NEWS BRIEF

We all make a difference in keeping our lake clean

— Steve Frazier, LLPOA president

May 2019 was an incredibly active month for the lake association. A big thanks goes out to our dedicated volunteers and board members, and to our lake residents and friends, who keep our lovely lake clean and free of invasive aquatic species. Every single effort to prevent erosion, to inspect/dry/clean your water craft, and to practice safe and respectful boating makes a difference to our lake.

In our last News Brief, I wrote about our Future of Lone Lake Planning session, held in May, in which the participants reaffirmed our goal to enhance, protect and preserve the beauty of Lone Lake. Each team defined actions they plan to lead over the next two years. For example, we will continue to support a strong presence at the public launch to keep aquatic invasive species out of Lone Lake. We will encourage and teach people how to preserve and protect their shorelines from erosion to keep sediment from polluting the lake. And, we will make information available so people know about good practices and regulations regarding sewers and lakeshore development. These and other actions will be detailed in our updated Lake Management Strategic Plan and distributed to members later in July.

Many of our members have given generously during this year’s and past membership drives to support our AIS educational efforts and to fund county inspections at the boat launch. Thank you! To further strengthen our AIS work, the board will be re-activating the AIS Zone Team concept. Volunteers will be trained to identify AIS, and will work with their neighbors to examine vegetation on docks. If you are interested in being involved, contact Linda Szymanski (AIS Team Leader) at ljsatthecabin@msn.com as we wish to get this program started this summer.

We also need to shout-out a big thank you to the 26 volunteers who are conducting the 2019 Membership Drive. (Go to Page 2)
President’s Letter (Cont.)

Membership in the LLPOA is $25. Among other things, your membership dollars support the development and dissemination of AIS and shoreline restoration information, water quality monitoring, the Lone Lake roster, sponsorship of the Aitkin Rivers and Lakes Fair, AIS inspections, and more. Our “human” environment is important, too, as your dollars also go toward making our annual meeting a sociable and fun, family-centered informative event.

You also can activate your membership online on our website using Pay Pal or send your check to LLPOA Box 10, Aitkin, MN 56431.

Finally, I look forward to seeing you at this year’s annual meeting, which is July 20 at the Preiner property on Oak Ave. The event starts at 11 a.m. As usual, please bring a salad, main or side dish, or dessert to share. The association will provide beverages and be dishing out meat sandwiches and hot dogs.

Have a great spring on Lone Lake!

LAKE CLARITY:

Dave Scott, LLPOA board member and leader of the water quality team, regularly records the clarity of the lake water using a Secchi disk. It is an opaque disk, typically white, used to gauge the transparency of water by measuring the depth (Secchi depth) at which the disk ceases to be visible from the surface. Dave explained that many factors can cause the water to be opaque or clear on any given day: water churned up by wind or boat action; a cloudy day; or sediment leftover from the ice. Generally, one should note the trends over time, he said. Here are early-season readings taken since 2013:

17 May ‘19: 17.5 ft.
30 May ‘19: 28 ft.
26 May ‘18: 19.5 ft.
1 June ‘17: 34 ft.
30 May ‘16: 38.5 ft.
28 May ‘15: 33 ft.
28 May ‘14: 27.5 ft.
3 June ‘13: 24 ft.

The Intrepid Spring Road Clean-Up Crew

Even though the May 18 Road Clean-Up day was cool and rainy, the 15 volunteers stayed warm by enjoying hot coffee and rolls (donated by LLPOA member Mike Paulbeck, Paulbeck’s County Market) before heading out to pick up trash along Hwy. 81 and 28. Thank you volunteers for braving the elements to help keep the environment around Lone Lake beautiful! Participants included Fred Lane, Dick Preiner, Jerry Nelson, Linda and Zint Kics, Mustafa Bulut, Walt and Dianne Weisser, Peggy Bragelman, David Scott, Jennifer O’Neill, Linda Syzmanski, Jim Benda and Karen and Steve Frazier.
THANKS!

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE VOLUNTEERS: Please welcome your neighbors who give time in the spring to seek your membership support of LLPOA.

Thanks goes to: Walt & Dianne Weisser, Chris and Elert Johnson, Julie and Jerry Nelson, Beth-Anne & David Rowe, Dave Scott, Larry and Deana Mashuga, Jennifer O’Neill, Julian Grev, Zint and Linda Kics, Jeannie Thompson, Linda Szymanski, Kathryn Engdahl & Dean Frost, Roland Zacharias, Maureen Sanford, Roberta and Robert Kosloski, and Karen and Steve Frazier. Help preserve Lone Lake for the future by joining the LLPOA.

AIS Inspectors on duty from Fishing Opener ’til Labor Day Weekend

Dick Preiner and family members (Lot 90) launched his pontoon over Memorial Day Weekend. Our weekend’s AIS Inspector (in yellow) said most of the Memorial Weekend inspections were of boats that are permanently on Lone Lake, typically not an AIS threat.

Starry Stonewort: An AIS threat

Over the past 30 years, the Minnesota DNR has brought invasive species to the attention of the public. This attention has educated public water users on specific species to watch for and how to reduce the spread. A new species of algae has emerged and it provides a greater threat to the health to a body of water than Eurasian watermilfoil and Zebra Mussels. It is Starry Stonewort.

Starry Stonewort:

• Forms a dense mat at the water’s surface that inhibits water recreation.

• Will overtake habitat and outcompete native aquatic plants, potentially lowering diversity.

• Provides unsuitable shelter, food and nesting habitat for the native animals.

It is believed to spread from one body of water to another by the unintentional transfer of bulbils, the star-like structures produced by the plant. These fragments are most likely attached to trailered boats, personal watercraft, docks, boat lifts, anchors or any other water-related equipment that was not properly cleaned. More information: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticplants/

Q & A

Question: Does LLPOA pay to trap beaver on lakeshore properties?

Answer: Trapping beaver on private properties is the homeowner’s responsibility. LLPOA covers beaver removal expenses to keep the water egress channel and culvert open.
Whether you’re new to the lake or an old-timer...

**What we do on the land matters to our lake quality and environment**

Lone Lake property owners are required to follow the Aitkin County Shoreland Property Owner’s Checklist and contact Aitkin County Planning & Zoning before:

✦ Buying, clearing, or developing shore land property.

✦ Building a new structure or remodeling an existing structure.

✦ Installing a well and/or septic system.

✦ Draining, mowing, or filling a wetland.

✦ Building a boardwalk or raised path to the lake.

✦ Building or repairing any accessory structure near the shore (boat house, gazebo, storage locker).

More information is contained in a useful brochure called Aitkin County Shoreland Homeowner’s Guide to Lake Stewardship, which is being distributed by 2019 LLPOA membership volunteers. The guide provides “basic information on good lake stewardship, which if practiced by you and collectively others around the lake, will keep the lake healthy to protect your investment in shoreland property (healthy waters=higer values) and your enjoyment of the lake while also preserving its ecological integrity.”

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**2019 PHOTO CONTEST**

**Calling all photographers!**

LLPOA is challenging each and everyone of us who snaps a photo, whether it be with a 35MM camera or an iPhone, to submit their best wildlife or scenic photos taken on Lone Lake by email (JPG format, please) to lonelakepoa@gmail.com. Enter before July 13.

Prizes will be awarded for the top three photos at the LLPOA Annual Meeting on July 20th.
LLPOA 2019 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please fill out this form completely so that we can verify our records and include it with a $25 check, payable to the LLPOA. The membership form and dues may be given to the membership volunteer, at the Annual Meeting or mailed to the LLPOA, P.O. Box 10, Aitkin, MN 56431. Your check will serve as your receipt. Dues run from January 1st to December 31st. Thank you.

Print Name(s)_____________________________________________Lot(s) _____

Address:________________________________________________________

City __________________________ State ____________Zip __________

Lake Address_____________________________________ Aitkin, MN 56431

Home Phone______________ Lake Phone ______________ Cell _____________________

Phone(s)______________ Email Address_________________________________

I am/ we are making an additional Tax Deductible donation of ___________ to be used for the Aquatic Invasive Species Education, Prevention and Treatment Fund.

___________I am donating $45 to cover the cost of a 3-hour shift of a county AIS inspector.

I/we would like to get more involved in the LLPOA. Please check areas of interest:

___ Serve on LLPOA Board                           ___ Water Quality Team (5 Hours)
___ Lake Monitoring Team (10 Hours)                ___ Water Surface Use Team (5 Hours)
___ Invasive Species Team (5 Hours)                ___ Public Access Team (5 Hours)
___ Land Use & Zoning Team (5 Hours)               ___ Aquatic Vegetation Team (5 Hours)
___ Birdhouse Kit Team (3 Hours)                   ___ Loon Nest Team (5 Hours)
___ Culvert Monitoring (5 Hours)                   ___ History Team (5 Hours)
___ Wildlife Management Team (5 Hours)             ___ Membership Drive Team
___ Short Term Special Project/Event (3 Hours)     ___ Fall Road Cleanup (2 Hours)
___ Other _________________________________________

Share your ideas, suggestions and concerns with any member of the LLPOA board by writing to lonelakepoa@gmail.com or by contacting Steve Frazier, LLPOA president at sfrazier@usjet.net or 612-618-4345.