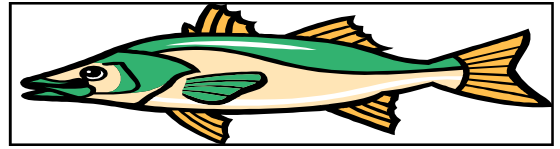
The expenses of the SLA continue to increase and we are committed to maintaining our Milfoil fund reserves and adding to the Lake Improvement funds. We have reached a time when it is our responsibility to manage exotic species and maintain and improve water quality in Sugar Lake. We can no longer count on the DNR or other agencies to look out for us. We need aggressive treatment plans, more shoreline restoration work, and an educated membership. Look at the budget overview on page two and note that projected expenses are greater than income. The difference can be made up with donations.

Your support is needed to continue this important work. 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 16 ASSOCIATION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

KASTL'S KORNER-the latest lake report.

The physical condition was 3 on a scale of 1 (good) to 5 (poor).



Date	Clarity	Water Temp	Air Temp	Culvert	
				Inlet	Outlet
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"
10-08-03	13'	70°	82°	13"	18"
10-13-04	6'	64°	68°	18"	23"

Treasurer's Report- report as of September 16, 2004

General Fund	\$ 12,841.43
Lake Improvement Fund	\$ 17,091.26
Milfoil Fund	\$ 34,426.12
Total All Funds	\$ 64,358.81

The approved budget for 2004-2005 is as follows:

	<u>General</u>	<u>Milfoil</u>	<u>Lake Improvement</u>
Beginning balance 9/1/2004	\$13,231	\$34,311	\$17,143
Projected income	\$10,395	\$7,214	\$3,380
Projected expenses	\$11,710	\$9,400	\$2,500
Projected balance 8/30/2005	\$11,916	\$32,125	\$18,023

Please note:

- Dues: 100% will be allocated to the general fund.
- A dues invoice for 2005 will be mailed this winter.
- Raffle proceeds will be 100% allocated to the milfoil fund. Even this additional income will not cover projected expenses for treatment of exotic vegetation in 2005.
- Dues for 2005 will be \$25.

Membership

2004 MEMBERSHIP Members paid for Year 2004 to date are 371, a new record high enrollment.

If you know anyone new to the Sugar Lake area, please inform Karen Pitra or Tanya Olin. 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.

Water Patrol

If you are interested joining the water patrol next year contact Tanya Olin at 320-274-5218 or e-mail at tanya.m.olin@wellsfargo.com.

Fisheries

By the time you are reading this newsletter SLA sponsored walleye stocking will be complete in Sugar Lake. Your generous contributions of \$1,843 over the last two years have funded this activity. Thanks to Paul Gustafson for coordinating the work.

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 8, 2005, 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 You can still pick up an absentee ballot. Call Vi first at 320-274-5179 and arrange to pick it up at 9214 Killbury in Annandale. 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

Education

The education committee of the Sugar Lake Association has resumed working on the calendar project started earlier this year. Although some pictures have been collected, we need more pictures! More winter pictures are needed. 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 the calendar, please send them to: Suzanne Quinn-McDonald, 13407 Marigold St NW, Andover, MN, 55304. 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.

Committees

Several committee chair positions are open at this time. If you are interested in filling any of these positions or helping out with any other committee work please contact Steve Mann at 320-274-6267.

Standing Committee Chairpersons

October 16, 2004

Government Liaison	Open
Education	Suzanne Quinn-McDonald/Deb Beltrand
Fishing Resources	Open
Fundraising/Grants	Open
Lake Vegetation	Dale Gustafson
Membership	Tanya Olin/Karen Pitra
Newsletter	Don Peterson
Nominating	Deb Beltrand
Parliamentarian	Steve Wiltermuth
Picnic	Steve Harnett
Water/ Snow Patrol	Open
Water Quality Improvement	Dale Gustafson
Water Quality Report	Jim Kastl
Website Coordinator	Don Peterson
Historian	Lynne Bonine
MLA Liason	Dale Gustafson

Rainfall

September rainfall was 4.26 inches. The total for the year has been about 23.2 inches. Average rainfall for the year at this point is 23 inches so we are right on target. Days with rainfall over one quarter inch include: 9/15—1 inch, 9/21—1.9 inches.

Newsletter

Save the association some postage. If you'd like to receive the newsletter electronically and would like to be removed from the hard copy mailing list, please email Tanya (tanya.m.olin@wellsfargo.com) with your actual mailing name, not the email address, so we can be sure you are on the proper list.

Give Our Lake a Break

Protect your septic system from freezing this winter by:

- Place a layer of mulch over the pipes, tank, and drainfield for insulation.
- Leave the grass over the drainfield a little longer for extra insulation.
- Fix leaking plumbing fixtures
- Keep all traffic of the drainfield
- Make sure all septic system risers, inspection pipes and manholes are securely covered.
- Use warm water. If freezing is a concern spread out water use, wash a warm/hot load of clothes each day, use the dishwasher, take a hot bath. Don't leave water running all the time because it will overload the system

Dear Sugar

Dear Sugar, I was looking forward to buying a Sugar Lake shirt or jacket at the S.L.A. picnic last summer but none were to be had. What happened to them?
Disappointed.

Dear *Disappointed*, you won't be next year. The people who have been selling them in the past have moved off the lake and decided to fold-up shop (pun intended). The S.L.A. board decided to let "A.U.S. Sales Co," owned by the Radtke-Slama family, on the north shore, be the official distributors for our clothing line. We chose them for several reasons. They have a wide variety of clothing items including T-shirts, hats, sweatshirts, windbreakers, tote bags, and blankets with waterproof backing. They can do "lake area" and family names, in a variety of colors, upon request. There will be items to buy, as well as samples to look at and order at next year's picnic. All profits from these sales will come back to the lake association with the A.U.S Sales only charging for their cost. That's what I call community spirit!

The year in review

Water Quality Improvement Committee

- North Bay project:

2004 started with a major fix on the north end of creating a 5 acre natural buffer on the south side of the north bay. With the help of Gene Smith who farms the land, and Mr. & Mrs. Larry Sanford, the land owner, the Sugar Lake Association and Wright County Soil & Water Conservation District funded the planting of native flowers and grasses on a highly erodable section of land between 115th and 117th streets where the water flows into the north bay. Arv Klemz reported that after a 2.25 inch rain the water came off the field completely clean. This is a vast improvement from the past.

(continued next page)



Imagine it is July Fourth, the entire family is at the lake, and you and 15 guests are out on the pontoon for a relaxing cruise around the lake when your motor quits and won't start. This happened to Gerry Dyhkoff and family. They were rescued and towed across the lake by some good Samaritans in a 12 foot boat with a 6 hp motor. The rescuers are shown in the picture above. If you are these people or know them Gerry and Rosie Dyhkoff would like to thank you. Please call 763-478-6734.

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 thicknesses are merely guidelines for new, clear, solid ice. Many factors other than thickness can cause ice to be unsafe.)

The year in review (continued)

- **Hollister Ave project:**

A major breakthrough was accomplished through the dedicated work of our County Commissioner and Association member Karla Heeter. Karla has been working with us on the ongoing issue of the Hollister Ave project on the south end of the lake. This project has been our number one goal for several years and we have been frustrated by not being able to get a plan developed that was successful to all involved. Karla has been talking for some time with the landowners of the farmland that is part of this issue. She arranged a meeting on Saturday, October 16, with them so we could share our concerns. The Bergs genuine concern about the overall welfare of Sugar Lake was very encouraging. At the meeting they generously agreed to allow us access for surveying and engineering review on their land so we can begin to develop the detail plans needed to find a solution to this problem area. Look for more to happen this winter. We will start the planning and design stage, and start a series of meetings for all the landowners involved as soon as we have good data to discuss. This problem involved a large number of landowners and there are years of history to this problem and lots of ideas about how to solve the problem. The WQIC looks forward to serious meetings with all involved and we are optimistic that with concerned cooperation like the Bergs have demonstrated we will find a solution to this ongoing problem. A good outcome to the Hollister issue can mean a great deal to the water quality of Sugar Lake. A meeting has been scheduled with Wright County Soil and Water and the consulting engineers for early November.

- **Vegetation Committee:**

The vegetation committee reports that 2004 was a good year on all fronts except one. The one problem area continues to be the amount of Curly Leaf Pondweed we have in Sugar Lake. The committee will be meeting with the DNR this fall and winter to discuss our plans for the aquatic plant management plan for 2005. We currently intend to hire a professional service to treat all the large areas of Curly Leaf in the early spring. We have identified all the large areas of Curly Leaf and have them located by GPS so we are ready to treat. This will be an expensive program, and will have to be done over many years but we feel it is important to attempt to keep this problem in check. If you have property in one of the shallow and soft bottom areas of the lake, you know how much of a problem Curly Leaf can be. We also need to take a serious look at how our boating activities, in these areas, effects the spread of invasive vegetation.

- **Buoys -** The lake buoy pickup and storage will be handled differently this year.

Volunteers will use the Association pontoon with a new wench system to remove and clean the buoys and then place them on the shore in the areas where they are used. We want to thank the Area Communicators for securing volunteers that will store the buoys until spring. Abundant volunteers make the job easier—thanks to all.

- **Sugar Lakescapers:**

The Vegetation Committee and the Sugar Lakescapers were also hard at work this year. We did our first shoreland planting on the Quiggle property with shoreland and in the water planting of vegetation in an attempt to reestablish a filtration area by an inlet to the lake. We had lots of people that helped and we had a good time. The group also planted a bulrush planting to supplement the shoreland vegetation work done by the Rivers on their project on the south end of the lake. Be sure to watch these projects next year and get involved in doing more of this around the lake. Several meetings were held in addition to tours of other lake projects. WE REALLY NEED TO GET BACK THE THIN GREEN LINE of Sugar Lake.

- **Education:**

It has been a very busy year for the education committee. A few of the activities include:

- Conducted hands-on water quality training with 75 Annadale Middle School Sixth graders.
- Mailed several educational postcards.
- Developed three experiments for children to do their own water quality testing.
- Established a Sugar Lake Association scholarship program. The \$500 scholarship was awarded to Kristin Beltrand. The top three entries are posted on the web site. www.sugarlake.org
- Encouraged the use of phosphorus free automatic dishwasher soap by buying in bulk and offering it for sale to the membership.
- Established a network of area communicators around the lake to serve as a contact point for two-way communication.
- Started work on a 2005 educational calendar
- Several members completed outside training programs. Four members completed shoreland volunteer training, two attended a curlyleaf pondweed workshop, and one completed work to receive a Minnesota erosion and sediment control certificate.

- **Lake Management Plan:**

An update to the Sugar Lake Association lake management plan was completed and ratified by the board this year. The completed plan was turned in to Wright County Soil and Water and the Initiative Foundation to complete work required for the Healthy Lakes program.

Monticello craft show

Nov 6—Big Women of Today Craft
Sale at Monticello Middle School

Can cooler and travel mug sale

Can coolers and travel mugs with a Sugar Lake logo are available for sale. The can coolers are \$2 each,



travel mugs \$5 each with proceeds benefiting the milfoil fund. Contact Karen Pitra at 320-274-8153 for information or stop by Karen's Hallmark in Annandale.

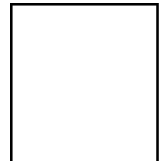


Automatic Dishwasher Soap Promotion

The association has inventory of Seventh Generation phosphorous-free 50-ounce dishwasher detergent, both in powder and liquid form. Marlin Grant is storing the soap for the association. Call Marlin at 320-274-7242 to purchase it.



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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED