

Lake Miltona



SPRING News

May 2018

lake-miltona.org

Volume 1, No. 26

Directors and Officers are listed below. Please thank them for volunteering their time for the Lake Miltona Community.

OFFICERS:

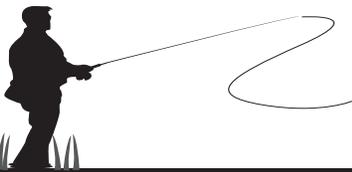
President:	Steve DeSutter
Vice President:	Marc Bot
Treasurer:	Bob Larson
Secretary:	Gene Rose

DIRECTORS:

Lynn Glesne	Area 1
John Fair	Area 2A
Jack Anderson	Area 2B
John Fay	Area 2C
Skeeter Kingsberg	Area 3A
Vern Suhr	Area 3B
Gene Rose	Area 3C

DIRECTORS *continued:*

Steve Herth	Area 4
Emily Yonke	Area 5
Wendie VanKirk	Area 6
William Moeller	Area 7
Carol Goodin, Gary Fuchs	Area 8
Jerry Fulton	Area 9
Jerry Fulton	Area 10
Pat Ferguson	Area 11
Mike Wrobel, Warren Davis	Area 12
Ted Boehne, Tom Brauer	Area 13
Steve DeSutter	Area 14
Wally Roberts	Area 15
Anne Rykken	Area 16
Marc Bot, Bob Larson	Area 17
Darrell Olson, Randy Hansen	Area 18
Don Henning	Area 19



A Message from the President

Winter came in November and left in May. It was a long winter, there was ice on the lake for almost six months. But, we certainly had a quick thaw out this year. On April 15, it looked like the middle of winter and now, mid-May, it looks like spring. I thought we were going to have to use fish houses for the opener for a while. The lake level seems to be pretty high since we had decent spring

moisture. Now it's time to go fishing.

We are excited to have the annual meeting at the Miltona Community Center this year. We have some good speakers lined up with a lot of interesting information to share with everyone. We look forward to seeing you there. We will go over in detail what the Lake Miltona Lake Association is doing for our membership.

The pontoon parade has been moved back to the 4th of July. Since the 4th is on a Wednesday this year, it's hard to tell when people will be coming and going, so we decided to have it at noon on the 4th. If it rains on the 4th parade will be Saturday July 7th.

The parade has been growing and it is a very fun event, so if you have never participated in the parade, load up a boat and come check it out.

We lost a very prominent lake member this spring. She had designated that any of her memorials be directed to the Lake Miltona Association. The Association took in a little over \$2700 by that gesture. Thank you so much to the family from the Lake Association. You know who you are!!

See you on the lake. Good luck fishing!

Steve DeSutter
President

Paid Memberships

Membership trend over the past six years:

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
408	437	421	458	438	418

Membership in the Lake Miltona Association is encouraged for those in our lake community as well as the general public.

A membership application is available on our website lake-miltona.org or contact us at 790 East Sandy Beach Drive NE Miltona, MN 56354

Lake Miltona Association is a volunteer not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to water quality and ecological balance. DONATIONS AND DUES ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. See IRS Publication 526.

Annual Fundraiser 2018

**Saturday, August 11th, 2018
5:00pm - 10:00pm**

This year the event will be held in the

Miltona Community Center

We are planning the event similar to the 2017 fundraiser with a buffet from 5:00-7:00 pm. and Raffle prizes from 7:00- 10:00 pm. Again, your area directors will be selling tickets during the summer at a price of \$15 each – children age 16 and under, accompanied by an adult, will be admitted at no charge.

Ice Damage 2018



Annual Meeting

**Miltona Community Center in Miltona
Saturday, June 9th, 2018
9:00 a.m.**

Dave Rush will be our main speaker

Dave will be talking about the new rules and regulations concerning private/vacation home rentals in Douglas County and the Douglas County aquatic invasive species and lake monitoring programs.

We will also discuss projects we have done and are currently doing.

Refreshments will be served.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Lake Miltona Ice Dates for the Last 14 Years

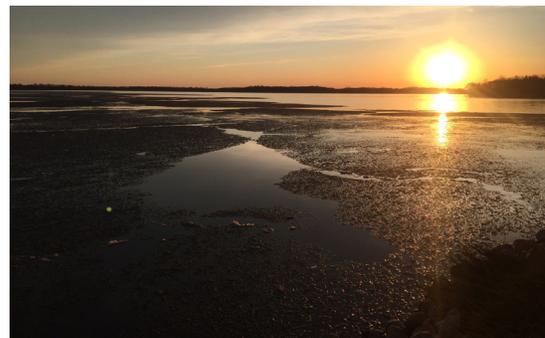
Board member Jerry Fulton has kept track of the ice completely on and ice completely out dates for the past 14 years. They are:

ICE ON

Dec 13, 2004
Nov 30, 2005
Dec 1, 2006
Nov 29, 2007
Nov 27, 2008
Dec 5, 2009
Nov 27, 2010
Dec 5, 2011
Dec 8, 2012
Nov 26, 2013
Nov 25, 2014
Dec 19, 2015
Dec 10, 2016
Dec 8, 2017

ICE OUT

Apr 14, 2005
Apr 10, 2006
Apr 20, 2007
May 4, 2008
Apr 23, 2009
Apr 1, 2010
Apr 26, 2011
Mar 25, 2012
May 14, 2013
Apr 27, 2014
Apr 12, 2015
Mar 31, 2016
Apr 3, 2017
May 6, 2018



Electric Shock Drowning

Electric Shock Drowning

Ed Lethert, Electric Shock Drowning Safety Specialist

"I've never heard of that before. So what is Electric Shock Drowning?"

Electric shock drowning (or ESD) is a death by drowning that occurs when someone in the water experiences an electric current, also in the water, flowing through their body. The electric current causes arm and leg muscles to freeze (cramp) after which the person sinks down into the water and drowns.

"Where do these electric currents come from?"

They can come from a number of places, but in most cases these in-water electrical currents result from a combination of defective wiring and faulty electrical equipment. When this condition occurs, electric currents can 'leak' into the water, laying in wait for some unsuspecting person—or pet—to enter the water.

"Where can this happen?"

ESD can occur wherever electrical wiring and equipment are installed and used in or near the water. This includes lakes, rivers, swimming pools, ponds, even the bathtub. Electricity is used for a variety of applications on innumerable docks located at private lake homes, such as electrically operated boat lifts, lighting, pumps, "Weed Eaters," and other powered equipment. Making things worse, these appliances are often powered by extension cords plugged into an electrical outlet back on the shore. The electrical circuit providing the power may or may not be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). And even where a GFCI is used, it may or may not be providing the proper protection (they can fail and are almost never tested, even though regular testing is required by the manufacturer's instructions).

"What can I do to prevent ESD?"

There are several things that can be done to minimize the possibility of an ESD incident, although too numerous to be listed here. The most important, and most effective, is to follow the recommendation of the Electric Shock Drowning Prevention Association that no one enter the water within 150 feet of any electrical wiring or equipment. This recommendation is not always what one wants to hear as it leaves them with an "either-or" choice at the dock; either electric power for the dock equipment OR swimming and related recreation in the water. One rules out the other.

"Are there other options that will let me have both?"

The short and unqualified response is NO if you are truly concerned about personal safety. Other measures have been suggested and proposed, but they all have a common flaw. They can fail at any time without notice, creating a dangerous condition in the water. Alarm systems that detect leakage currents are being promoted that will warn of dangerous currents in the water. That warning comes a little late if you are already in the water when the alarm is sounded. The ESDPA's States unequivocally that "Monitoring devices used as a "green light" to indicate it is safe to swim around electrified docks and marinas will put a lot of people at great risk. Staying out of these potentially dangerous waters is the only way to eliminate the risk of electric shock drowning."

"Where can I find more information on ESD?"

The Electric Shock Drowning Prevention Association web site contains much useful ESD related information, guidance, and resources, including ESD prevention and how to respond to an ESD emergency. <http://www.electricschockdrowning.org/>

Additional information on ESD is available at the author's web site at www.electricschockdrowningmn.com.

Ed Lethert lives in Minneapolis and is retired after working almost 60 years in the electrical and electronics field. Much of his time is now devoted to promoting ESD awareness and helping marina operators address ESD concerns. He can be reached at elethert@gmail.com.

Kids Ice Fishing on Lake Miltona

On February 24th Lake Association Directors volunteered to assist the Miltona Science Magnet School ice-fishing outing. Despite the snow and wind during the day of the event we had a good representation of students and school community people come to the event. The volunteers helped by drilling the fishing holes, shuttling people from the bus to the fishing activities, serving hotdogs, putting up a shelter tent and even providing a warm-up fish house. Although the fishing results were not spectacular

everyone had a good time. The picture included in the Newsletter is from a collage prepared by Denise Jorud, the Magnet School teacher who coordinated the school activities for the event.



Thank you for your support! Events like this couldn't happen without great team work! Thank for working with the Miltona Science Magnet School to provide this opportunity for families!

Thank you for all your hard work! Your team of guys were amazing! ☺ Denise Jorud



Private/Vacation Home Rental Ordinance

On March 6, 2018, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners adopted amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and Lodging Ordinance establishing licensing and permitting requirements for private/vacation home rentals. Complete copies of the ordinances are available on the Douglas County (www.co.douglas.mn.us) and Horizon Public Health (horizonph.org) websites.

These new amendments address licensing and usage requirements for private homes and cabins that are leased for periods of less than 30 days. In addition to the actual licensing requirement, the amended ordinance addresses health and sanitation requirements as well as concerns such as occupancy limits, parking, trespass and noise control.

The amendments will also require the owner or his representative to provide contact information to neighboring property owners should they need to contact someone regarding potential problems. More specific details on all these items can be found in the ordinances using the above links.

Dave Rush, the director of Douglas County Land and Resource Management, will be our speaker at the annual membership meeting on June 9th and will be speaking to this issue.

Annual Boat Parade Rules

The Annual Independence Day Boat Parade will be Wednesday, July 4th starting at Noon. In case of rain, parade will be Saturday, July 7th at Noon.

It will start at Sandy Beach / North Public Access (See map).

Day of Registration: Register the day of the parade 1 hour before start time. On July 4th go to Sandy Beach / North Public Access. You will see a sign to register and will be given a registration number.

You **MUST** register for a chance to win a prize. As you approach the judges, stop the forward motion of your boat within 30 feet of the judges, show your registration number and proceed only when judges wave you on.

Route will be determined the day of the parade due to wind direction. Parade will end at Sand Bar on South side of Lake (Outlet to Ida Lake). First place boat & pontoon wins \$75. Second place boat & pontoon wins \$25. Personal Watercraft will also have a first and second place prize of \$75.00 and \$25.00. Names will be displayed on a plaque at LJ's restaurant in Miltona.

DNR Fish Stocking Report

DNR stocked 2,759,000 Walleyefry in Fall 2017. They also stocked 1403 Muskellunge fingerlings in 2017

Greetings from the Miltona Lake Management - Aquatic Invasive Species Update

The "Lake Management" article in our November 2016 Lake Miltona News described the zebra mussel situation in Lake Miltona after the summer of 2016 as reported in the article "An AIS battle plan" on the front page of the March 10, 2017 Echo Press. This article reported that Lake Miltona had extremely high veliger density compared to

any other lake studied. This article also stated that this monitoring would be continued during the summer of 2017.

The zebra mussel monitoring data for 2016 and 2017 are summarized in a report entitled "Zebra mussel veliger density patterns in selected Douglas County Lakes, 2016-2017" by Moriya Rufer and Kaira Kamke, RMB Environmental Laboratories, Detroit Lakes, MN. It compares the data for Lake Miltona and six other lakes. The good news is the density of veligers in Lake Miltona was much lower in 2017 than in 2016. The peak concentrations of veligers in Lake Miltona was about

250 #/L in 2016 whereas in 2017 the peak concentration was only about 35 #/L.

The article suggests that this pattern of veliger density in Miltona is also reflected in the water transparency data and suggest that the rapid decline in veligers in 2017 could be due to lower levels of suspended food sources (e.g., algae). For further discussion please refer to the article at:

http://www.alexarealakes.org/Uploads/Public/Documents/Alex_Area_Lakes/VeligerDensityStudy_2017.pdf

Greetings from the Miltona Lake Miltona Internet Committee Update

- Within Douglas County, approximately 9,000 people do not have access to 25 Mbps wired "broadband".
- However, 85.2% of Minnesotans do have access to 100 Mbps or faster broadband.
- The average internet download speed in Minnesota is 30.77 Mbps.

Here's a link to the broadband providers in our area:

<https://broadbandnow.com/Minnesota/Carlos>

What's new for spring?

- Century Link has begun to offer "high" speed internet within their southeast Lake Miltona "captive" service area (based on the fiber cable they laid last summer).
- Up to 40 Mbps DSL is available for \$45/month (plus \$10/month if you lease their modem). However, its actual performance may be closer to 10 Mbps; depending on distance and usage. Initial installation was quoted as \$60 with up to two weeks wait.
- There is *no* requirement for a century link land line! Yay!!
- You may want to inquire about their off-season "vacation" rate and cancellation fees.
- For more information on this offer you should call: 1-888-450-4052. You may have to ask for the new fiber cable service department.

AIS Prevention Suggestions

With the mostly cold weather this winter and the late spring, the open water season is finally here, and soon many of us will be enjoying boating, fishing and recreating on Lake Miltona. And, with the approaching season, we all need to remember the key factors in preventing the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) into our wonderful lake: Clean, Drain, Dispose and Dry.

CLEAN – Make sure all watercraft and lake equipment (trailers, docks, lifts, etc.) are free of all plant material before they enter the lake.

DRAIN – Drain all water from bilges and live wells before putting a boat into the lake (and make sure the water drains away from the lake). Also, remember that bait water cannot be transported from one lake to another.

DISPOSE – Dispose of any unused bait in the garbage, not by dumping it into the lake.

DRY – All lake equipment (docks, lifts) must be out of the water for a minimum of 21 days to kill any hidden AIS. It is also recommended that watercraft coming from an infested water body be kept out of the water for a minimum of 5 days for the same reason.

Please make sure your lake guests are knowledgeable about AIS, as well. Thank you. Our lake thanks you!

Boating Etiquette

FOLLOWING RIGHT-OF-WAY BOATING RULES

When you're cruising along in your power boat, you're rarely alone on the water, so you need to know, and follow, boating rules. This is becoming more important as kayaks, standup paddle boards, and sailboats get more popular. Smokey Timbers is offering sailing lessons in August this year, so expect to see some more sailboats on our lake.

In boat-speak, you and your boat either stand-on course because you have the right-of-way, or you give way to a boat and let it pass first. The action you take depends on what you and the other vessel are doing.

Sailboats under sail power only are always the stand-on vessels in crossing and meeting situations, so look out for them when you're motoring around.

PASSING A BOAT

Lake Miltona does not have any channels, at least none where one boat might be passing a sailboat, so simply give any sailboat (or canoe, kayak, or standup paddle board) a wide berth when passing them. Be considerate knowing your wake could cause them significant anguish in some cases.

CROSSING PATHS

- Your vessel: You're on a crossing course with another vessel that could result in a collision if neither boat changes course or speed.
- The other vessel's on the right: It's the privileged or stand-on vessel and you must let it pass in front of you.
- The other vessel is on the left: You're the privileged or stand-on vessel and you must pass in front of the other vessel.

MEETING A BOAT HEAD-ON

- Your vessel: You're meeting another vessel head-on.
- Both vessels: You should both steer to the right to such a degree that each can see the other's intentions to pass safely portside to portside (left to left, for the landlubber).

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

When it seems like no one but you knows or follows the rules, the rules say you must give way to avoid a collision. If you exercise stand-on privilege and an accident results, you'll be held at least partially responsible.

Do your best to be courteous and responsible.

New Northern Pike Regulations go into effect May 12, 2018 for Douglas County

North-central Zone: Bag limit 10 (Not more than 2 over 26". All from 22-26" must be immediately released.) Includes the Alexandria-Glenwood Management Area. Map included in the 2018 Minnesota Fishing Regulations booklet or: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/pike/index.html>

Southern Zone: Bag limit 2 (Minimum size 24").



Smoke Signals from the Camp

THANK YOU Lake Miltona Association and all the lake residents who have been such a huge part in bringing about exciting new happenings at Smokey Timbers!

As shared in the Fall Newsletter, the wonderful matching grant challenge made to the Camp last summer was met and exceeded in September. What a pleasure it is to report the variety of ways the funds are being put to work. So far, the bunkhouse exterior restoration has been completed and new steel roofing has been installed on the screen shelter and utility buildings. Work is well underway on a new septic system that is step one of the goal to build a modern restroom and shower facility as well as to modernize the bunkhouse interior. Longer range a number of additional

facility improvement ideas are taking shape.

On January 31, the Foundation celebrated a huge milestone for the Camp by burning its loan document. When they accepted ownership and total responsibility for the Camp in 2009 this all volunteer group also accepted the \$150,000 debt remaining from the financing package that rescued the facility. The final payment in January was a bit in excess of \$52,000. What a tremendous achievement by all the people who helped make it happen!

Along with the physical improvements, several new initiatives to enhance and expand programming options for youth organizations and family activities are underway. Community Education opportunities, including adult sailing classes will be taking place and expanded partnerships with

Scouts, 4H Clubs and school groups are being explored.

The preservation, improvement and future of Smokey Timbers, has been, and will forever be, a "Labor of Love" by caring, committed and dedicated people. Assistance – financial, goods, volunteer services – is always gratefully appreciated. Contributions of any sort are documented and qualify as tax deductible per IRS code, Section 170. Folks with questions or interest in how they can help are encouraged to call 320-766-5290. The Camp's mailing address is 15567 Smokey Timbers Rd. Miltona, MN 56354.

The Annual Fish Fry for Lake Association Members is Saturday August 4th this year. Be sure to mark your calendars for this increasingly popular event.



Bunkhouse Restoration



New Roofing



Debt "Up in Smoke"

LAKE MILTONA

ASSOCIATION

790 East Sandy Beach Drive NE

Miltona, MN 56354



PRSR FIRST
CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 3876
Twin Cities, MN

Lake Miliona News

Inside this Newsletter...

- ~ Paid Memberships
- ~ Annual Meeting
- ~ Annual Fundraiser
- ~ Ice On & Out Dates
- ~ Electric Shock Drowning
- ~ Kids Ice Fishing on Lake Miliona
- ~ Private/Vacation Home Rental Ordinance
- ~ Annual Boat Parade Rules
- ~ Invasive Species Update
- ~ Internet Committee Update
- ~ AIS Prevention Suggestions
- ~ Boating Etiquette
- ~ New Northern Pike Regulations
- ~ Smoke Signals from the Camp

2018 Calendar of Events

June 9	Annual Meeting	9:00 am
July 4	Boat Parade	Noon
July 14	Directors Meeting	9:00 am
August 11	Annual Fundraiser	5-10:00 pm
October 13	Directors Meeting	9:00 am