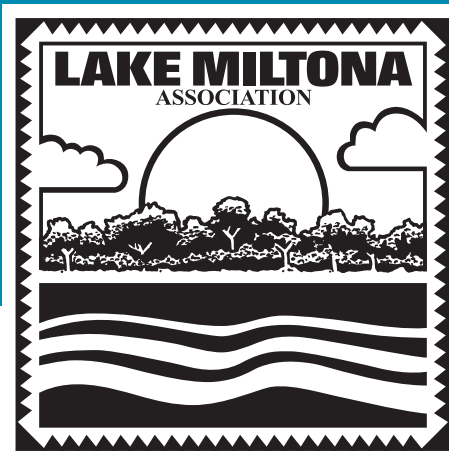


# Lake Miltona



# FALL News

November 2010

[www.mnwaters.org/miltona](http://www.mnwaters.org/miltona)

Volume 1, No. 5

Directors and Officers for 2010 are listed below. Please thank them for volunteering their time for Lake Miltona.

## OFFICERS:

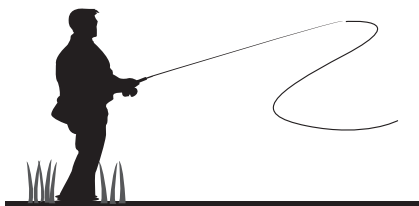
President:	Dick Kuehn
Vice President:	Chuck Ronnebaum
Treasurer:	Gene Benting
Secretary:	Gene Rose

## DIRECTORS:

Mark Hanson, Lynn Glesne	Area 1
Jack Anderson, Cathy Hanson	Area 2
Gene Rose	Area 3
Steve Herth	Area 4
Dick Kuehn, Gene Benting	Area 5

## DIRECTORS *continued:*

Open	Area 6
William F. Moeller	Area 7
Roy Borris, Gary Fuchs	Area 8
Jerry Fulton	Area 9
Jerry Fulton	Area 10
Bob Schultz	Area 11
Mike Wrobel, Warren Davis	Area 12
Ted Boehne, Tom Brauer	Area 13
Lynette Wittsack-Stenglein	Area 14
Chuck Ronnebaum	Area 15
Anne Rykken	Area 16
Gerald Peterson	Area 17
Pete Anderson, Randy Hansen	Area 18
Don Henning	Area 19



## A Message from the President

Our Lake Management Plan continues to move forward under the overall leadership of Gene Benting. Gene Rose heads up the Water Quality section which seems to encompass all other areas of concern. We will need MANY volunteers next spring for

monitoring the water quality and the analyzing of the results.

We received another \$2500 from West Central Initiative for the completion of the plan. This plan will lead us to objectives and goals that will determine the state of Lake Miltona 20 years from now. Good Luck Fishing!!

Dick Kuehn, President

## Lake Miltona Clothing

Planning for holiday gifts can be stressful—too much to do and so little time. Perhaps you should consider a Lake Miltona t-shirt or

sweatshirt. There is still plenty in stock from our summer collection to choose from. All items are reasonably priced and the quality is superb.

Planning a friend or family reunion? Let your guests take some fond memories of the weekend home with them. Consider purchasing matching t-shirts or sweatshirts for the group. We can customize the items to fit your special event.

Remember, all purchases support the Lake Miltona Association and a portion of the purchase price is tax-deductible. Don't hesitate to email [lwittsack@comcast.net](mailto:lwittsack@comcast.net) if you have questions.

## Lake Miltona is free of Zebra Mussels

An article in our Spring Newsletter described the grant we received to perform boat inspections throughout the summer. The objective was to educate boat owners on how to stop "Aquatic Hitchhikers" from invading our lake. The grant enabled the DNR to be stationed randomly at our lake accesses for 112 hours. The DNR has recently reported they performed inspections on Lake Miltona for 175 hours. The additional hours were justified by the amount of activity on our lake. There was no additional cost to Lake Miltona Association for the extra hours. The emphasis was on inspections of boats entering our lake; however, they also provided guidelines to follow for those exiting our lake.

Average inspection was 3-5 minutes and only a few times were there 3 or more boats waiting in line. It is nice to report there were no incidents because of the inspections. Boat owners were cooperative and understood the importance.

We are pleased to announce that no Zebra Mussels were found attached to boats, clinging to trailers or floating in live wells on Lake Miltona.

An article in the Echo Press on September 22nd described the growth of Zebra Mussels in Lake Carlos and Lake L'Homme Dieu. Nathan Olson, from the DNR, talked about the growth. He stated "It was quite impressive and more than what I was expecting." They are there to stay and in abundance. After seeing the picture, in this article, of the underside of a buoy, it is safe to say we do not want Zebra Mussels in Lake Miltona.

The Lake Miltona Association will work closely with the Douglas County Lake Association and the DNR for available funding next year to continue boat inspections.

## 2010 Independence Day Parade Winners

The boat parade was another success. The internet sign-up 2 weeks ahead was used by 7 entries. The starting points of East and West public accesses also worked well for everybody on the lake. This year's winners were as follows:

### Pontoon

1st Lowell Bensen, 2nd Randy Hansen

### Boats

1st Paul Hamilton, 2nd Ted & Kay Thull

Look forward to seeing more entries next year.

## Fundraiser Results

	2010	2009
<b>INCOME:</b>		
Dinner Tickets	\$5,406	\$5,458
Raffle Prize Tickets	1,775	1,910
Donations	819	578
Refreshments	58	72
Roll the Bones	375	304
Total Income	\$8,433	\$8,322
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		
Catering for Dinner	\$1,984	\$2,381
Refreshments & Cups	368	469
Music	350	350
Prizes	200	200
Hall Rental	250	250
Miscellaneous	195	139
Total Expense	\$3,347	\$3,789
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$5,086</b>	<b>\$4,533</b>

(Clothing Sales at 2010 Event = \$177)

Financial reports are published monthly on the web site.  
See Treasurers Reports at [www.mnwaters.org/miltona](http://www.mnwaters.org/miltona)

## Fundraiser 2011

Next year's annual fundraiser will be Saturday evening, August 20, 5:00-10:00 pm at the Leaf Valley Town Hall. We are planning the event similar to the 2010 fundraiser with the buffet from 5:00-7:00 pm. Canopies/tents and picnic tables will be available for outdoor seating. An outdoor restroom will be arranged to accommodate attendees.

Again, your area directors will be selling advance tickets during the summer at reduced prices \$13 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:

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
385	399	383	426	385	374

Thru 9/15

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

A membership application is available on our web site <http://www.mnwaters.org/miltona>

or contact 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.

## Hats off to all Lake Miltona Volunteers

The Lake Miltona Association is entirely made up of volunteers. We would like to thank each individual by name but fear we would miss one or two, however, there are a few we do want to give a special thanks;

### 2010 Fundraiser

There were over 20 people that helped sell tickets, pick up gifts from merchants, setup, serve food and drink and help cleanup. It was truly a team effort, thank you for a job well done.

A special thanks to the entire Dick & Sharon Kuehn family for their annual help in managing the ticket drum and distributing prizes.

Congratulations to Don Henning for "The Outstanding Tickets Salesperson for 2010". Don sold 110 advance dinner tickets. Don does an excellent job at the microphone, calling out ticket winners and recognizing merchants and their donations.

### Clothing Sales

Thank you, Lynette Wittsack-Stenglein, for your work at the fundraiser and for your year round dedication toward managing and selling clothing for Lake Miltona Association.

### Website

Thank you, Lowell Benson, for your work in managing the Lake Miltona Association website. It is a lot of work and you have done an excellent job. I encourage all to visit our website

<http://www.mnwaters.org/miltona>

### Lake Management Plan

Thank you to the individuals involved in the Lake Management Plan and to future volunteers that are needed badly to make this a success. This program is important toward the future of our lake and establishes the ground work for future grant money.

## Lake Management Plan

We have received, in September, the second half of a \$5,000 grant from West Central Initiative (WCI). WCI is located in Fergus Falls and is a sister organization of the Initiative Foundation in Little Falls. Both WCI and the Initiative Foundation are sub-groups of the McKnight Foundation. Three area lakes, Miltona, Irene and Mary, are participating in the Healthy Lakes and Rivers Program. Don Hickman, Aquatic Biologist - Initiative Foundation, has guided a volunteer team from the Lake Miltona Community to engage action plans that are designed to contribute to a healthier lake.

Our updated Lake Management Plan for Lake Miltona focuses on water quality, aquatic and upland vegetation, invasive species, land use management/zoning and fisheries management.

### Action plans include:

1. Enhanced water sampling, monitoring and testing
2. Invasive aquatic plant tracking and control
3. Upland plant installation incentives and funding
4. Invasive species prevention, fundraising & communication
5. Reduction of livestock waste erosion & contamination
6. Walleye stocking and fishery balance

Action plans have very specific tasks by mostly field work volunteers that need to occur at specific times to achieve meaningful results. The engagement of lake community volunteers and internal as well as external funding are critical.

At this time the following volunteers have assisted with the development and field work of the plan: Jack Anderson, Paul Anderson, Lowell Benson, Gene Benting, Jerry Fulton, Lynn Glesne, Jerry Haggemiller, Dick Kuehn, Chuck Ronnebaum, Gene & Judy Rose, Ann Rykken, Don Schaefer, Dorothy Simpson, Lynette Wittsack-Stenglein and Steve & Linda Zins.

Additional field work volunteers are needed to carry out the plan. Examples of volunteer tasks include: water sampling, water clarity tests, invasive vegetation monitoring, upland plant demonstrations, communication, signage maintenance, surveys and cleanup tasks. Please contact a director or member of the executive committee to help.



"Lynn Glesne helps install an Aquatic Hitchhiker sign at the NE access".

## Smoke Signals From The Camp

Another enjoyable camping season is wrapping up at Smokey Timbers. Nearly 800 people have participated in activities and events there this summer. Contributing to the good times have been additions to the Camp's "fleet" which now consists of 3 kayaks, 3 canoes and 2 pedal boats. Special thanks to REA's Operation Roundup and State Bank and Trust for their assistance in making this possible. 139 meals were served at the annual fish fry for Lake Association members on Aug. 28th. Once again it was a beautiful day, lots of great food and visiting was enjoyed and resulting contributions from "Friends of the Camp" raised more than \$3,000.

This fall the Foundation is looking forward to constructing a new pump house, thanks to financial assistance from the Miltona Fire Department. In addition, planning for how to best utilize the Camp as a School Forest Environmental Learning Site will commence. Formal approval of the School Forest Partnership with the Miltona Science Magnet School was granted by the DNR in August. This designation will make possible increased programming options for any school interested in using the site. The Smokey

Timbers Foundation was pleased to be able to offer the arrangement, without charge, to the Miltona School. Another pursuit this fall will be preparing the Camp trails for possible cross country ski grooming.

The three-year Capital Campaign designed to retire the Camp's remaining debt needs to resume in earnest. As previously reported, Smokey Timbers was purchased from the Land of Lakes Girl Scout Council in 2004 for \$566,000. All but \$155,000 of the purchase price was raised through contributions from people who believed this unique asset needed to be preserved. \$150,000 of the fundraising shortfall still needed to be retired when the Camp's ownership was transferred to the Smokey Timbers Foundation a year ago. While significant initial progress has been made during this past year, debt reduction and corresponding interest continue to be major obstacles to pursuing the Camp's real, worthy, objectives. The Camp can readily survive, develop, and thrive in pursuit of its objectives on the demonstrated flow of income from contributions, fund raising events, modest user fees, and goods and services provided. The on-going debt is, however, a major barrier to Smokey Timbers becoming all it has the potential to be. If you have

a willingness to assist in moving beyond the debt obligations, or just want additional information about Smokey Timbers, you can contact the Camp at (320) 766-5290 or by email at [smokeytimbers@gmail.com](mailto:smokeytimbers@gmail.com). As a 501(C)(3) organization, support to Smokey Timbers qualifies as tax deductible per IRS publication 526.

People who have come to know the Camp and the objectives of the Smokey Timbers Foundation frequently comment about what an asset it is, not only for youth organizations and family groups from the area and beyond, but for lakeshore residents as well. Its existence preserves a section of lakeshore in near natural state, offers an accessible group recreational/retreat facility right here on the lake, and promotes, through its user expectations and programming pursuits, ideals consistent with those of the Lake Association -- activities that focus on environmental protection, preservation, and remediation. The Smokey Timbers Foundation is grateful for the on-going support and encouragement offered by the Lake Association and numerous lakeshore residents. That support is an immensely important motivator for the Foundation Board.

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## Lake Miltona Outlet Dam

There were questions at our last annual meeting about the condition of the Lake Miltona outlet dam. Julie Aadland is our contact at the DNR for our dam and she responded with the following:

The dam was constructed in 1937 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and is maintained by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. In 1964 and in 1987 the dam underwent some modifications, including the addition of a steel beam across the entire weir which is set

at the legal run out elevation for the lake. The weir is attached to the abutment wall, runs the whole length of the dam and is in serviceable condition. In 2009, the Department verified that the dam had the correct authorized run out elevation and performed minor maintenance to seal a leak between the stoplogs.

The Department of Natural Resources maintains about 300 dams across the state similar to the Lake Miltona dam. The dams are old and many are in a somewhat degraded condition, but they are generally safe and continue to function as intended.

The State has a list of dams that need repairs but only those of top priority receive funding. The Lake Miltona dam is on the dam repair list but it is not a top priority since it normally holds back only 1.8 feet of water, it does not appear to be in immediate danger of failing, the immediate consequences of failure are minimal, and emergency repairs could be quickly implemented. If the dam were to fail, the Department has emergency funds that could be used to make emergency repairs to restore the authorized run out elevation.

## Fundraiser Donor List 2010

Alexandria Country Club .....	\$125	Mall of America .....	\$240
Alexandria Motors .....	\$50	McDonald's .....	\$25
American Heritage Hunting Club.....	\$125	Menards .....	\$25
Andersons Outpost .....	\$17	Mi Mexico .....	\$15
Backwoods Stitchery.....	\$210	Mid-Minn. Fed Credit Union.....	\$60
Border States Electric .....	\$100	Mills Fleet Farm .....	\$25
Broadway Floral .....	\$10	Miltona Bay Estates .....	\$25
Bug A Boo Bay Resort.....	\$50	Miltona Blacksmith .....	\$20
Bullet Lawn Care .....	\$25	Miltona Builders .....	\$20
Burger King .....	\$25	Miltona Custom Meats .....	\$100
Carlos Gas Mart.....	\$36	Miltona Grocery.....	\$20
Carrie Houseman / Century 21 .....	\$120	Miltona Liquor .....	\$25
Casey's Amusement Park .....	\$25	Miltona Outpost & Shell Gas.....	\$25
Central Lakes Restaurant Supply.....	\$20	Mn Lakes Realty/G. & D. Reiner.....	\$100
Central Marine & Sports.....	\$50	North Area Electric .....	\$50
Chet's Lakeside Inn .....	\$15	North Star Realty.....	\$20
Corral supper Club.....	\$20	Palmer Plant Kandy's .....	\$34
Corries Sanitation .....	\$100	Parkers Prairie Sportsmen .....	\$75
Cullen's Home Center .....	\$25	Pat's Family Hair.....	\$15
D Michael B's .....	\$10	Payless Liquor .....	\$20
Dairy Queen (north) .....	\$20	Peak Supper Club .....	\$20
Dakota Magic.....	\$150	Pete's County Market.....	\$20
Depot Express.....	\$40	Pine Ridge Golf .....	\$25
Dick's Standard .....	\$50	Prairie Edge Casino, Granite Falls.....	\$125
Don Henning Excavating .....	\$45	R&R Ready Mix .....	\$50
Doolittles .....	\$20	REA.....	\$25
Elden's Food Fair .....	\$50	Rig Rite Mfg.....	\$30
First State Bank.....	\$50	RK's Prairie Café.....	\$15
Fortwengler Electric.....	\$20	RND Computers .....	\$50
Gary Fuchs Law .....	\$130	Ron's Warehouse Sales .....	\$40
Garden Center Lanes .....	\$25	Sammy's One Stop .....	\$10
Geneva Golf Course.....	\$90	Scherer Printing .....	\$125
Grand Casino Mille Lacs .....	\$125	Sheila's Place Rose City.....	\$24
Gwen's .....	\$50	Shooting Star Casino .....	\$125
Hayloft .....	\$24	Spruce Center Bait .....	\$20
Herbie's Bar and Grill.....	\$15	Styles By Sue.....	\$30
Hilltop Lumber .....	\$30	Subway .....	\$20
Holiday North.....	\$40	Target .....	\$20
Jim and Judy's .....	\$50	Tastefully Simple .....	\$46
Juettner Motors.....	\$60	Tennessee Roadhouse .....	\$30
Klimek Bros Well Drilling .....	\$100	Tires Plus.....	\$40
Kyle's Barber.....	\$20	Trumm Drug .....	\$20
Lake Miltona Golf .....	\$80	Viking Bay Resort .....	\$75
Lakes Gas.....	\$31	Wade's Miltona Service .....	\$30
Leaf Valley Sportsmen .....	\$250	Woodbury Financial .....	\$50
Lewis Welding.....	\$50	Woodland Resort.....	\$89
Life Quest Chiropractic.....	\$50		
Lind Family Funeral Service.....	\$25		
Lindsay Ecowater .....	\$30		
Lions Club of Miltona .....	\$25		
Lucky Acres .....	\$24		

These merchants provided over \$5,020 in prizes to our 2010 fundraiser.

Please support them!

## 2010 Fundraiser Winners

The Association would like to thank all that have attended the fundraiser. It would not have been a success without you. Total attendance was 239. A great buffet was provided by RK's Prairie Catering. Music played by Centre Sound Systems. Refreshments provided by the Association and Miltona Municipal. Prizes were donated by 96 area merchants, worth over \$5,000. Thank you, Mall Of America, for donating the children's prizes.

### Major prize winners:

#### **Dinner ticket drawing provided by Leaf Valley Sportsmen:**

Bernard Bolduc \$50, Rick Gappa \$50 and Emily Yanke \$100.

**Roll the bones:** Don Henning won a half hog donated by a LMA member & processing by Miltona Custom Meats and Kelli Johnson won a \$150 casino package.

**Half hog raffle:** Gwen Adickes-hog was donated by a LMA member & processing by Miltona Custom Meats

**Wildlife prints:** Purchased by Don Grothen \$130, donated by Gary Fuchs Law. Purchased by Paul Schreier \$75, donated by Parkers Prairie Sportsmen.

## NEW Lake Miltona Area Directory

**A new Lake Miltona directory will be published over the winter.**

**It will be available for the June annual meeting, next year.**

## Wastewater Treatment Assessment

Each of the three townships around Lake Miltona -- Carlos, Miltona, and Leaf Valley -- has received Technical Assistance Grants from the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority for funding Wastewater Community Assessment Reports. The grants, \$33,000, \$27,000 and \$25,500 for the three townships respectively, were given to assist in the evaluation of treatment situations and challenges in areas with the highest development densities around the lake. After the dissolution of CLRSD in 2009, the townships were encouraged to apply for these grants to assist property owners, particularly those with questionable septic systems, in better understanding the care and use of their systems as well as their current or future treatment alternatives. Wenck Associates, Inc., an engineering, environmental and consulting

services firm, was engaged to carry out the assessments and make recommendations in each of the townships.

The grants required the townships to hold community meetings to allow residents to come and learn about proper wastewater treatment and septic system maintenance. In addition, residents were to be informed about how the grant funds would be used to evaluate the current compliance status of each property within the project boundary (approximately 50 properties in each township) and assess current and future alternatives, including the feasibility of multiple property cluster systems as alternatives to individual complete on-site systems. All three meetings, one in each township, were held in the summer 2010.

The field work commenced immediately following the meetings and consisted of

property by property mapping of structures, wells and treatment system configurations. Findings were compared to current code requirements and system integrity was assessed. Reports are expected to be completed by year end and additional community meetings for the residents within the project area are likely to occur in 2011.

Individual owners will have access to the results of the study for their property and reports will be shared with Douglas County Land and Resource Management. The reports will not, however, trigger compliance action except in cases of imminent environmental threat, building permit application, or property transfer. All Assistance funds received are grant funds and do not require repayment or resident cost sharing.

Questions about the assessment program should be directed to Township Supervisors.

## MPCA Appreciates Dedication of its Volunteers

(As reported in the MPCA's Summer 2010 Citizen Lake Monitoring Program newsletter, Secchi Reader.)

The most important part of any volunteer monitoring program is, of course, the volunteers! In 2009, more than 1,230 dedicated volunteers monitored water clarity in lakes across Minnesota.

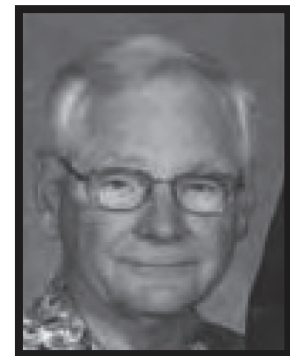
In recognition of volunteers' time, effort, and the valuable data that they collect, the MPCA presents recognition awards to lake monitors at five-year intervals. In 2009, there were 134 five-year volunteers, 45 ten-year volunteers, 30 fifteen-

year volunteers, 14 twenty-year volunteers, three twenty-five-year volunteers, one thirty-year volunteer and one thirtyfive-year volunteer. Secchi disk (the technique used for clarity monitoring) data is most valuable when it is collected continuously over many years. A special thanks to the Lake Miltona "milestone" volunteers Steve and Linda Zins and Jerry Fulton for their ongoing dedication to water quality. Each of them was recognized for their **20-years** of monitoring and reporting.

Citizen Lake Monitoring data can be found at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/clmp/clmpSearch.cfm>



Linda and Steve Zins



Jerry Fulton

## Walleye Stocking Report

The Lake Miltona Association works with the DNR on walleye stocking plans to achieve a balance of all species. The DNR normally stocks walleye fry in the spring and walleye fingerlings in the fall based on the results of previous fall electro-shocking tests. As mentioned in our spring newsletter, the DNR electro-shock survey in late August 2009 yielded a young walleye rate per hour of 124, substantially higher than the 28 per hour rate in late September 2008. As a result, they did not stock fingerlings in 2010 and adjusted their 2010 fry stocking plan to a base rate of

1,000 fry per littoral acre, equal to a minimum of approximately 2.9 million fry. However, this year, the DNR supplemented the 2.9 million fry stocking with an additional 1.3 million fry for a total of 4.2 million fry.

Generous contributions from our members, sportsmen's clubs, guide services and tournament organizers, has allowed us to fund over \$31,000 in fry and fingerlings in the last five years. We now have a walleye stocking fund balance of \$4,777, approximately equivalent to one year's reserve to be used when stocking resumes.

Your contributions over the years have effectively populated Lake

Miltona with a healthy supply of yearling and second-year class walleyes. Many 10 to 15 inch walleyes were caught and released this summer to sustain an acceptable population of walleyes in the lake.

The Lake Miltona Association board of directors will again consider a plan to continue to participate, subject to DNR approval, in the Viking Sportsmen matching program. The quantities of fingerlings and fry stocked in the next two years may vary based on an optimum use of resources and management of the walleye population.

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## 2011 Calendar of Events

January 8	Directors' Meeting	9:00 am
April 9	Directors' Meeting	9:00 am
June 11	Annual Meeting	9:00 am
July 9	Directors' Meeting	9:00 am
August 20	Annual Fundraiser	5-10:00 pm
October 8	Directors' Meeting	9:00 am

# Lake Miltona News

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