

THE SIBLEY STEWARD

Summer 2010

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SIBLEY LAKE ASSOCIATION

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

ANNUAL MEETING IS SATURDAY, JULY 17TH, 2010

SIBLEY LAKE ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 83
PEQUOT LAKES, MN 56472
www.minnesotawaters.org

SIBLEY LAKE ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Saturday, July 17th, 2010 @ 9:30am
Sibley Lake Park Pavilion

The Sibley Lake Association will hold its annual general membership meeting and picnic the 3rd Saturday in July. The meeting agenda includes:

1. Review of the past year's association activities
2. Treasurer's and Secretary's Reports
3. Election of Board Members
4. Open forum and objectives for the coming year
5. Raffle

SIBLEY LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (LID) ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Saturday, July 17th, 2010
Sibley Lake Park Pavilion

Immediately upon conclusion of the Association's annual meeting, the annual meeting for the Sibley Lake Improvement District will be held. This meeting will include a review of the financial report for the current year, as well as an open discussion regarding future projects and matters of importance to our Lake Improvement District.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

Our Annual Membership Drive will kick off in June. The annual membership dues are only \$25.00 and the proceeds go towards funding our annual July picnic, post office box fee, mailing costs, association liability insurance fees, subscription fees (such as Minnesota Waters) and miscellaneous expenses.

In the past, we have had over 50% of our lake owner's support our membership drive. This year our goal is to surpass prior year's membership quota, so we will need your support!

Please encourage your neighbors to support the Sibley Lake Association. Sibley Lake is the "Best Kept Secret" in the Brainerd Lakes Area and we all strive to keep it that way!

Have a great summer and we hope to see you at the Annual Picnic!



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LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT - BY DAVE LIND

As you may know, there is currently a functioning Lake Improvement District (LID) which was established in 2008, for Sibley Lake. For those not familiar with what a LID is, it is a taxing district that taxes each property owner in Crow Wing County equally. For the year 2010, it was voted to assess each property owner \$108.40. The LID has been working with Crow Wing County on establishing guidelines for all current LIDs in the county.

The LID will have its annual meeting following the Sibley Lake Association annual meeting on Saturday July 17th at the Sibley Lake Park Pavilion.

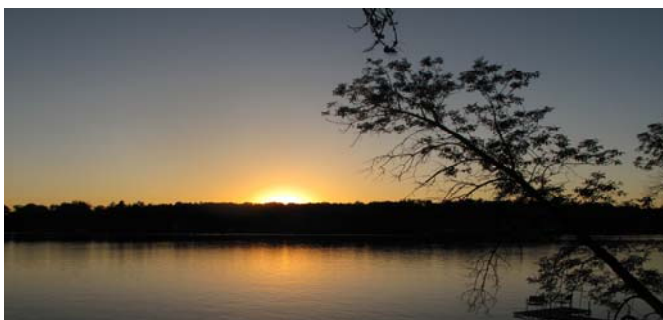
WATER QUALITY TESTING

As outlined in our 2009 Newsletter, Sibley Lake has been participating in monitoring our water quality in conjunction with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The cost for the program had been born by the MPCA for 2008 and 2009. The Board of Directors voted to continue the program for this year at a cost of \$200. This will allow for further accumulation of data regarding water clarity, phosphorus, and chlorophyll readings.

Trends and current conditions of water quality will be available for coordinating Association and LID efforts with Professional Lake Management, Crow Wing County and other organizations in our effort to improve the health of Sibley Lake. RBM Environmental Laboratories will continue the analysis of samples collected through the summer. Reports are available on their web site at www.rmbel.info. Steve Caouette and Sean Kaneski are co-chairing this project.

WELCOME PACKET!

Sibley lake Association has assembled a Welcome Packet that we distribute to any new property owners on the lake. If you are aware of a new resident or you would like a copy of the information, please contact a board member.



HELP KEEP SIBLEY DEBRIS FREE!

Early boaters on Sibley found a considerable amount of wood, old docks, and other debris in our lake this spring. The Board of Directors makes an attempt to survey the lake right after removal of fish houses in early March to clean up any debris left on the lake. If you have the opportunity in the spring, please take some time to assist us in our efforts in removing garbage, remaining wood from houses, and other items from the ice surface. Leftovers from winter can provide for a hazardous use of the lake in spring and early summer along with affecting the quality of our lake environment.

Also, the board would like to encourage residents who have docks or other structures that are no longer used or are in poor condition to remove them from the beach area which will enhance the beauty of our shoreline.

NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR LAKE

With spring, we are privileged to have the arrival of two new baby loons on the north end of our lake.

PLEASE USE EXTRA CAUTION WHILE BOATING TO AVOID INJURING OR CAUSING THE DEATH OF ONE OF THESE BEAUTIFUL BIRDS.

Unfortunately, we experienced the death of a baby loon due to boating activity a couple of years ago. Thank you so much for exercising additional care and being aware of the wildlife on our lake!

SIBLEY LAKE APPAREL – GET YOURS NOW!

The Board of Directors in conjunction with Minnesota T's has available a selection of clothing apparel available for purchase on the Minnesota T's website. The web address is www.mn-ts.com. The site may also be accessed through our Sibley Lake website.

We will have samples of various tee shirts, caps, and sweatshirts at our annual picnic in July for you to see. Rumor has it that they may be some of the prizes with our raffle.

BUOY ARE WE LUCKY!

Thanks to Jeff Walden for monitoring our lake for rocks intent on destroying props and lower units. The Lake Association has purchased additional buoys which Jeff has placed strategically in various parts of our lake where these insidious creatures lie in wait ready to wreak their havoc. If you discover more of these culprits, please report their location to one of our board members.

TREASURER'S REPORT - AS OF MAY 1, 2010

BY JEFF BENSON

Hello Sibley Lake Enthusiast! First order of business is to thank all of you who have contributed to our Lake Association with your time and money. Last year's operating cost was \$1,910.14. This included the cost of our annual picnic \$246.49, annual insurance premiums \$985.00, mailing supplies \$152.65, postal fees \$376.00, and subscription to MN Waters \$150.00. The annual membership drive generated revenues of \$1,930.00 of which 90 members contributed.

Account Balances as of May 1, 2010

Checking	\$2,036.03
Savings*	\$4,836.89
Lake Improvement	\$2,761.91
Total	\$9,634.83

* Savings includes \$2,384.09 designated for the Bob Johnson Memorial Pier

Once again, thank you Sibley Lake Association members for your generosity. Your efforts have enabled us to enjoy a pleasant lake area experience!

KEEP US POSTED!

If you sell your lake property, please let Sibley Lake Association know who the new owner is and tell them about us! Also, if a new neighbor moves in near you, introduce yourself and be neighborly! We would appreciate it if you would contact us, Sibley Lake Association, as we would like to welcome newcomers with a welcome packet!

As lake ownership changes frequently, the only way we learn of new owners is through word of mouth from people like yourself; therefore, we would really appreciate your assistance! Please mail correspondence to Sibley Lake Association, PO Box 83, Pequot Lakes, MN 56472, or email at jjeben1@tds.net.

A WEALTH OF INFORMATION

SIBLEY LAKE WEBSITE

Thanks to the work of Board Member, Kirby Koster, information about the activities, events, and board of director meetings are available on our website. The site is hosted by Minnesota Waters of which Sibley Lake Association is a member. You can access our website by going to www.minnesotawaters.org. Click on Lake and River Groups, Click on "S", and then on Sibley Lake Association. If you have any suggestions or information for our web site, please forward it to Kirby at kkoster@visi.com.

SIBLEY LAKE ASSOCIATION -

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers:

President: Bill Triplett, 2010
851 26th Ave. No., St. Cloud, MN 56301
320-251-6170. bilpat@charter.net.

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Secretary: Mark Jurchen, 2010
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ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY, JULY 17TH

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: www.minnesotawaters.org



*Another amazing sunset on Sibley Lake.
Photo by Kirby Koster.*

CROW WING COUNTY AND OUR LAKES

Board members Dave Lind and Mark Jurchen met with Water Protection Specialist, Mitch Brinks this spring. Mitch is the Water Protection Specialist with the Crow Wing County Land Services. The Land Services department is reaching out to Lake Associations in the area to coordinate efforts to promote and improve the health of our lakes.

In addition to improving the coordination and communication with Lake Associations, the Land Services Department wants to “identify ways to partner with local associations and concerned citizens to help manage and protect the water resources of Crow Wing County.” The department will become the central clearinghouse of water resource information within the County and will assume a greater role in water quality issues within our county. As a result of the joint efforts it will allow for more strategic decision-making in addressing lake and water quality issues, and will allow for potential grant funding.

The Sibley Lake Association Board will keep the Crow Wing Land Service Department informed of our activities and work with them to address future projects including watershed issues and projects which may involve other lake associations who share common concerns and challenges. The Department will also be a conduit for working with other county and township jurisdictions that share our water bodies as well as our lake watershed.