



The Sugar Lake News

AUGUST 2016

**Sugar Lake Association
Minnesota Waters' 2010 Lake Association of the Year
2009 Star Lake Recipient**

2016

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 3-Diane's Lights Night

September 3 Sugar Lake 5K

September 17- SLA Meeting*

October 15-SLA Meeting*

*SLA meetings are held at the Corinna Township hall at 8:00 a.m.

March, 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

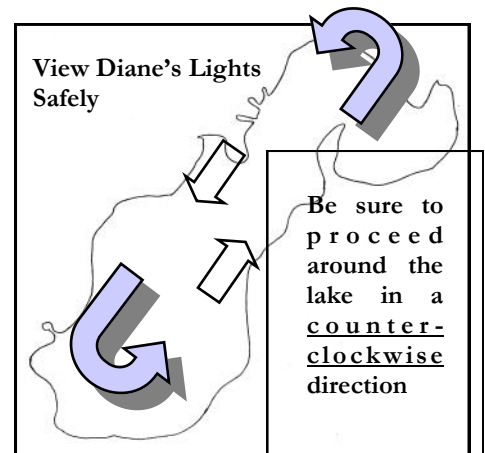
contact Cathy Beckman at
10880 Imhoff Ave NW
Annandale, MN 55302
320-274-8623

E-mail membership@sugarlake.org

Diane's Lights Night By Doc Williams

The end of summer is fast approaching and we must say good-bye to another beautiful season on the lake. Before that happens the Lake Association has one last event for you to enjoy, and it's the most beautiful of the season. On Saturday evening of Labor Day Weekend, all lakeshore owners are invited to decorate their property with Luminaries and celebrate Diane's Lights Night. **If it is raining on Saturday this event will take place on Sunday.** Your display can be as little as a few luminaries on the end of your dock to something grand. A number of people in the past have done what they considered just a fun display and ended up winning, so why not give it a shot? For the most outstanding displays a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner will be chosen. All winners will get bragging rights but 1st place will get 12 cases of Pepsi product donated by Bernicks Beverage of St. Cloud. The rules are simple for contestants. All lighting for your display must come from a flame of some sort — candles, torches, campfires, or anything else that creates a flame. Electric lighting does not qualify for the contest. The more displays we have, big or small, the more the lake we love will shine in the night for all to see. As twilight approaches, light your display then hop in your watercraft and proceed counter clockwise around the lake to avoid congestion, and view what others have done. We ask owners of swim rafts to bring them in or light them in some way to avoid accidents.

Participate, view, and enjoy the evening.



Sugar Lake 5K Run/Walk

September 3

The seventh annual Sugar Lake Run/Walk will be held on Saturday September 3, beginning at 9 a.m. All profits go to SLA Lake Improvement Fund.

It is not too late to register. Download a registration form from the Sugar Lake website www.sugarlake.org. Registration will also be available the day of the race. Registration/check-in begins at 8 a.m. at the Corinna Township Hall on Ireland Ave, 1/3 mile north of County Road 39.

Water Quality Report.

By Dan Erdmann

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
08-17-11	12'	78°	74°	31"	36"
08-15-12	10.5	76°	79°	15.75"	21.75"
08-16-13	10'	76°	78°	11.5"	17"
08-20-14	14'	78°	82°	15.5"	20.5"
08-06-15	11'	78°	76°	25.0"	29.5"
08-18-16	10'	79°	77°	24.75"	28.25"

Membership

Paid membership to date this year is 250. 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.

News Flash

The Sugar Lake Association maintains two email lists for communication with membership:

News Flash: This list is used to send information about invasive species treatment, event announcements, member information, government information, etc. To subscribe to this list send an e-mail to newsflash@sugarlake.org requesting addition.

For Sale: This list is used to send information about items "for sale" by the membership. To subscribe to this list send an email to forsale@sugarlake.org requesting addition.

If you wish to unsubscribe follow the instructions in the email you receive from the list or send an email requesting removal to the addresses listed above.

For the latest news on Sugar Lake visit our website: www.sugarlake.org

Newsletter

Help save postage and printing costs by subscribing to the electronic version of the Sugar Lake News. You will receive a PDF file by email that looks like this newsletter *but in color*.

Contact newsletter@sugarlake.org with your email address if you are interested.

Treasurer's Report

As of July 31, 2016

General Fund	\$11,839.22
Lake Improvement Fund	\$36,557.85
Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund	<u>\$145,013.06</u>
Total All Funds	\$193,410.13

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: Mary Barkley Brown 320-274-8049

- 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: Jean Just —Town Hall Phone: 320-558-6790

- Visit the Clearwater Township website at www.clearwatertownshipmn.govoffice2.com.

Outdoor Catholic Mass

On Sunday of Labor Day weekend Father Marty Shallbetter will again celebrate an outdoor Catholic Mass at his family's cabin. It is located on the west side of Sunset point at 11777 Gulden Av. N W (area G). Park on the west side of the road. If you wish to come by boat, you may tie up at any of the neighboring docks. Look for the sign. Mass will start at 10 AM and refreshments will be served after. Some chairs will be provided however, you may want to bring your own. Please join us.

Sugar Lake Board Election Results

The Annual Meeting and Board elections were held on August 15. The results are:

New Board Members

(Terms expire August 31, 2019)

Ron Elsner

Appointments of Suzanne Quin-McDonald, Sally Quinn-Phenow, Doug Miller were confirmed.

Paul Gustafson and Don Peterson were appointed to fill open positions with terms expiring August 31, 2018.

Gary Borrell, Sheldon Brown, Dan Erdman, Larry Jude, and Andrea Welter were appointed to fill open positions with terms expiring August 31, 2019.

Elected officers for 2016/2017:

Chair—Sally Quinn-Phenow

Vice Chair—Ron Elsner

Secretary—Andrea Welter

Treasurer—Todd Latterell.

Thank You

Thanks to the following outgoing board members.

Cathy Beckman

Bob Peltier

Janet Tift

Ken Vande Steeg

Zebra Mussel Update:

Latest update on the zebra muscle pilot project that Sugar Lake took part in at the beginning of the year with the Wright County Coalition of Lake Associations:

As part of this project we placed two new plastic plates for monitoring for zebra mussels at both the north and south boat landings. These special plates are examined twice in the summer by the RMB Labs, the first set were sent in to be examined just two weeks ago. The results came back that none of our plates had zebra mussels found on them. We will be doing this exercise again the third week in September .

Monitoring update:

We will continue to monitor the north and south boat landings until September 25 with Anchor Dock & Lift.

We are working with Anchor Dock & Lift for 2017 to set up more hours for monitoring.

Bob Peltier

Co-Chair's Corner

Look Behind to Look Forward

It's about this time every summer- the dog days of August- when our attention is drawn to the various forms of algae in Sugar Lake. How can we minimize its unwelcome presence in our lovely waters? Familiar efforts include updating our septic systems, raking our fall leaves, filtering or diverting rainwater runoff to minimize silt and pollutants, using phosphorus free fertilizer, and working with others in our watershed.

There is another very simple thing we can do: Look behind us as we are boating to see what color the water is! If our motors are stirring up brown water, that means that the prop is churning up bottom silt, and with it, nutrients that feed the algae. Simple solution: trim your prop in shallow water. Pay attention while boating- particularly along the west shore. By looking behind us, we can help keep the waters clean now, and into the future.

Suzanne and Sally



Rainfall

July rainfall totaled 6.57 inches. Thanks to Doug Beckman for providing rainfall data.

PICNIC 2016

Picnic Recap

Picnic photos by Ken Vande Steeg
Perfect weather drew a crowd of 520 for this year's picnic.

Deb Beltrand did an excellent job of organizing the picnic and was helped by many volunteers. Thanks to Deb and all the volunteers who worked so hard to make the annual picnic a success. Thank you for the extra donations for extra guests. Thanks to all the members and others who donated door prizes. Thanks to Karl Enghausser and Rick Kanninen for hosting the picnic on their grounds.

Raffle winners were:

- 1st: Lynette Rougier
- 2nd: Paul Gustafson
- 3rd: Ralph Walker



Deb Beltrand



Karl Enghausser, Carol & Rick Kanninen



2016 Sugar Lake Benefit Golf Outing

64 Golfers enjoyed a great day at Southbrook. The weather was perfect and dinner was excellent. This year dinner was pulled pork and turkey with Caesar salad and beans. Many door prizes were handed out. Thank you to all who helped, participated and donated to this great event.

Thank you Greg and Joni Selle for organizing and hosting the event.

Special Thanks to:

Holly Peterson—Southbrook Golf Course
Keith Seiler - Hole in One Official



Hole Sponsors

GE Selle / Coldwell Banker – Greg & Joni Selle
Electrolux—Gary Grant
Mort-Patterson LLC – Joel Morton, Greg Paterson
Grazia Communications
Process Control Systems – Don Peterson
MG Painting – Paul Hanson
Dahlmieir Construction – Brad Dahlmieir
Z-Marine – Steve Ziebarth
Bob & Maureen Prestfilippo
Anchor Dock
M&M Express – Maple Lake
Jaeger Family Trust—Greg Jaeger
360 Wall Systems—Jeff Lipinski
The Handyman (Putz) - Joe Biondo
Pride & Joy Landscaping—Pete Gunnary
Hirschfields of Plymouth
Haus Construction
Shand Painting



Donations

Joni & Greg Selle
Morey's Fish – Greg Frank
Holiday Gas—Susan Niederman
Mark & Barb Menth
Tom Schwanb
Jeff Lipinski
Hirschfields Paint
Rob & Karen Gusaas
Ron & LuAnn Elsner
Sherwin Williams
Dan & Meg Shea
And anyone I may have forgotten.



Winners:

Pictured left to right. Jacob Hamid, Luke Paterson, Joe Selle, Brian Paterson.



Vegetation:

Eurasian water milfoil:

As I reported in July, EWM is still not growing vigorously in Sugar Lake this summer. We think that it may still have a growth spurt later this year, so please keep an eye out for new growth on EWM. Usually you can see the reddish color in the new growth at the top of the plants.

Also we would like you to keep a look out for Stary Stonewart. We do have lots of Chara algae (Musk grass) in Sugar Lake on the bottom in most of the shallow area of the lake. You can find it in many of our shallow areas, it looks like a light green carpet on the bottom of the lake. It only gets a few inches tall and is a great deterrent to other invasive plants. Stary Stonewart (*Nitellopsis obtusa*) is a close relative to our Chara, but is a lot more invasive and can completely fill up shallow areas of a lake. It grows much taller than our Chara and can be recognized by its size, or the distinctive white Star shaped bulbils attached to the stems (see Page 7). This algae is currently causing very severe problems in Lake Koronis.

With the heavy rains lately it appears that we do not have as much vegetation in the lake. This is caused by the higher water level makes the vegetation look shorter than before. As the water level decreases (if it ever does), it will then look like we have a lot more vegetation than earlier because many of the plants have grown to the surface during the higher water level. Also notable at this time of year is the large amount of Water Celery floating around the lake. Wild, or Water Celery (*Vallisneria Americana*) is a plant that grows to be several feet tall. It is a single, wide leaf or sets of leaves that have small root systems. Wave action or boat motors can cause them to be uprooted from the bottom of the lake and drift with the wind. It can be a nuisance when it drifts to your shore. It is best to remove it and put it into your compost pile. This plant is excellent wildlife food and provides shade and shelter for young fish.

Dale Gustafson

Fisheries:

Fishing regulations public meeting

Fishing regulations for black crappie and northern pike may continue on Sugar Lake in Wright County. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is considering making permanent, experimental fishing regulations for black crappie and northern pike, which have been in place on Sugar Lake in Wright County since 2007.

Full details to follow in the September newsletter.

The DNR will be seeking public input at a meeting Thursday, Oct. 20, from 7-9 p.m.
Corinna Township Hall
9801 Ireland Ave. NW,
Annandale, MN 55302.



Aquatic Invasive Species Quick Guide



Golden Sands
Resource Conservation
& Development Council, Inc.

Starry Stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtusa* L.)

Description: Starry stonewort is a non-native species of large algae in the Characeae family. It has whorls of 4-6 long branchlets. It is more robust than most members of its family, and can grow to over two meters tall. Anchored by colorless filaments (rhizoids) that contain up to several dozen 4-5mm, star-shaped bulbils, starry stonewort typically grows in marl sediments of alkaline lakes, up to 9 meters deep. Orange reproductive structures are located in the axils of the upper branchlets. Starry stonewort is typically an annual, but can behave as a perennial during mild winters. Interestingly, starry stonewort is listed as an endangered species in the United Kingdom.



Starry stonewort has many whorls of long branchlets. Some branchlets may appear forked due to short bracts where reproductive structures are forming.

North American Distribution: Michigan, northern Indiana, and the northeastern United States. Recently found in Wisconsin and Minnesota.



Star-shaped bulbils are produced in the sediments, and give starry stonewort its name.

Dispersal Vectors: Starry stonewort is native to Europe and western Asia. It was probably introduced to the Great Lakes via ballast water carried in trans-oceanic ships. Fragments of starry stonewort can be spread between lakes by boats, trailers, and anchors holding sediments. Local dispersal occurs by bulbils or fragments being transported by water currents or boats within the lake. Since only male starry stonewort exists in the U.S., no viable "seeds" are produced.

Ecological Impacts: By forming dense mats of vegetation, starry stonewort can greatly reduce the diversity of aquatic plants in a lake. It can also impede movement of fish and other animals, and may decrease successful spawning activity of some fishes. Mats growing to the surface can reduce water flow and make recreational activities difficult.

Control Options: Manual removal of starry stonewort is possible, but difficult, and may be impractical on a large scale. Abundant bulbils on the rhizoids can dislodge if disturbed, and will sprout new individuals. Manual removal efforts must emphasize careful removal of these bulbils.

Some chemical herbicides and algaecides have been effective at reducing starry stonewort. Herbicide applications may be less effective on tall stands of starry stonewort, as the chemical is quickly absorbed into the upper parts of the algae, leaving the lower parts unharmed. Most states require chemical use permits for any herbicide/algaecide treatments in standing water or wetland situations.

An effective biological control agent is not known at this time.

Additional Information:

Brown, W.S. 2014. Defining trophic conditions that facilitate the establishment of an invasive plant: *Nitellopsis obtusa*. Master's thesis. University of Illinois - Urbana Champaign.

Photo credit: Paul Skawinski



Starry stonewort (front, center), much more robust than the surrounding native muskgrasses (*Chara* spp.).

This Quick Guide is part of a series on aquatic invasive species, and may be reproduced for educational purposes. Visit us at www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/clmn or www.goldensandsrccd.org/our-work/water to download this series of handouts. Developed by Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. as part of an aquatic invasive species education program, supported by a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Maintained and updated by the Wisconsin Citizen Lake Monitoring Network.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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