

# The Sibley Steward

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SIBLEY LAKE ASSOCIATION  
Summer 2014

SIBLEY LAKE ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 83  
PEQUOT LAKES, MN 56472

## 2013 Annual Meeting Minutes

Overview: The meeting was called to order by President Kirby Koster at 10:30AM. Approximate attendance at the picnic was 80 people.

Treasurer's Report: Ray Smith provided the treasurer's report. Ray discussed the funding for the savings account, checking account, and lake maintenance fund. Motion was made to approve the treasurer report and then seconded. Motion passed.

Watershed and Impaired Lake Discussion: The discussion of the impaired lake status was in the newsletter. Initial contact with Cass County has been made. Much of the Sibley Lake watershed is in Cass County. Larry Greden could help work with the farmers in Cass County.

Open Discussion Issues: There was a discussion about coordinating a dock service. If more people signed up, we would move up in priority. Talked about establishing a no wake zone during high lake levels.

Election of Officers: There was a motion and approval to assign Pete Clement and Jon Fogerty to the Lake Association Board.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Paulus, Secretary

## Sibley Lake Water Quality Update

As noted in last year's annual newsletter, Sibley Lake was placed on the Crow Wing County list of impaired waters in 2012 due in part to our high total phosphorous levels.

High nutrient levels including phosphorous have been something that the Lake Association has been monitoring for some time, but it is also one of the most difficult problems to address due to the diverse number of "nonpoint" sources which can include runoff from yards and streets, downloading from our watershed via incoming streams and creeks, and internal sources such as dead plants and muck at the bottom of the lake.

One of the main concerns with high nutrient concentrations is the process of eutrophication of the lake. What this means is as the lake becomes more nutrient rich, excessive plant and algae growth lead to a cycle of ever increasing plant and algae growth which eventually takes over the lake by depleting the available oxygen in the water causing oxygen dependent organisms such as fish to die off. This is one of the reasons why the treatment of Curly Leaf Pondweed continues to be a high priority for the lake as this invasive species grows very quickly and can add a significant amount of biomass (and therefore nutrients) to the lake. At this point we have our Curly Leaf problem under

control and in general Sibley Lake is not in any immediate danger, but we do expect that our focus as a Lake Association in the coming years will need to shift to include more active management of our total phosphorous levels.

As a next step, the MPCA is conducting a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study to examine where our excess phosphorous could be originating from.

Representatives from the Sibley Lake Association and Lake Improvement District will be meeting with the Crow Wing SWCD in August 2014 to review the results of the TMDL study and to discuss recommendations for possible future management actions.



# Annual Meeting Notice Sibley Lake Association Sibley Lake Improvement District

Saturday, July 19, 2014 @ 10:00 am  
Sibley Lake Park Pavilion

We cordially welcome you to attend this year's Sibley Lake Association's Annual Meeting. The meeting's agenda includes:

1. Introduction of the Board and members in attendance
2. Review of 2013-2014 Association activities and projects
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Secretary's Report
5. Election of Officers
6. Open Forum for questions and comments from our membership, and discussion of future projects and goals

Immediately following the Association meeting, our annual Sibley Lake Improvement District meeting will be held. Included in this year's agenda:

1. Introduction of Board
2. Review of financial activity for 2013-2014
3. Election of Officers
4. Set the Levy for our next fiscal and levy year

The meetings will be followed by our traditional raffle and annual picnic. We look forward to seeing you at the meetings!

## Member Drive

Our Annual Membership Drive kicked off June 12th. For your convenience, you'll find a return envelope accompanying your membership invoice. The annual membership is 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 and miscellaneous expenses.

Last year we had 56% of our lake owners support our membership drive. This year our goal is to surpass last 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!

## Treasurer's Report

Hello Sibley Lake Enthusiasts!

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 \$3,772.54. This included Mail fees and supplies of \$262.50, \$406.18 for our annual picnic, annual insurance premiums of \$1,070.00, postal fees of \$523, RMB labs \$64.00, Subscriptions \$400, Education \$260, Repair to Sibley Park Steps \$636.86, Beaver eradication \$150.

The 2013 annual membership drive generated \$3,065.00, of which 115 members contributed.

In addition, thanks to the efforts of Marty Buck and Dave Lind we received a grant from the DNR for our Lake Maintenance Fund for a total of \$3,000.00 last year!

Account Balances as of June 12, 2014

Checking	\$11,214.80
Savings*	\$4,876.15
Lake Maint. Fund	\$9,876.15
Total	\$25,967.17

\* Savings includes \$1,884.09 designated for 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!

## Please Keep Us In The Loop

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, so we can 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 you. Therefore, we would really appreciate your assistance!

Please mail correspondence to: Sibley Lake Association, PO Box 83, Pequot Lakes, MN 56472 or email:

[jjeben1@tds.net](mailto:jjeben1@tds.net)

## It's Parade Time!

### Mark your calendars!

The Annual "3<sup>rd</sup>" of July Sibley Lake Boat Parade starts at 7:00PM on Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We'll meet by the island on the south end of the lake and follow the parade route illustrated on the right.

Everyone is invited!

Start planning your boat decorations today and don't forget to join us on the lake for fireworks after the parade!



## Association Board of Directors

### Officers:

President: Kirby Koster, 2016  
2313 Iverson Ct., Lino Lakes, MN 55038  
651-484-6820. [kirby@clubkoster.com](mailto:kirby@clubkoster.com)

Vice President: Mike Ridgley, 2014  
39049 Pequot Blvd, Pequot Lakes, MN 56472  
218-568-8562. [mikelaurieridgley@tds.net](mailto:mikelaurieridgley@tds.net)

Treasurer: Jeff Benson, 2016  
30515 Pequot Blvd. Pequot Lakes, MN 56472  
218-251-6321. [jjeben1@tds.net](mailto:jjeben1@tds.net)

Secretary: Tim Paulus, 2015  
2990 Ontario Road, Little Canada, MN 55117  
651-482-9357. [tpaulus63@aol.com](mailto:tpaulus63@aol.com)

### Board Members:

Jon Fogarty, 2016  
5936 North Sluetter Road, Pequot Lakes, MN 56472  
218.831.2638. [jon@landsenddev.com](mailto:jon@landsenddev.com)

Pete Clement 2016  
218-820-8201. [plclement@tds.net](mailto:plclement@tds.net)

Dave Lind, 2016  
30367 Pequot Blvd. Pequot Lakes, MN 56472  
218-568-6715. [bigbobber3@charter.net](mailto:bigbobber3@charter.net)

Ray Smith, 2015  
2133 South Lincoln Ave. Springfield, IL. 62704  
217-787-5658. [raymondjsmith47@yahoo.com](mailto:raymondjsmith47@yahoo.com)

Joe Peterson, 2016  
1899 Highland Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55116  
952-484-2945. [joe.peterson@petersonprobst.com](mailto:joe.peterson@petersonprobst.com)

Sean Kaneski, 2014  
Sibley Lake Road, Pequot Lakes, MN 56472  
218-820-3756. [kaneski9205@gmail.com](mailto:kaneski9205@gmail.com)

Steve Caouette, 2015  
14426 190<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.W., Elk River, MN 55330  
763-441-4793. [steve@signaturestucco.com](mailto:steve@signaturestucco.com)

John Fontecchio, 2016  
3005 Quaker Lane N. Plymouth, MN 55442  
612-309-5775. [222cobalt@gmail.com](mailto:222cobalt@gmail.com)

## We Need Your Support

We are always seeking folks who would like to assist us on the Sibley Lake Association Board. Our board members are very dedicated, but quite frankly, could use a "Little Help." There is power with numbers, if you would like to help out, even as a silent partner, please let us know by contacting one of the board members.

## DNR Access Gets Maintenance

As many of you had probably experienced, there was large hole at the end of the concrete ramp at our boat access.

Due to several inquiries and a well-timed conversation and encouragement by Lake Board member Mike Ridgley, the access received some much needed work this spring.

Although we're not exactly sure what all was done, we do know the DNR filled the hole and overlaid the gravel portion of the ramp with rock. They also dressed up the class 5 in the parking lot and even came back and raised the dock during our recent high water! Many thanks to the DNR for exhibiting such a timely response to this problem!

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P.O. Box 83  
PEQUOT LAKES, MN 56472

## **ANNUAL MEETING** **SATURDAY, JULY 19TH**

**CUSTOMER NAME**  
STREET ADDRESS  
ADDRESS 2  
CITY, ST ZIP CODE

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## Lake Improvement District (LID) Update

*The LID is continuing treatment for Curly Leaf in 2014.*

Based on DNR lake mapping conducted last June, we are able to confirm that the treatments are having a very positive result.

This year we focused on specific spots at the center and on the northern part of the lake. Approximately 15 acres were treated on May 22<sup>nd</sup> by Professional Lakes Management (PLM).

The LID has been a very effective tool in keep Curly Leaf under control, and we will continue researching other ways to improve the water quality of our lake. This includes the possibility of the LID performing our own lake mapping to help guide us in the future.

If you have any questions or concerns about the LID, please call or email Dave Lind 218-341-2853 or bigbobber3@charter.net.

## Grant Update

*DNR Grant Program offered again in 2014.*

The program is designed to assist in the treatment of Curly Leaf. The Sibley Lake Association submitted our application and was approved for approximately \$1,550 this year.

A big 'thank you!' to Marty Buck for taking care of the application. We'd like to also recognise Wendy Crowell (DNR) and PLM for their assistance!

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## Attention Cass County Residents

If you're a property owner on Sibley Lake and live in Cass County you are not required to pay the \$108.40 in tax that your fellow Crow Wing County property owners are.

To help maintain the quality of our lake and ensure the aquatic plant control efforts are sufficiently funded, we would greatly appreciate a donation from the Cass County owners. Checks can be mailed to Jeff Benson and noted what it is for.

The Lake Association greatly appreciates everyone doing their share! Thank you for helping us protect the lake we all call home.