



The Sugar Lake News

SEPTEMBER 2018

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

2018

October 20-SLA Meeting*

November 17-SLA Meeting*

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

September, October & November
meetings at 9 a.m.

Send Newsletter submissions to:
Don Peterson

E-mail don@sugarlakemn.net

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

E-mail membership@sugarlake.org

ZEBRA MUSSELS: Please help!

We would like to enlist your help in the fight against zebra mussels in Sugar Lake. While we haven't yet encountered zebra mussels in Sugar Lake, we need to be on the lookout for them. One of the places the mussels first show themselves is on submerged structures like docks and boat lifts. The end of the summer season, when docks and lifts come out of the water, is a great time to see if the mussels are present.

So, how can YOU help? Spend time inspecting your boats, docks, and lifts as they come out of the water. Report any sign of Zebra mussels to your area communicator as listed in the directory, or a board member, listed in this newsletter. You can also make reports or ask questions by email to zebra@sugarlake.org. After inspecting your equipment, assist any of your neighbors who might need help. Also talk to any contractors you hire to remove your equipment. Ask them to inspect your equipment and ask them about the training they have had to spot invasive species.

The DNR says:

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources asks every cabin and lakeshore owner to watch for aquatic invasive species (AIS) when removing docks, boat lifts, swim rafts and other equipment from the water.



People should look on the posts, wheels and underwater support bars of docks and lifts, as well as any parts of boats, pontoons and rafts that may have been submerged in water for an extended period. In newly infested waters, adult zebra mussels may not be abundant and there may only be a few mussels on a piece of equipment. On a smooth surface, juvenile mussels feel gritty, like sandpaper.

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
09-16-10	9.5'	66°	55°	23.5"	29.5"
09-15-11	9.5'	68°	52°	23.5"	28.5"
09-14-12	10.5'	70°	71°	11.5"	17.5"
09-20-13	10.5'	70°	60°	8.75"	15.0"
09-19-14	14.0'	64°	60°	16.0"	21.0"
09-19-15	10.0'	70°	60°	20.25"	25.25"
09-14-16	8.0'	70°	60°	24.50"	29.00"
09-12-17	11.5'	70°	75°	14.50"	19.50"
09-14-18	11.0'	74°	80°	12.00"	18.00"

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: 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 membership@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 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

Water Safety

Please be sure you remove all buoys and any other equipment from the water this fall. Anything left in the lake can present a hazard to winter lake traffic.

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.

Rainfall

August rainfall was 2.36 inches. Thanks to Doug Beckman for providing monthly rainfall totals.

Treasurer's Report

As of August 31, 2018

General Fund	\$34,129.29
Lake Improvement Fund	\$49,210.76
Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund	<u>\$130,441.10</u>
Total All Funds	\$213,781.15

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.

Labor Day Outdoor Catholic Mass

With the light of day came clouds and threats of rain. At first we contemplated moving the Mass inside the Shallbetter cabin. Trying to stuff 100 people in that small place would have been very difficult so we went back to plan A and hoped for the best. As Mass started the skies lightened and there wasn't any rain to dampen our celebration. Prayers answered. The early threat of rain did however cut down on the attendance from previous years of 100 to about 80. As always collection was taken up and \$250 was donated to "Annandale Youth First." Thanks to all who participated in this annual event and all who brought goodies to share.



Chair's Corner

I am Dan Erdmann and your new chairperson for the association for the next year. I was chair back in early 1980's when we were dealing with the LID controversy so hopefully this year will be a little smoother run. I would like to ask all of you to consider helping the board out by volunteering to be on one of our ongoing committees. You don't have to be a board member and you can serve as long as you like. The most urgent need is for a lead on the Membership Committee. Our last chair for that was Keith Theisen who made great advances in automating a large portion of it and bringing it into the digital age. Cathy Beckman chaired that for a long time and many of you may remember Dan and Irene Klein who ran it for an untold number of years. It is a great job, you get to meet new people and support your association. You can run it as long as you like and there will always be people like Keith and Cathy you can call on for help. Don & Cindi Peterson will be there to help with the electronic end as needed.

We could always use help for the other committees which are Fisheries, Water Quality, Lake Vegetation and Annual Picnic. Contact us at:

membership@sugarlake.org

vegetation@sugarlake.org

don@sugarlake.org

and we will put you in touch with the right people.

Thank you,

Dan Erdmann

2018/2019 Sugar Lake Association Board of Directors

Terms expiring August 31, 2019

Gary Borrell
Sheldon Brown
Ron Elsner
Dan Erdman
Larry Jude
Andrea Welter

Terms expiring August 31, 2020

Scott Radtke
Jan Tift
Jim Schimelpfenig
Dave Arnason
Peter Ramme

Terms expiring August 31, 2021

Dan Salfer
Mark Ertl
Mike Emerson
Michael Rosenburger
Mark Snyder
Diane Hall

2018/2019 Officers

Chair—Dan Erdmann
Vice Chair—Scott Radtke
Secretary—Andrea Welter
Treasurer—Ron Elsner

Diane's Lights Night

By Doc Williams

Saturday evening of Labor Day Weekend was a perfect night for our Diane's Light Night celebration. The wind was calm and the temp was great for an evening ride. Unfortunately, the number of participants was down again this year with only 70 properties putting something out. This included about 15 campfires. This is such a beautiful way to end the season and would be a shame to see it fade away.

Although several of the nicer displays didn't make it into the final 3, I would like to give them an honorable mention. The Zieska family on the west side of Sunset Point had a brightly lit "SAVE SUGAR AIS" (aquatic invasive species). There was a "RESPECT A F" (Aretha Franklin), a "TOM" and a "SUGAR" all nicely done. I even noticed several campfires in Addison Bay and as we cruised the west shore we saw a shooting star that seemed to be only 2000 or so feet above us.

3rd place winner this year goes to Rasmussen family on the east side of the lake with a brightly lit Loon. It was Lois Rasmussen's idea and sister Shari helped out. The design started out to be a flamingo. While placing the luminarias, they ran out of room for the legs however. Instead of starting over they changed the design using 95 candles. The Rasmussen's have put up a beautiful display every year. They have won 3rd place before and tied once for first.

2nd place goes to the DeGroot family on the south side of the North Bay. Theirs was a masterpiece of lights. Because their front yard is flat, they went vertical with rope between a tree and their sailboat mast. They started with 5 huge Chinese lanterns turned upside down and lit with candles. Between each lantern 3 luminarias were placed on a wooden platform and hung from the same rope. Additional luminarias lined their beach wall. 6 helpers put the display together using 60 candles. The Degroot family has won 1st place 3 times in the past.

1st place this year and a case of Pepsi for each month of the summer goes to the Sherman family on the south side of the North Bay. Their design was a huge fisherman, complete with fish that covered a good share of their front lawn. The design was in honor of Grandpa Sherman, an avid fisherman. Because the property has reeds in front of it, the design had to be big to be seen. Ben found the idea on the internet and along with Leesa they toiled 4 hours to assemble their winning entry. Because of its size, Ben used spray paint to first outline his design. The small white bags they used were about 1/3 the size of lunch bags enabling them to be placed closer together thus making a sharper image. The Sherman family won 3rd place 3 years ago with the word "HOPE".

Thanks to all who participated in this event. Big or small your display added to the evening.

Doc Williams

Event chairman



Vegetation report

We have asked Steve McComas of Blue Water Science to add a diving session to look for Starry stonewort to his list of things to do for us this year. They will be at Sugar Lake soon and also will collect lake bottom soil tests to be able to compare them to previous samples to see if the soil conditions in the lake bottom has changed. Soil conditions can be a big factor in the growth of plants in the lake and can tell us where we are likely to have problems or not in particular areas.

They are also working on a risk assessment and action plan to help in being ready if needed. We will not get those documents until late winter or spring, but we will have more information for you in the spring. Our goal is to stay up-to-speed with our current problems and be ready to act quickly if we have to fight a new infestation of AIS.

In recent weeks we had a couple panic attacks when people started seeing some very “stringy” stems in the water. It turned out that we had a bumper crop of some of our native plants and they produced a lot of long flower stems that looked a little strange. We forwarded pictures of them to two of our experts that do work for us and they both identified them as Sago pondweed. We do have lots of Sago pondweed in our lake but this year it is more common. It is all part of the eb and flow of different plants being more dominant in certain years. That is not a problem, but it is great to have people looking at what is in the water around them and asking when they see something different.

We have a few new people who have volunteered to be AIS “searchers”. They will patrol the area of the lake by their property in search of any changes in the vegetation mix. We need more people to help in that area and consider joining our group. We will be having some training this winter to help our new searchers learn the good from the bad plants in the lake. Come join the fun!!

Contact Dale Gustafson vegetation@sugarlake.org

Education about lakes of Minnesota.

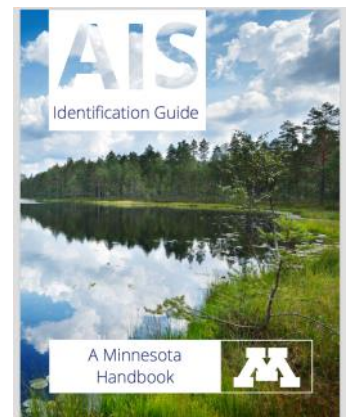
Each year in September the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) sponsors a “Management Showcase” about what they are working on at MAISRC. This is a one-day session where they give about eighteen 90 minute presentations about AIS issues. Each year has been full of great information, but this year topped them all. You should consider attending next year. It is held on the UofM St. Paul Campus and the SLA will cover your registration fee.

Those of us that were there wished we could get to more session, but the best we could do is spread out and cover different issues. It was impressive to see all the brilliant researchers from around the US and beyond that are coming here to work on AIS issues. Many of us feel this is the best research center in the US. One of the staff people told me this center is very well known across the nation for what they are publishing on AIS. We are lucky to have it in Minnesota to help us combat AIS with the best methods known. Take a few minutes and check out their website to see what they are up to. While on that site, consider a donation to them and also look at purchasing a copy of the new booklet called “AIS Identification Guide”. You can download the booklet or buy the nicely produced guide in heavy plastic that makes it a great tool. The pictures are very good and they make it easy to identify the good and bad plants in the lake.

MAISRC website <https://www.maisrc.umn.edu>

AIS Identification Guide <https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/ais-idguide>

Dale Gustafson



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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The Sugar Lake News
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