

SIBLEY STEWARD

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SIBLEY LAKE ASSOCIATION

SUMMER, 2018

MINNESOTAWATERS.ORG/SIBLEYLAKE



THANK YOU SCOUT TROUP 102

SIBLEY LAKE FISHING PIER

We would like to thank Ryan Schlueter for making the necessary repairs to our Sibley Lake Fishing pier. A float had dislodged from the pier along with damage to the ramp last year. A new float was installed and the ramp reattached on the side which was separated. The pier was installed and dedicated to past board member and Sibley advocate, Robert Johnson, in 2003. It was made possible by generous donations from the Sibley Lake Association and the Johnson family. Additional floats will be purchased to have on hand in the event of future damage.



HARD AT WORK SIBLEY LAKE PARK UPDATE

Work continues on the restoration of the shoreline at Sibley Park on the east side of Sibley Lake. During the past two years, the lower portion of the steps were removed and restored with plantings and native grass. The fishing pier was relocated to a new site just to the north of the previous location.

Additional washouts were restored with rocks and boulders to prevent further erosion and run-off of sediment and soil into the lake.

On the 5th of May, the areas along the sides of the upper stairs were restored thanks again to Scout Troup 102 of Pequot Lakes. The work was coordinated by Scout Jack Benson as part of his Eagle Scout project. Native grass along with seedling plantings were completed along the steps as well as additional plantings in the area restored last year. Additional rock was placed on the path leading to the new location of the pier. Repairs to the steps by the pier are scheduled to be completed this summer.

We would like to express our appreciation to Troup 102 for being a partner in our efforts to improve water quality on Sibley Lake!

MAYO CREEK RESTORATION UPDATE

The planning and permit phase continued in 2018 for restoration of the washout at 13th Street SW on Mayo Creek. As reported last year, water quality testing indicated that this was possibly a contributing factor in the downloading of sediment and soil loaded with phosphorus into Sibley Lake. A \$20,000 Mini-runoff grant was awarded through Crow Wing Soil and Water. Additional commitments from the Sibley Lake Improvement District, our Lake Association, Mayo Lake Association, and the Nature Conservancy resulted in additional funds of \$16,000 for a total of \$36,000.

Updating our progress, additional meetings were held with Soil and Water, the DNR, Fisheries, and Army Corp of Engineers. The plans for the restoration were reviewed and approved. Currently the permitting process is underway. The bid is in from Schrupp Excavating and is well within budget. The majority of the work is scheduled for this fall With subsequent plantings and seeding to be completed late fall and early spring of 2019. As noted in a previous article, extensive water quality testing will be completed in 2019 to determine the effectiveness of this project and Sibley Lake Park. We wish to thank all of you as well as the Nature Conservancy and the various agencies for the support on this significant project. We also appreciate the cooperation and assistance of Tom and Janet Craig, who are the landowners at the restoration site.

SIBLEY LAKE WATER QUALITY UPDATE

As reported in our Steward publication last year, limited water quality testing was scheduled for 2017. Four samples were taken from 5 sites in 2017, 3 of which were in the watershed and 2 on Sibley Lake. This followed the extensive testing that was completed in 2016. The results from 2017 supported the observation that significant rain events caused heavy run-off from the watershed and higher lake levels. This resulted in an increase in the phosphorus levels which resulted in decreased clarity and water quality. At 30 milligrams per liter a lake is considered impaired. Sibley averaged about 45 mg/l in the spring and fall subsequent to spring run-off and rain events. It decreased to an average of 23 mg/l during the summer without heavy rains.

Secchi readings averaged around 5 to 7 feet and virtually no E.Coli was detected in Sibley. Mayo Creek continues to have elevated levels of both phosphorus and E.Coli. Test results also indicate that both Mayo Creek and Sibley Lake have elevated phosphorus readings which are caused by sediment and soil loaded with the element.

We will again complete about 4 samples during the summer season of 2018 in order to continue collection of data trends. In 2019, it is our objective to once again coordinate a detailed report based on multiple samples. By this time next year, the project on Mayo Creek along with Sibley Park will have been completed. It is our hope that our combined efforts as an Association along with various agencies, will reduce run-off of soil and sediment resulting in reduced PH levels.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

What happens on Sibley Lake stays on Sibley Lake, unless you are a member of the Sibley Lake Group on Facebook. You are invited to join our informal Sibley Lake Facebook Group to keep up to date on the activities and events, as well as view some spectacular photos of our beautiful lake. Currently we have about 250 members in the closed group consisting of current and past residents, visitors, and those who just love our lake. Search for "Sibley Lake Group" and request to become a member, then start submitting your photos and memories of Sibley Lake Life.

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE **SAT, JULY 21, 2018 @ 10AM** **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
2. Review of 2017-2018 Activities
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Secretary's Report
5. Voting on Updated Bylaws
6. Open Forum

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 2017-2018
3. Election of Officers
4. Set the Levy for our next fiscal and levy year

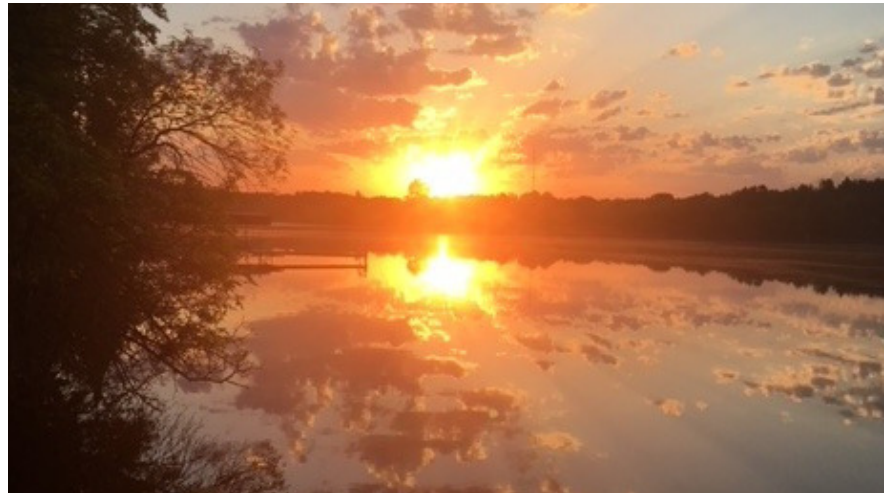
The meetings will be followed by our traditional raffle and annual picnic. We look forward to seeing you at the meetings!

TREASURER'S REPORT **BY JEFF BENSON**

Hello Sibley Lake enthusiasts, thank you all for your generosity! We received another grant from Crow Wing County soil and water for \$18,000.00. This money will be utilized to continue the erosion control efforts. Thank you for the \$895 that was raised for July 3rd fireworks!

Account Balances as of June 12, 2018

Checking	\$37,140.41
Savings	\$4,896.62
Lake Maint. Fund	\$10,534.84
Total	\$52,571.87



SIBLEY LAKE ASSOCIATION **BOARD MEMBERS**

Officers:

President: Mike Ridgley, 218-568-8562.

mikelaurieridgley@charter.net

Vice President: Sean Kaneski, 218-330-9205.

kaneski9205@gmail.com

Treasurer: Jeff Benson, 218-251-6321.

jefeben1@gmail.com

Secretary: Tim Paulus, 651-482-9357. tpaulus63@aol.com

Honorary Member: Mark Jurchen 218-568-4167.

lowhat@tds.net

Board Members:

Kirby Koster, 651-484-6820. kirby@clubkoster.com

Pete Clement, 218-820-8201. plclement@tds.net

Dave Lind, 218-3412853. bigbobber3@charter.net

Joe Peterson, 952-484-2945. joepeterson04@gmail.com

Steve Caouette, 763-441-4793

steve@signaturestucco.com

John Fontecchio, 612-309-5775, 222cobalt@gmail.com

Jon Fogarty, 218-831-2638 jon@landsenddev.com

Mari Irmiter, 763-238-9891, hairycallmari@gmail.com

Ryan Schlueter, 218-568-4063,

ryanschlueter@hotmail.com

Maury Graham, 612-730-0899,

maury.graham@yahoo.com

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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SIBLEY LAKE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 83
PEQUOT LAKES, MN 56472
MINNESOTAWATERS.ORG/SIBLEYLAKE

SAVE THE DATE
2018 ANNUAL MEETING
SATURDAY, JULY 21ST

CUSTOMER NAME
STREET ADDRESS
ADDRESS 2
CITY, ST ZIP CODE

SIBLEY LAKE ANNUAL BOAT PARADE

The Annual Sibley Lake Boat Parade starts at 7:00PM on Monday, July 3rd.

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

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

