

# Lake Miltona



# SPRING News

May 2014



lake-miltona.org

Volume 1, No. 22

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

**OFFICERS:**

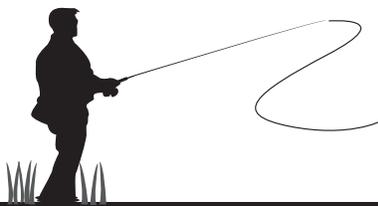
President:	Steve DeSutter
Vice President:	Marc Bot
Treasurer:	Bob Larson
Secretary:	Gene Rose

**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
Dick Kuehn	Area 5
(Open)	Area 6
William Moeller	Area 7
Tim Lind, Gary Fuchs	Area 8
Jerry Fulton	Area 9
Jerry Fulton	Area 10
(Open)	Area 11
Mike Wrobel, Warren Davis	Area 12
Ted Boehne, Tom Brauer	Area 13
Steve DeSutter	Area 14
Steve DeSutter	Area 15
Anne Rykken	Area 16
Marc Bot, Bob Larson	Area 17
Pete Anderson, Randy Hansen	Area 18
Don Henning	Area 19



**A Message from the President**

It's great to be writing this, while looking out over the blue water of Lake Miltona. We are all very tired of looking at ice, so bring on spring and summer! The Lake Miltona Association has been busy representing your interest in keeping our lake vibrant. A couple of notable projects to mention are the new directories for Lake

Miltona. They will be available at the annual meeting in June. We have been very busy preparing these directories for your use. They are updated every three years. We stocked walleye fingerlings last winter and again this spring. Thank you for your continued support of this program.

Last fall we took an unofficial survey of the board members on the spread of zebra mussels. None of the directors reported any zebra mussels on their lifts or docks. Please continue to monitor your docks and lifts and let us know if any zebra mussels are found. Contact

your director and they will handle it from there.

Our annual meeting is scheduled for June 14th at Miltona Community Center. The meeting starts at 9 am, we look forward to seeing you there and on the lake!

Steve DeSutter

**Look for Article about these ! Page 5**



## Lake Miltona Association Directory

We are in the process of printing the new 2014/2016 Lake Miltona Association Directory. Hopefully everybody has received their dues notice and will update their information so the directory will be as current as possible. There are two sections in the directory: names by alphabetical order and a section organized by lake location. Please make sure everybody thanks the advertisers for their support of the Lake Miltona Association Directory. Please browse through all the ads in the directory and frequent them as much as possible. If it were not for their support, the directory would not happen.

## Watercraft Inspection Report

The Lake Miltona Association board has agreed to continue with our watercraft inspection program on Lake Miltona for this summer. The program will be administered by the DNR, they will be performing routine watercraft inspections on boats entering and leaving our public accesses. We believe that continuing the monitoring is in the best interest of protecting our lake from the continued spread of invasive species. Please greet them cordially and thank them for helping to protect our lake.

## Annual Meeting

**Saturday, June 14th, 2014  
9:00am**

### Miltona Community Center

We are happy to announce that our annual meeting will be June 14th. We have a good list of speakers lined up, including Parkers Prairie High School students, Paul Anderson speaking on lake management, and Jim Bosek talking about stocking walleyes..

Please join us at the Miltona Community Center on June 14, at 9 am.

## Annual Fundraiser 2014

**Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
5:00pm - 10:00pm  
Miltona Community Center**

This year the event will be held in the  
**Miltona Community Center.**

We are planning the event similar to the 2013 fundraiser with a buffet from 5:00-7:00 pm. Again, your area directors will be selling advance tickets during the summer at a reduced price of \$14 each – children age 16 and under, accompanied by an adult, will be admitted at no charge.

## Paid Memberships

Membership trend over the past six years:

2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
383	426	388	375	410	414	413

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  
from our website  
<http://lake-miltona.org>  
or contacting us at  
P.O. Box 148, 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.

## Water Quality Dedication – Opportunity to Help

Twenty years ago an effort was initiated to inform Lake Miltona residents about actions to preserve and protect lake water quality. About 140 residents/families participated, and were recognized with the blue & white reflective Lake Miltona Water Quality signs you probably have noticed on docks, cabins, driveway entrances, etc. They were distributed in recognition of pledges to help preserve and improve water quality by following a list of actions that support good water quality.

You may have participated in this effort initiated twenty years ago, and your actions have helped preserve and improve water quality. However, a review of the list of participants suggests about half of these original participants are no longer Lake Miltona residents. Although a 50% “turnover” of residents seems high, it equates to only about 2-3% of Lake Miltona residences “changing hands” per year over 20 years.

With so many “new” residents, it is time to initiate another

effort that emphasizes actions residents can take to preserve and improve lake water quality. The Lake Miltona Association continues to originate and fund projects aimed at preserving and improving water quality, but residents “doing the right things” around the lake is also essential for good water quality.

Like the effort of twenty years ago, residents are asked to take action based on the list below. This starts now, the 2014 season. Rather than sign a pledge like you may have done twenty years ago, next season (2015) you will be asked to complete a “self-survey” about your shore line conditions, aquatic vegetation near your shoreline, your “compliance” with the action list below, etc. The survey participants will be recognized by the Lake Miltona Association!!

In summary, it’s time to start an effort that involves all Lake Miltona residents taking action to preserve and improve water quality! Please help by:

2014 (now!) Review the list below and take action!

2015 Complete the “self-survey” that will be distributed in 2015.

## Preserve and Improve Water Quality Action List

This list includes actions focused on reducing nutrients that support excessive weed growth, septic system effectiveness, erosion prevention, and fish/wildlife habitat protection.

- Follow regulations and recommendations regarding the installation, use, routine inspection, and maintenance of septic systems.
- Preserve bulrushes (lake reeds) that filter nutrients from the lake.
- Refrain from shoreline burning and other practices that allow nutrients such as ashes, clippings, and leaves to enter the lake.
- Establish and preserve a natural vegetation buffer near the shoreline to prevent erosion and filter nutrients.
- Minimize clearing of trees and natural vegetation, especially on shore line banks, in order to prevent erosion and filter nutrients.
- Limit the size of impervious surfaces (patios, paved driveways, etc.) which offer no nutrient filtering and “concentrate/accelerate” water runoff, causing erosion.
- Follow the Minnesota exotic species (Eurasian Milfoil, Zebra Mussels, etc.) regulations and recommendations.
- Limit the use of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides. If you must use them, do so in a responsible manner, and properly dispose of toxic chemicals.

## Annual Boat Parade Rules

The Annual Independence Day Boat Parade will be Friday, July 4th starting at Noon. In case of rain, parade will be Saturday, July 5th at Noon.

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

### Online Registration:

Register online starting June 20th and ending July 2nd. After that to register see below. Send email inquiry to [miltonaparade@gmail.com](mailto:miltonaparade@gmail.com). We will then send you a registration form to fill out and return.

After we receive your completed form you will receive an email with your registration number. On July 4th proceed to Sandy Beach / North Public Access.

### 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.

See you on the water!

## Fish Stocking Report

Last fall the board approved the stocking of 700 lbs of walleye fingerlings to be stocked into Lake Miltona. This quantity is the largest we have purchased in recent years and comes at a substantial expense. Thank you to everyone who donates to our fish stocking fund in the dues letter, it makes the stocking possible. We would also like to thank the Parkers Prairie Sportsmen, Leaf Valley Sportsmen, and Viking Sportsmen for their continued support of our stocking efforts. We applied for the necessary permits and were granted them from the DNR last October. Since winter came early and intense, we were only able to stock 200

lbs last fall. We reapplied for a permit to stock the other 500 lbs this spring and were approved. We put the last 500 lbs into the lake in late April. Thank you for your support of this program. With your support, we look forward to continuing the process this fall.

## Clothing Report

There is an annual Lake Miltona clothing flyer included with this newsletter. We will continue to offer clothing on a once per year offering only available through the online order. Many of you have seen Lake Miltona clothing on your neighbors, and now is your chance to order and

receive yours.

We hope you will take advantage of this program. It is done through a secure website and we have not had any problems in the previous years. The apparel comes right to your door in the sizes you ordered.

This year we are featuring Under Armor for men, women, and youth offerings. The flyer is only open until mid-June, so act early. The product will ship in July to your home.

Remember Grandparents, that Lake Miltona apparel makes great birthday, and Christmas gifts for the kids and grandkids! They will love wearing a shirt from the place they have so much fun.

## Lake Water Quality Management

Last fall the Lake Miliona Association Board of Directors contacted Mark Ranweiler, the Minnesota DNR invasive species specialist in Fergus Falls, to see what options he would suggest for monitoring and controlling invasive species in our lake. Mark told us that the DNR has not conducted any zebra mussel surveys on Lake Miliona since our Annual Membership meeting in June 2013. Mark also suggested that a dock survey would be the best way for us to gather information concerning the spread of zebra mussels in Lake Miliona. So, the Board

members inspected their docks and other equipment carefully as they removed them from the water this fall. Mark said the most likely spot to find the zebra mussels would be on the equipment that was near the bottom. The good news is that no adult zebra mussels were found on any of the docks or other equipment by any of our Board members.

The Board urges all folks using Lake Miliona to continue to be vigilant, and if any evidence of zebra mussels are found, please let an area Director know. In addition to zebra mussels, we should all learn how to identify other invasive species, such as Eurasian

milfoil. An occurrence of any new aqueous invasive species should also be reported to a Board member and/or the DNR. The Minnesota DNR will continue its inspection program for invasive species at our landings during 2014. In addition, the Board of Directors has voted to support additional watercraft inspection at our landings this summer.



Eurasian Milfoil

Zebra Mussels

## Lake Miliona Monitoring Programs

In 2011 and 2012 our Lake Miliona Association participated in a joint project with the Douglas County Soil and Water Conservation District to evaluate the water quality of our inlets as part of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Long Prairie watershed-monitoring program. We reported on the results of this program in our November 2013 fall newsletter. This spring our Lake Association

in cooperation with the Smokey Timbers Camp sponsored a Parkers Prairie High School class environmental project. This project is part of the curriculum requirement for the "College in the Schools" Environmental Biology course taught by Marlene Schoeneck. This course is offered to eligible juniors and seniors with credit through Central Lakes College, Brainerd, MN. The enrollment in the Parkers Prairie class is thirteen students. The first part of their project is a repeat of the early May 2011 and

May 2012 evaluations of our 4 inlets. Additional aspects of their program include obtaining volumetric flow rate data of the inlets, conducting vertebrate and invertebrate surveys of the inlets, and conducting a lakeshore quadrant analysis of plants and animals. The Board values this opportunity to both support the environmental education of our next generation and at the same time continue our long-term lake water and shoreline monitoring goals.

## Smoke Signals from the Camp

The 2014 Season at Smokey Timbers has launched with a flurry of activity and promises to be a most interesting and gratifying year for the Camp. In early May an Eagle Scout project was completed that revitalized the fire rings at each of the campsites. On May 7th the Alexandria Technical College's Skills U.S.A. group made their annual service day visit. Nearly 40 students and instructors once again did an amazing amount of grounds and maintenance work to bring the Camp back to life for another year.

On that same day, Parkers Prairie High School's "College in the Schools" Environmental Biology class made Smokey Timbers their base of operations for carrying out an environmental study project. (See the "Lake Miltona Monitoring Programs" article in this newsletter for more information about this Smokey Timbers Foundation/Lake Miltona Association jointly sponsored activity).

The Parkers Prairie Boy Scouts spent the walleye season opener at the Camp. No word about their fishing success but they did accomplish an impressive amount of storm damage cleanup while there. Recovery from last season's multiple storms is a continuing challenge but very significant progress continues to

be made thanks primarily to huge amounts of volunteer assistance. Wood cutters and brush handlers are still most welcome!

Again this year the Miltona Science Magnet School has planned to wrap up their year with an all-school field day at Smokey Timbers. In addition, before the season gets well underway, planning is being finalized to carry out the erosion control project at the end of West Sandy Beach Drive. Majority funding is being provided through the Clean Water Legacy Fund with planning and administration by Douglas County Soil and Water. The project is a cooperative undertaking by Smokey Timbers, its neighbors, and Miltona Township with support from the Lake Miltona Assn.

In June the Camp will be hosting an exciting event that will further its visibility as an environmental education resource in a big way. A DNR Project Wet, Water Education for Teachers curriculum development workshop will take place on the 18th.

Whew! All of this is happening in addition to the ever increasing diversity of groups discovering the Camp to be a destination of choice – school science groups, high school sports teams, faith-based activity groups, service family gatherings, youth day camps on top of the historic Boy and Girl Scout organizations, church groups, 4Hers, and family

organizations. The Foundation is finding it increasingly feasible to focus exclusively on its intended purpose: to provide affordable recreational and environmental education opportunities to non-profit organizations.

A significant part of making all of this possible is the Camp's super neighbors and friends here on Lake Miltona. The ongoing financial support, gifts of goods and services and increasing interest it is receiving from individual lake residents and the Lake Miltona Association is wonderful. A BIG THANK YOU to all.

**The Camp's annual fish fry, to which all Lake Association members are invited, is scheduled for August 9th this year.** Be sure to mark your calendar for this increasingly popular event.

If you have ideas for the Foundation, a willingness to assist in moving beyond the debt obligations remaining from the transfer of ownership, an interest in volunteering, or just want additional information about Smokey Timbers, check us out at [www.smokeytimbers.org](http://www.smokeytimbers.org), email us at [smokeytimbers@gmail.com](mailto:smokeytimbers@gmail.com), or give us a call at (320)766-5290. As a 501(C)(3) organization, support to Smokey Timbers qualifies as tax deductible per IRS Code.



**LAKE MILTONA**  
ASSOCIATION  
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MILTONA, MINNESOTA 56354



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# Lake Miliona News

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## 2014 Calendar of Events

June 14	Annual Meeting	9:00 am MCC
July 4	Boat Parade	Noon
July 12	Directors Meeting	9:00 am
August 16	Annual Fundraiser	5-10:00 pm
October 11	Directors Meeting	9:00 am