

The Sugar Lake News

SEPTEMBER 2008

2008

Calendar of Events

October 25-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:

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E-mail don@sugarlake.org

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

contact Craig Johnson at
3312 132 St W
Burnsville, MN 55337
952-894-3593
E-mail membership@sugarlake.org

Give Our Lake a Break

It is fall clean up time. Compost your leaves or take them to the township. Clean up any vegetation that has washed up on shore. Check your shoreline for any damage that has occurred over the summer and repair it now while the water is low.

Diane's Lights Night By Doc Williams

There were peace signs, cupid's heart, a big D, Olympic circles, and a luminary lit stairway that seemed to go to the heavens; just to name a few of the magnificent displays in this year's Diane's Lights Night contest. It was evident that many of the entries this year took a lot of imagination and some work to create. It made it very difficult for the judges, last year's winners the Strom family, and required revisiting some displays several times before a decision could be agreed upon.



This year's 3rd place winners and a case of Pepsi go to the Dennis & Mary Langhoff family on the west side of Sunset Point. Their display consisted of 320 luminaries placed on anything that was flat, illuminating the night sky. Lighting all those candles was a challenge with just 2 Aim & Flames. One of Dennis's contributions to the effort was gathering all the supplies. Like any smart guy who hates to shop, he ordered the kits on line and had UPS deliver them to his lake home.

Second place and a case each of Pepsi and Mt. Dew goes to the Zieska family, or should I say daughter Hannah, again on the west side of Sunset Point. As you approached her display, you had no doubt that it was the symbol that we all associate with Sugar Lake, a Loon. A half moon was added, at the suggestion of mom Vicki, to give balance. Hannah got the idea from the front page of the SLA news letter and it took a week to plan and set up. She first drew the shapes on paper then arranged the bags with meticulous detail. Hannah manned the Bic all evening to keep the candles lit. Great job!

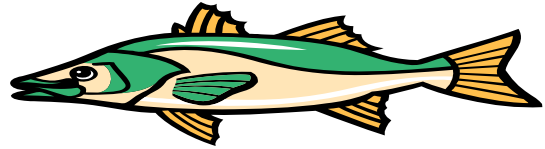
This year's first place winner, and a summer of Pepsi products, goes to the Dick & Joann DeGroot family on the south-east corner of the North Bay. Unlike many homes on Sugar, the ground in front of the DeGroot residence is relatively flat and presents a challenge in making a display that can be viewed by boaters. Son Mike got the idea of going up. They looped 4 ropes around the top of the Catamaran mast, pinned bags to the ropes and added enough sand for stability. Inside each bag was placed a clear plastic cup with a candle inside. Voila! In addition, floating air mattresses were tied end to end then Styrofoam sheets placed on top for stability. Flower pots of different heights were added for dimension. On top of it all sat luminaries creating a cluster of floating lights. The planning for their display started shortly after last year's event. The DeGroot clan has agreed to be next year's judges.

An honorable mention goes to Andrea Welter who resides on the west side of Sunset Point. Her display consisted of pillar candles placed inside gallon jars that were sponge painted with a special pink paint. A ladder set sideways on her deck and some planks placed on the ladder, allowed her to shape a ribbon signifying "Breast Cancer Awareness." Andrea made the display to honor her sister Chris Fobbe, who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. I am sure I can speak for all the lake residents when I say "we wish Chris well" in the battle that lies ahead of her.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's event, for together we made Sugar Lake shine like the jewel that it is. And now for next year.....

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
09-19-03	9'	78°	77°	15"	20"
09-16-04	9'	64°	62°	17"	22"
09-14-05	10'	61°	54°	23"	28"
09-14-06	8'	64°	64°	17"	22"
09-19-07	9'	60°	70°	16"	21"
09-15-08	10'	66°	70°	16"	21"

Membership

Paid SLA membership for 2008 has reached 334.

If you know someone new in your area that might be interested in becoming a member of the SLA, notify Craig Johnson. He will contact the new property owners with information and make them feel welcome to the area. Notify Craig of any changes to the directory information including address or phone changes. Contact Craig at 952-894-3593 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.

And, by the way, visit our website at sugarlake.org for all the latest.

Treasurer's Report

As of September 20, 2008

General Fund	\$21,199.68
Lake Improvement Fund	\$28,903.25
Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund	<u>\$75,993.01</u>
Total All Funds	\$126,095.94

Rainfall

August rainfall was 1.55 inches. September rainfall was 2.85 inches. Year to date through October 1 we have had 21.09 inches. Thanks to Andy Juetten for providing monthly rainfall totals

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.

Outdoor Catholic Mass



On Sunday, August 31, Father Marty Shallbetter celebrated a Catholic Mass at his families cabin on Sunset Point. There were 100+ people in attendance to express joy for life on Sugar Lake. During the service, a 2 month old child was baptized into the Christian faith. A collection was taken up during the service, for it is written "whenever two or more are gathered in my name, there will be a collection." Over \$240 was sent to Birthright, an organization that gives guidance and support to expectant mothers. We hope to celebrate an outdoor Mass annually on Sugar Lake.

Vegetation Committee

By Dale Gustafson

Our battle continues with Eurasian water milfoil (EWM), and we will continue to fight until close to freeze up. We did make treatments on some new areas of EWM in the south east part of the lake, and it appears that we did get pretty good control. It is difficult to tell how effective a treatment is at this time because all the plants are in a slow growth pattern. When spring comes, we will revisit those areas and determine if we need to retreat. Our pattern in the past is that we have to do additional treatments to even have a chance to get control.

We have made an application to treat more areas along the west side of the lake. This should be a good area for fall treatment because we do not have lily pads or other protected plants in that area. If approved, we will want to wait for treatment until docks and lifts are out and irrigation systems are removed so we could treat close to the shore. There will be a news flash on this if we get approval.

Water Quality Improvement Committee

By Dale Gustafson

The seed that was planted on the Hollister Creek project has started very well so that project should be in good shape sometime next year to become the new Hollister Creek.

Volunteers needed!

One of our buffer strips that we planted a few years ago in the farm fields along 125th street has a small infestation of Cottonwood trees. These trees are very small, but need to be cut done. I need two or three volunteers with clippers and possibly a small chainsaw to cut done these trees and leave them in place. North American Prairies will do a burn next spring and that should remove the Cottonwoods for now.

If you can help, please contact Dale Gustafson by phone or e-mail (763-544-4215, dalegus@earthlink.net)

Star Lakes

Legislation was passed in 2008 to establish the Star Lakes program. The goal of the program is to promote citizen involvement and stewardship of Minnesota's water resources. A 15 member board will manage the Start Lakes program. A lake or river will be designated a Star Lake or Star River upon meeting the requirements set forth by the Star Lake Board including successful implementation of a Star Lake or Star River management plan. Sugar Lake Association member, Dale Gustafson, accepted an appointment to the Star Lake Board. Dale was appointed by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. The Sugar Lake Association unanimously passed a motion to apply for Star Lake status.

For more information visit:
www.bwsr.state.mn.us/Star_Lakes

2008/2009 Sugar Lake Association Board of Directors

Terms expiring August 31, 2009

	<u>Lake #</u>	<u>Home #</u>	Area
Lynne Bonine.....	320-274-2005.....	Same as lake.....	W.
Lanette Dammann.....	320-864-3004.....		W....
Cheryl Delbow.....	320-963-3997.....	Same as lake.....	K....
Craig Johnson.....	952-270-6781.....	952-894-3593.....	O....
Lyn Nonhof.....	763-553-9595.....	Same as lake.....	W....
Steve Wiltermuth.....	320-274-6133.....	Same as lake.....	W....

Terms expiring August 31, 2010

Rhonda Hiler.....	320-963-6353.....	952-544-9711.....	N....
Rick Kanninen.....	320-963-2226.....	Same as lake.....	K....
Steve Mann.....	320-274-6267.....	Same as lake.....	Y....
Ed Quinn.....	320-274-3226.....	941-408-0430(winter).....	O....
Greg Suddendorf.....	320-274-5993.....	952-474-6553.....	O....
Karen Sutherland.....	320-963-5597.....	651-698-2284.....	N....

Terms expiring August 31, 2011

Marilyn Andersen.....	320-963-5527.....	Same as lake.....	M....
Cathy Beckman.....	320-2748623.....	Same as lake.....	R....
Deb Beltrand.....	320-274-8299.....	952-944-1526.....	T....
Mike Kluge.....	320-274-2729.....	Same as lake.....	Y....
Greg Selle.....	320-963-5626.....	763-476-4844.....	L....
Jim Stewart.....	612-709-2993.....	Same as lake.....	L....



2008/2009 Officers

Pictured left to right

Secretary: Cheryl Delbow
Chairman: Karen Sutherland
Vice-chairman: Steve Mann
Treasurer: Lynne Bonine

Area Highlights

The Bouya

By Doc Williams

The residents of Sunset Point again held their annual Bouya the last weekend of September. In Minnesota, the term is often attributed to French Canadians, trappers in particular, and to be derived from "bouillon." However, not all agree to this. Some say it was originally a Polish dish, some say it came from Finland, and some say Czechoslovakia. Although several Bouya's probably occur on the lake each year, this one has some history behind it. The origin dates back to 1967 when Arleen & Alton Anderson purchased the old "Sugar Lake Park Resort." In addition to the main building, the resort had 4 trailers that were rented by the season. Ed & Marian Smith were one of those renters and, along



Special events are celebrated along with the Bouya

with several other couples, decided to have an area Bouya. They invited many of the cabin owners on the west side of the lake and over 100 people came each year. One of the attendees was a young lad by the name of Dan Erdmann who made sure he was a guest of one of those cabin owners on the chosen day. The cooking was done in a big caldron that hung over an outdoor fire. Cracked bowling pins were used to fuel the fire because the wood burned hot and steady. The resort supplied the beef and as was said, "Any frogs that happened to hop in the pot." They also supplied kegs of beer with the stipulation that it could only be consumed outside. Others brought different ingredients for the pot or a dish to pass. In 1974 Jim & Jen McCarthy bought the resort and tried to continue the tradition. The first year they did it however, it rained and the cooking had to be done in small pots on stove tops. The Bouya was served inside the resort but it just wasn't the same and the whole thing kind of fell apart. In 1986 Dan Erdmann bought one of the cabins on Denny's Resort which was on the west side of Sunset Point. Having fond memories of the Bouya, he revived the tradition and held it on his property for several years. It quickly grew and the event was moved to the community fire-pit near the end of the point. The cooking begins at noon in a 20 gallon pot over a wood fire. Harry Hennen, a homeowner next to the fire-pit, makes sure that the chefs are up to the task by supplying them with popcorn, Bloody Marys, and

country western music. The Bouya itself consists of beef, pork, venison, elk, carrots, onions, spuds, celery, tomatoes, peppers, 1 rutabaga, and 6 secret herbs & spices. Residents and guests start arriving at 5 and those who have not contributed something to the pot bring a side dish. The feasting begins, the cooking fire becomes a huge bonfire, and the partying continues until well after dark. Thus far, it has not been rained out.



Father Marty Shallbetter says the blessing accompanied by Dan-*I wish I'd been an altar boy*-Erdmann and Mike-*I've had one too many*-Zieska

Do you know some lake history? Want to share it? Call Doc Williams (952-888-9884) and I will check it out.

Hardstem Bulrush

By Don Peterson



One of the most visible aquatic plants in Sugar Lake is the hardstem bulrush. It is a perennial plant that grows 3 to 10 feet tall in water depths to about 5 feet. Commonly known as reeds or pencil reeds, it grows in many areas around Sugar Lake. Old pictures, aerial photos, and our long time resident's memories all tell us we had larger stands of bulrush in years past.

Habitat

Bulrush provide both food and shelter for fish. More food is produced in areas that have aquatic plant growth. Bulrush also provide spawning areas for northern pike and nesting cover for bass and sunfish. Muskrat eat the roots and use the stems to line their nests. Bulrush also attract many bird species.

Water quality

All aquatic plants benefit lake water quality by using nutrients available in the water. The nutrients used by plants are not available to promote algae growth. Additionally bulrush have the ability to absorb and breakdown polluting chemicals.

Erosion control

The dense root mass of the bulrush provides excellent soil stabilization effectively holding sediments at the lake bottom and preventing them from being suspended by wave action or boat traffic. The emergent portion of the plant serves as a wave break providing protection from erosive wave action.

Plant management

The bulrush is an emergent plant that always requires a permit to remove, transplant, or plant new plants.

Bulrush and the Sugar Lake Association

For the last several years the Sugar Lake Association has been experimenting with planting bulrush in Sugar Lake. In the early years, various wave breaks were used with limited success. The driving force behind this program has been Dale Gustafson. Dale's experiments led to the method we use today. That method includes a stake driven into the lake bottom tied to a perforated tube that has a plant inside it. This provides a stable environment for the plant to become established.

Examples of this method can be seen in the 2 pictures on this page.



Planting 2006 through 2008

<u>Year</u>	<u># plants</u>	<u># Locations</u>
2006	50	5
2007	200	9
2008	180	5



Summary

What a great plant. It improves water quality, provides fish habitat, helps with erosion control, and is esthetically pleasing to look at. All these things help maintain our lakeshore property values and make Sugar Lake a desirable lake.

Information for this article was found on the DNR website under emergent plants and shoreland management and at the University of Minnesota Extension shoreland management site.

Birder's Corner

Photographed in the area on September 27
by Cindi Peterson



Shoreland Habitat Program

This program is part of the MN DNR Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

In the fall of 2007 the Shoreland Habitat Program requested grant proposals for projects related to shoreland habitat improvement and restoration that would take place between July 2008 and June 2010. The program provides funding to organizations that develop projects to improve the quality of shoreland habitat, expand the diversity and abundance of native plants, and enhance and protect water quality.

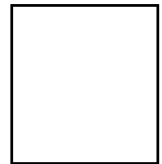
The Sugar Lake Association submitted a grant application for one project and several related workshops. Our application was approved for funding. After an initial meeting with John Hiebert of the Shoreland Habitat staff, the project was redefined to include several projects and workshops over the two-year period. The final approved grant is for \$28,000 that includes a required 3:1 match with in-kind services, donated materials, or cash. Projects on private property must meet program requirements including restoring 75% of the frontage, 25 feet deep. A landowner agreement also must be signed.

Project planning will start this winter followed by up to two workshops in the spring of 2009 with project installation to follow.

If you have a possible project that fits this grant on your property or have questions about the grant or any of the requirements or are interested in participating in any way please contact Don Peterson 925-212-9524 or email don@sugarlake.org.

Also look for more information about the program at:
www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/habitat/shoreland.html

The Sugar Lake Association
The Sugar Lake News
11955 Hart Ave NW.
Annandale, MN 55302



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED