



The Sugar Lake News

August 2021

2021

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Planned 2021 Dates

September 23— SLA Meeting*

October 21-SLA Meeting*

Please note the meeting date for

September has changed to

September 23

Meeting Day & Time Changed

SLA meetings have been changed to

Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

**June and August are
membership meetings**

We are meeting in-person at the Corinna township hall. We will also have a zoom virtual option for those of you that cannot meet in-person. We will practice social distancing with masks per the state and township rules.

*SLA meetings are held at the Corinna Township hall at
6:30 p.m.

Send Newsletter submissions to:

Don Peterson

E-mail don@sugarlake.org

**For membership,
address, e-mail, or property owner
changes contact :**

E-mail membership@sugarlake.org

Tournament Winners

First

Nick Jude, Larry Jude, Dr Steven Hanson, Jay Pruter

Second

Sherri Matttes, Jean Welle, Barb Johnson, Barb Menth

Golf Event 2021

101 golfers attended the 2021 event held Saturday, July 31, at the Southbrook Golf Course. The weather was great and the course was in excellent shape for the 1 pm shotgun start. 126 guests were present for dinner. Total revenue was \$13,313 with a profit of \$7,361 going to the Sugar Lake Association. Thanks to Greg and Joni Selle and all their helpers for planning and coordinating this very successful fundraiser for the SLA.

Donations

Joni & Greg Selle
Trudy Richter
Phil & Tammy Carlberg
Mark Snyder
Marilyn Andersen
Greg Frank (Morey's)
Rick & Carol Kaniainen
And anyone I may have forgotten.

Hole Sponsors

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The Tart Family
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James Rush
Wayne Dearing
Joe Selle
Marilyn Andersen
Mark & Barb Johnson
Maple Lake Lumber
Lundeen Ford



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
08-16-13	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"
08-23-17	11'	72°	66°	16.00"	21.00"
08-10-18	8'	80°	75°	12.25"	17.75"
08-9-19	10.5'	79°	75°	17.50"	23.00'
08-11-20	13.0'	78°	80°	18.00"	23.50'
08-16-21	17.0'	76°	82°	10.00"	15.50'

Membership

If you know someone new in your area that might be interested in becoming a member of the SLA, notify Membership at the email listed below. Notify us of any changes to the directory information including address or phone changes.

Contact membership by email at:

sugarlakemember@gmail.com

Treasurer's Report

As of July 31, 2021

General Fund	\$72,558.13
Lake Improvement Fund	\$51,267.88
Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund	\$164,866.89
Total All Funds	\$288,692.90

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.

Light Up the Lake

Saturday September 4

There will be no contest and no restriction on the type of lights.

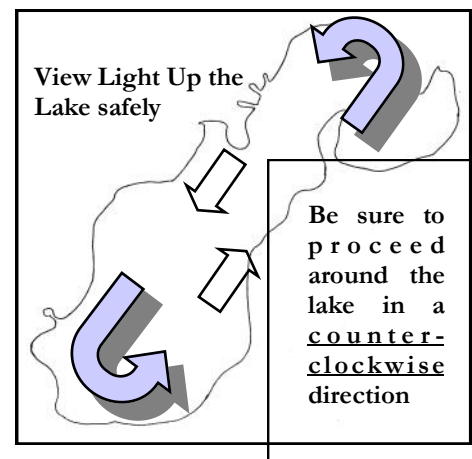
Please continue to participate by lighting up your shore with luminaries, campfires, electric lights, torches, etc.

The date of this event is Saturday evening of Labor Day Weekend, September 4, 2021.

Back up date in case of bad weather will be Sunday evening, September 5, 2021.

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.





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Chair's Corner

By Vice Chair, Don Peterson

In this leadership transition time I would like to welcome our new Chair, Dan Erdmann. Dan has extensive Board experience including several terms as Chair. He is also heavily involved in lake water quality issues and has been for many years. Dan takes all our water quality readings for the County and State. He is even a past newsletter editor and was already a legend when I moved on to the lake in 2000. We can be confident of great leadership going forward with Dan.

Keith Theisen wanted to write a goodbye note but has been overtaken by all the details of selling his house and moving this week. We are all going to miss Keith greatly. He has provided transformative leadership to the SLA. The operation of the SLA may look similar on the surface but all aspects have been updated to current technology. Keith, and his wife Barbara, led the effort to port our membership and donation functions to a cloud based system, Little Green Light. He brought us online payment systems, online voting, streamlined our treatment notification process, guided us through the pandemic by keeping our meetings alive using Zoom technology, and implemented a new raffle system. He increased membership levels to numbers not seen in years. Thank you Keith for all your hard work on behalf of the SLA.



BACKYARD
REFLECTIONS

320-274-6336 WWW.BACKYARDMN.COM ANNANDALE/NISSWA

Sugar Lake Board Election Results

The Annual Meeting and Board elections were held on August 19. The results are:

New Board Members

(Terms expire August 31, 2024)

Jim Schimelpfenig
Dan Erdmann
Martha Newell
Cindy Stevens

Affirmed appointments made to open positions in the last year

Jim Printup
Don Peterson

Amended By-Laws for the SLA were Adopted

See SLA News July 2021 for summary and link to the revised by-laws.

Elected officers for 2020/2021:

Chair-Dan Erdmann
Vice Chair- Don Peterson
Treasurer- Tom Nimmo
Secretary- Todd Jackson

Thank You

Thanks to the following outgoing board members.

Dan Salfer
Mark Ertl
Mike Emerson
Steve Kowalczyk
Mark Snyder
Diane Hall
Scott Radkte (past chair)

Labor Day Mass

It's on again!!! Neither rain nor snow nor gloom of Covid will keep Fr Marty from his assigned tasks. Sunday of Labor Day weekend, Father Marty Shallbetter will celebrate a Catholic Mass at his family's cabin which is on the west side of Sunset point. The address is 11777 Gulden Av. N W (area G). Mass will start at 10 AM and refreshments will be served after. If you would like to bring something to share, that would be great but not necessary. Some chairs will be provided however, you may want to bring your own. If you wish to come by boat, you may tie up at any of the neighboring docks. As for wearing masks, use your best judgment. All are welcome. Questions, call Doc - 952 888 9884

SLA Board Large Bog Policy

SLA has formed a bog committee and they are working on developing a policy for SLA to assist property owners with the removal of bogs that have recently floated onto your property. With the water so low one of the few benefits is that hardly any floating bogs have been encountered this summer. Members of the committee are reaching out to the DNR and other lake associations to see what we are allowed to do and what other associations are doing. If you are interested in being on the committee please contact Todd Jackson at Jacksontaj@gmail.com. The board expects to have a policy rolled out next spring.

CD3 Cleaning station

The SLA is partnering with Wright County Soil and Water to install a CD3 cleaning station at the south landing. CD3 stands for Clean, Drain, Dry, and Dispose. It is an easy to use, self serve, waterless cleaning system that reduces the spread of invasive species. You can see details at the CD3 website:

<https://www.cd3systems.com/>

The SLA will be paying half the purchase price, \$16,000 and \$2,500 in site prep. Wright County Soil & Water will have ownership of the CD3 Station, perform all maintenance, and insure it.

Motion to spend this money made and passed at the June, 2021, meeting.

SLA Board Actions

In other actions at the August meeting, the SLA Board approved the purchase of up to six additional buoys including installation and removal costs to mark the sunken island in the north bay.

It was also decided the 2022 fishing contest would be in person taking place at the home of Rick and Mary Olson.

Boating Safety

This is a little repetitious, but the two complaints heard the most are about loud music from boats and people skiing and wake boarding past the time allowed.

Please be courteous with the volume of your music and stop your watersports activity on time.

Excerpt from Boating Etiquette

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/boatwater/boating-etiquette.html>

- **Keep the tunes in check.** Sound is amplified over the water, so keep the music at a decent level. Not only is it a disturbance to others but the operator may not hear the spotter.

From the Minnesota boating guide

<http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/rlp/regulations/boatwater/boatingguide.pdf>

Waterskiing

- In Wright County a spotter is required in the boat for waterskiing weekends, holidays, and in congested areas when waterskiing.
- Waterskiing and similar acts are prohibited between one hour after sunset to sunrise of the following day.

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Connect with the Sugar Lake Association

Sugar Lake Rummage Sale Group

To support our informal buying and selling of items around the lake and to have this activity be self-supporting, we established a closed group on Facebook called the Sugar Lake Rummage Sale. This is a closed group so only those that request access will be admitted and only see posts once access is gained.

Here is what you need to know:

If you don't have a Facebook account, you will need to get one or use a family member's account.

Log into Facebook

- In the search bar at the top of your Facebook page type Sugar Lake Rummage Sale
- A white banner menu bar will appear at the top, under the Facebook search bar, click on *Groups*
- You should see the Sugar Lake Rummage Sale
- Click "Join"
- Your request will be sent to the Admin and you will be added to the group.

Sugar Lake website

For the latest news on Sugar Lake visit our website:

www.sugarlake.org

News Flash

The Sugar Lake Association maintains an email list 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 membership@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

Facebook

Visit our Sugar Lake Facebook Group

Sugar Lake Spirit change on Facebook

A new Facebook Group Page with the same name we used before, Sugar Lake Spirit, has been set up.

There is a new Facebook Group for those who live on, enjoy and care about Sugar Lake in Annandale MN. Please like this group and share with others who would like to post photos, news, and events about Sugar lake. We are moving from a Facebook Community page to a new Group page! Any questions contact Jan Tift at jantift@gmail.com.

Nextdoor

Sign in or sign up for the Sugar Lake neighborhood on Nextdoor:

https://nextdoor.com/events/3647049?init_source=copy_link_share

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Picnic Recap

Picnic photos by Mark Snyder

The Sugar Lake picnic was held in its new home again this year. Thanks to Don Rachel for hosting the picnic on his property. The weather cooperated on Saturday with early rain that stopped as the picnic started and comfortable temperatures for the afternoon. A crowd of 500 attended.

Co Chairs Sally Quinn Phenow and Jan Tift did an excellent job of organizing the picnic and were helped by many volunteers. Thanks to Sally, Jan, 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.

Raffle winners were:

- 1st: Steve Kowalczyk
- 2nd: Kathleen Radtke—Slama
- 3rd: Mary Dahlke



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Sugar Lake Wildlife

Eagle photos taken near the south west area of the lake by Mark Snyder.

Thanks for sharing with us Mark!



Some facts about Eagles from Mark

- Bald Eagles can see clearly about 8 times as far as humans can, allowing them to spot and focus on a small animal at a distance of about 2 miles.
- Their grip is 10 times stronger than humans, but they have almost no sense of smell.
- Juveniles have a brown body, head and tail, with brown & white mottled wings. Their head feathers and tail feathers changes over the next 4-5-years until they are fully white.
- They typically weigh between 7 and 14 lb., with a wingspan of 6' to 7.5'. Females are usually 1/3 larger than the males.
- Bald Eagles mate for life, unless one of the 2 dies. They may live 15-30 years in the wild.
- They have the largest nest of any North American bird. They add to it each year, and some nests can weigh as much as 2,000 pounds.

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Low Water Levels in Sugar Lake

We are all aware of how low the water level is in Sugar Lake. Dan Erdmann reported at the Board meeting that we are still slightly above the low in 1988. If we go below that we will be looking at lows not seen since the 1930s.

- Be aware of how much lake water and well water you are using. Consider reducing your water use. Reduce landscape irrigation, use more efficient irrigation equipment, and check for and repair any water leaks.
- The DNR announced August 18, 2021, that portions of Minnesota have entered a drought restrictive phase. Read the news release here: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/news/2021/08/18/portions-minnesota-enter-drought-restrictive-phase>
- Low water also impacts boat operation. Be sure you can remove your boat from your lift and check out the landing site to be sure you won't have problems getting on a trailer. You may want to check out the landing ramps. A specific challenge is at the end of the concrete ramp in the lake there is a deep hole created when people power their boats on to the trailer. If you have to back off the concrete ramp you may drop your trailer wheels into the hole requiring assistance to get out.
- Finally the combination of low water and extreme clarity (17 feet this month) have led to significant vegetation growth. We can see evidence of this in how far out from shore we have emergent vegetation. Please stay out in the lake farther than you usually would for the remainder of this year to prevent cutting up the vegetation with your prop.



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