

Lake Miltona



SPRING News

May 2012

www.minnesotawaters.org/group/miltona/home

Volume 1, No. 20

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

OFFICERS:

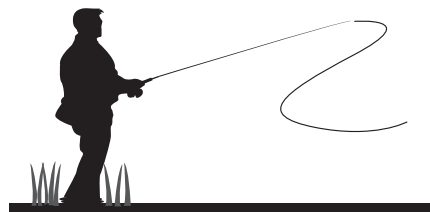
President:	Dick Kuehn
Vice President:	Chuck Ronnebaum
Treasurer:	Bob Larson
Secretary:	Gene Rose

DIRECTORS:

Lynn Glesne	Area 1
John Fair	Area 2A
Jack Anderson	Area 2B
John Fay	Area 2C
Gene Rose	Area 3A
Vern Suhr	Area 3B
(Open)	Area 3C

DIRECTORS *continued:*

Steve Herth	Area 4
Dick Kuehn	Area 5
(Open)	Area 6
William Moeller	Area 7
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
Chuck Ronnebaum	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

Happy Summer to All

A great array of articles such as, stocking, driveway seal coating, and AIS are in the newsletter. If you have an idea for an article for the fall newsletter, let us know.

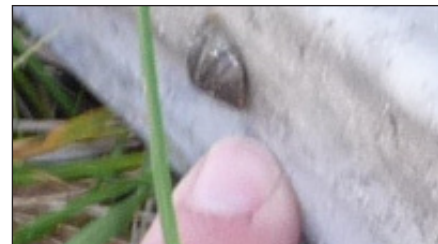
Our web site will be overhauled this summer to be more user friendly. Check it out.

The board has a wonderful bunch of new board members, along with the more seasoned members, have been meeting over the winter with some great suggestions for our lake. Thank them all !!

See you at the annual meeting with Dean Beck as our speaker.

Dick Kuehn President

See Article on page 6 from Nathan Olson of the DNR.



Treasurer's Report

	<u>12/31/11</u>	<u>12/31/10</u>
INCOME		
Member Dues	\$8,200	\$7,500
Walleye Stocking	4,555	2,811
Zebra Mussel Prevention	3,132	1,911
Grants Received	-	5,000
Fundraiser	9,403	8,433
Clothing Sales	419	576
Directory Advertising (1)	6,000	-
Miscellaneous Donations	100	380
Other	417	507
TOTAL INCOME	\$32,226	\$27,117
EXPENSES		
Association Dues	\$1,150	\$1,320
Walleye Stocking	2,000	2,000
Zebra Mussel Inspection/Mitigation	672	-
Donations & Contributions	3,650	5,210
Fundraiser	3,731	3,172
Clothing Purchase	205	468
Printing, Publication & Mailing (1)	8,050	3,072
Insurance	282	281
Lake Management Plan	2,191	2,189
Other	3,154	2,595
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$25,085	\$20,307
NET INCOME	\$7,141	\$6,810
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$14,809	\$1,669
CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT	24,000	30,000
CLOTHING INVENTORY	-	210
LAND/CONSERVATION	55	55
TOTAL ASSETS	\$38,864	\$31,934
FUND BALANCES:		
Lake Management Plan Grant	\$ 420	\$2,611
Walleye Stocking	2,212	1,162
Zebra Mussel Prevention	3,589	1,911
Smokey Timbers	2,500	5,000
Memorials - Undesignated	100	200
Clothing	-	210
Land Donated for Conservation	55	55
General Fund	29,988	20,786
TOTAL FUNDS	\$38,864	\$31,934

Note (1) Directory is updated every 3 years. Financial Reports are published quarterly on the website. www.minnesotawaters.org/group/miltona/home

Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 9th, 2012
9:00am
Miltona Community Center

Our annual meeting will feature Dean Beck, Regional Manager, DNR-Fisheries, who will speak to us on the topic of fish stocking in Lake Miltona. We are also please to have Bev Bales, Commission – District 3, provide an update on county & state activities important to Lake Miltona and the surrounding area.

Annual Fundraiser 2012

Saturday, August 18th, 2012
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 2011 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:

<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
399	383	426	388	375	410

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

www.minnesotawaters.org/group/miltona/home

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.

Lake Management Plan

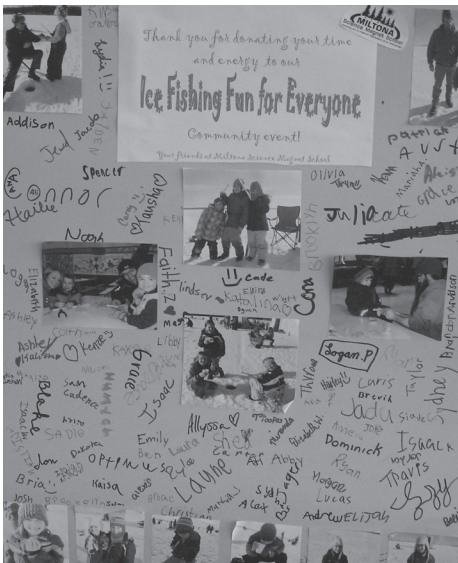
The Lake Miliona Association (LMA) in cooperation with the Douglas County Soil and Water District (DCS&W) is continuing the program to monitor four inlets to Lake Miliona as part of the MPCA Long Prairie watershed-monitoring plan. The DCS&W water quality grant will be again funded in 2012 to cover the costs of monitoring the stream from Lake Irene to Lake Miliona and the Dittberners Creek inlet into Lake Miliona. The LMA is paying the costs to monitor the Spring Lake to Lake Miliona inlet and the Lake Vermont to Lake Miliona inlet. These measurements will be done twice per month during May through September.

Details of the evaluations to be performed are the same as last year and are described in our May 2011 "Lake Miliona News". The DCS&W and LMA are also cooperating on a program to prevent egress of cattle into Lake Miliona. We expect this program is to be completed in early summer. Unfortunately grant money through the DCS&W for new lakeshore improvement projects is essentially unavailable for 2012. However, personnel from the DCS&W will continue to be available for planning and consultation.

The article by Nathan Olson, Invasive Species Specialist, DNR-Ecological & Water Resources, in this newsletter provides an overview of action being taken

to control the spread of zebra mussel in general and to prevent the spread of the zebra mussels recently found in Lake Irene. With respect to the possibility of zebra mussels entering Lake Miliona via the inlet from Lake Irene, Nathan said that using a net to prevent larvae from coming downstream would not work because the type of net needed to catch the larvae would also act as a dam. The second solution of using Zequanox® bacterial control agent was not possible because it is not registered for this use in Minnesota. Nathan did say that the DNR will be monitoring Lake Irene for growth of zebra mussels and that one of the monitoring sites will be placed at the outlet of Lake Irene.

Kids Ice Fishing



Feb. 18th was a great day for ice fishing on Lake Miliona. No one knew that more than the more than 200 kids, parents and grandparents who participated in the Kids Ice Fishing

Day organized by the Miliona Science Magnet School. The weather was ideal, kids and companions were pumped, a host of volunteers were primed to assist, and the fish (at least the perch) were ready to bite. What more could you ask for?

At the school, participants could make their own jiggle sticks, learn how to rig their tackle, become knowledgeable about identifying game fish and ice fishing safety, and otherwise prepare themselves for the "ice fishing adventure." DNR staff and a host of volunteers provided the necessary assistance.

Transportation to the lake (as well as facilities for "necessary functions", a.k.a. PortaPotties) was funded by the Lake Miliona Association. From the Sandy Beach landing,

participants were whisked to the "fishing hole" by Lake Association member volunteers. Then the real fun began.

Hooks were quickly baited with bait provided by local bait dealers and soon squeals and giggles told everyone that fish were being caught. Many kids proudly displayed their "trophy" perch throughout the day and when all was done, everyone agreed it was a wonderful day for all who participated.

Fun on the lake, what everyone who loves it hopes for, happened on Feb. 18th. All who participated say "THANK YOU" to the Lake Miliona Association and its member volunteers for helping make a memorable day possible.

Kuehn Recognized

Association President Dick Kuehn was recognized this past April for his community and public service. He was one of six area finalists for the KSAX/KRWF-TV Jefferson Awards, regarded to be the Nobel Prize for Volunteers. Past recipients at the national level have included Henry Kissinger, Colin Powell, Oprah Winfrey, and Bob Hope. Locally, Awards for Greatest Public Service Benefiting Local Communities are given each year to ordinary people doing extraordinary things. Each year over 15,000 people nationally

are nominated for local Jefferson Awards, but only a very few are recognized and awarded as finalists.

ANNUAL INDEPENDENCE DAY BOAT PARADE

Wednesday
July 4th at 11:00 am
at
Sandy Beach
(North Public Access)

Dick received his award based on his lengthy, innovative and

tireless service to his Church, the Miltona community, the Douglas County Lakes Association, Smokey Timbers Camp here on Lake Miltona, and, not the least, his many years of Lake Miltona Association leadership. He was aptly described by the awards committee as "the definition of humility, investing his heart and soul in his work." Further, it was said in the awards booklet, "You could call him a protector of his faith, his community and Greater Minnesota's environment."

Congratulations Dick, we are proud that you are our President!

Fish Stocking Report

The fall DNR walleye electroshock survey showed that Miltona has excellent counts on walleye. We asked the DNR for a permit to stock additional walleye fingerlings from our fish stocking account and were granted a permit to stock 200 lbs of walleye fingerlings. They were originally going to go in the lake in the fall, but due to the unusual fall and early winter weather, the fish did not trap well and therefore the stocking was put off until spring. So on April 7th, the walleyes were stocked. We wish to thank all the people that participated in the donation of money to the fish stocking fund. We look forward to our continued cooperation with the DNR to make sure the fishing on Miltona stays as consistent as possible and with your continued

contributions; we will have the money to supplement the stocking done by the DNR. We typically stock fingerlings, which have a greater survival rate than the walleye fry stocked by the DNR. Happy walleye fishing!

Planning to seal coat your driveway?

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency prepared information that you should be aware of before you do. It is described in their article that can be obtained at this web site:

<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/view-document.html?gid=11857>

In summary, they state that the sealcoat materials come in two basic varieties: coal tar-

based and asphalt-based. While the coal tar-based sealant is more resilient it contains 1000 times more polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PHA's) than the asphalt-based sealcoats. They state that prolonged exposure to these PAHs poses a number of harmful environmental and health risks. Since July 1, 2010 the state of Minnesota has banned the use of coal-tar sealcoats by state agencies and Lowe's and Home Depot took coal tar based sealants off their shelves. The best choice may be to not seal your driveway, but if you are planning to seal coat your driveway, the MPCA recommends the best choice is to find an asphalt-based sealant and recycle any unused coal-tar based sealant at your community's hazardous waste facility.

Forest Tent Caterpillar Control

Last year at the June 12, 2011 Lake Miltona Association Board of Directors meeting, in response to queries from Association members at the Annual Meeting, the issue of spraying to control the forest tent caterpillar was discussed at length. The Board concluded that, given the intensity of member opinions regarding this issue and legal problems experienced by other lake associations in this regard, the Lake Miltona Association would not use any of the Association funds to support spraying. However, the Board realized and respected that many lakeshore property owners would like more information concerning the forest tent caterpillar and control options for localized or large-scale infestations. So, while the decision to spray or not to spray is entirely up to the property owner, the Board is providing the educational information below.

A good source of general information on the forest tent caterpillar and its control can be found on the Minnesota DNR site:

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/treecare/forest_health/ftc/faq.html (questions/fact sheet)

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/treecare/forest_health/ftc/index.html (main information pages)

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/treecare/forest_health/ftc/homeownertips.html (homeowner tip sheet)

The above references show:

(1) that formulations containing the biological insecticide "Bt", (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) are the commonly used products to control the forest tent caterpillar and (2) Bt kills the caterpillars of all moths and butterflies when they eat leaves that have been sprayed, but it has relatively low toxicity to non-target organisms. Bt is currently produced by Valent Biosciences under the product name Foray 48B. More information on this product, including a material safety data sheet, can be found on the Internet using the search term "Foray 48B".

If your lakeshore is the target of tent caterpillar infestation we suggest you either call a ground spray provider for control measures on your own property or, if there is a widespread or intense worm invasion, you may wish to discuss with your neighbors the option of contracting with an aerial sprayer. Ground sprayers who have done work in the area are: Steffel Pest Control at 320 298-4164 and David Totz of Creepy Crawler Pest Control at 320-766-6565. An aerial sprayer who has been contracted previously by Lake Miltona residents is Benson Air AG Inc. at 320-843-4300. There may well be other providers that should be considered. The Association does not endorse or recommend any particular provider.

Annual Boat Parade Rules

The Annual Independence Day Boat Parade will be Wednesday, July 4th starting at 11:00am starting at Sandy Beach / North Public Access.

Online Registration:

Register online starting June 20th. Send email inquiry to 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. In case of rain, parade will be Saturday, July 7th at 11:00am.

First place boat & pontoon wins \$75. Second place boat & pontoon wins \$25. Names will be displayed on a plaque at LJ's restaurant in Miltona.

See you on the water!

A Letter from the DNR to the Lake Miliona Association

May 2, 2012

To Members of the Lake Miliona Association:

2011 was a unique and challenging year for the DNR and specifically for its Invasive Species Program. Beginning with the state shutdown, which lasted almost the entire month of July; our watercraft inspectors were not working during one of the busiest months of the summer. After we were back to work beginning July 21, our program was much different than when we left. The Legislative session had given us new authorities and new tasks that we had to begin enacting as soon as possible in order to prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). Some of these new tasks and authorities were:

Required AIS training of lakes service providers; New authority for DNR Officers to operate roadside check stations; More authority for DNR inspectors to inspect watercraft and to stop watercraft from launching if they find plants or AIS attached; Increased funding to purchase approximately 20 decontamination units and to hire more staff for inspections and decontamination; Develop an AIS rules decal that must be attached to watercraft that operate on waters of the state; and Develop an educational video to document the AIS issue, the laws boaters must follow, and what boaters can do to prevent the spread.

Many of these changes will help in preventing the spread of AIS, but

these tasks had to be prioritized in order for them to be completed. For example, watercraft owners had until August 1, 2014 to obtain the AIS rules decal. Only warnings could be written to watercraft owners who did not display the AIS rules decal before that date. Therefore, that task was moved down in the priority list.

The easiest task that we could implement was to retrain our inspectors to inform them of their new authorities to "tactilely" inspect watercraft and prevent watercraft from launching if plants or AIS were found. We also trained 17 existing DNR Invasive Species Program staff to operate three decontamination units across the state, one of which was operated in the Alexandria area. By late August, we had hired approximately 12 additional staff whose main job was to operate the three decontamination units full-time. For this summer, we plan to have 23 decontamination units operating across the state.

Due to the sensitivity of conducting roadside checks, enforcement staff decided to wait until 2012 to operate roadside checks for AIS violations. This additional time allowed them to prepare and plan how these checks will be operated across the state. You can expect to see some of these in action this summer.

Similar to training our staff to take advantage of our new inspection and decontamination authorities, we immediately

began scheduling trainings for Lake Service Providers. A Lake Service Provider is defined as someone who installs or removes

water-related equipment for hire. This of course means dock and lift installers, but also includes boat mechanics who install boats to test-run them and lawn irrigation companies who install lake pumps. The DNR Invasive Species Program had offered this type of training in the past on a volunteer basis, but participation was lacking. Now that this is a legal requirement for doing business in the State of Minnesota, at the time of this letter we had trained 674 companies and 1,725 employees. For more information about this training, visit this webpage: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lsp/index.html>.

The documentary video has been completed and we are hoping to have 1,000 copies available to the media, lakeshore organizations, and other outlets. We also plan to post the video on our website so it can be played from devices that have internet access. We are also incorporating this video into our volunteer training sessions.

While our program was working to implement all of these efforts, zebra mussels were discovered in lakes Brophy, North Union, Stony, Taylor, and Cowdry in August. This group of lakes is directly upstream of the Alexandria Chain of Lakes where zebra mussels were found to be present in 2009. DNR staff will continue to monitor the abundance of zebra mussels in this group of lakes.

As the summer turned into fall, our program received a call that a boat lift had been moved in Otter Tail County from a zebra mussel infested lake to a non-zebra mussel infested lake (Rose

A Letter from the DNR... Continued

Lake). We found that small zebra mussels had moved off the zebra mussel encrusted boat lift and onto vegetation that was in Rose Lake. The zebra mussels appeared to be limited only to the area near the boat lift, with no zebra mussels found on other docks or lifts nearby or in other parts of Rose Lake. Therefore, our program decided to attempt to eradicate the zebra mussels by completing the following steps:

1. We hand-removed as much vegetation from the area as possible that may have zebra mussels attached.

2. We then installed 300 feet of silt fabric around where the boat lift was located to create somewhat of an enclosure. This enclosure would assist in

keeping the copper-based chemical in the area and therefore maximize its effect on any zebra mussels present.

3. Finally, we hired a private contractor to treat 10 acres of the lake with Cutrine®-Ultra, a copper-based chemical commonly used to treat swimmer's itch. The treatment occurred inside the enclosure and outside the enclosure. Our goal was to keep the concentration at 1 ppm for 4 days. We hired the company to conduct three treatments, one treatment every 7 days.

We had favorable weather during all three treatments and water samples indicated we had much higher concentrations of Cutrine®-Ultra inside the enclosure. Nonetheless, it will take us at least two years before

we know how successful our efforts were. During this time, we plan to collect water samples and conduct zebra mussel searches within Rose Lake. Unfortunately, shortly after the initial chemical treatment of Rose Lake, our program received another call that a similar incident occurred in Douglas County at Lake Irene. Due to a pending court case, details cannot be discussed, but we utilized the same steps as noted above in an attempt to eradicate the zebra mussels from Lake Irene.

After the summer of 2011, six new lakes in Douglas County were added to the list of waters that have zebra mussels. These lakes are: Irene, Brophy, North Union, Stony, Taylor, and Cowdry. These new additions bring the total number of lakes in Douglas County with zebra mussels to 13. Although we cannot say how zebra mussels were introduced into lakes Brophy, North Union, Stony, Taylor, and Cowdry, we are confident that the zebra mussel infested boat lift was the cause of the zebra mussel infestation in Lake Irene.

Therefore, I will close with this final message: please be aware of where your lake equipment is coming from and make every attempt to ensure that it is clean before it is moved into the lake where you live. Although boaters that may come to the lake for the day can be vectors for transporting AIS, all and any water-related equipment that is moved from one water body to the next is a possible carrier of AIS.

Sincerely,

Nathan Olson

Invasive Species Specialist

Spring Clothing Report

Last fall at the Lake Association dinner we introduced ordering clothing online vs having them available to sell. The process went over pretty well. We did approximately \$1200 worth of sales in the first attempt at this process and generated some revenue for the association also. People that ordered their product were happy to be able to order the product in their own sizes and have the orders shipped directly to their residence, versus having to buy what was available. The Lake ASsn would like to continue this method, with your support, since there is no outlay of money to purchase inventory in advance. We went with a fall theme last year, since the clothing was delivered in October. We offered primarily darker colors with much of the selection focused on warmer clothing such as sweatshirts and long sleeve offerings. For this spring, we are going bright and summery! We have included the summer selection sheet for you to go online and order with the newsletter. Please remember that our goal is to offer clothing priced at discounts and a mix of brand name and regular selections. Last fall we featured Nike clothing. This spring, we will be featuring Under Armour brand for the t shirts. Lots of t shirts to choose from in men's, women's and youth in some selections. We hope that you will again support the clothing we are offering and we will offer a fall selection around the annual dinner in August similar to last year with delivery in the fall. The timeline is short, so please consider ordering now. We will take orders until June 10th and then delivery will be prior to the 4th of July. We look forward to seeing all the bright blue, yellow and pink colors all over the lake this summer.

Inside this Newsletter...

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- ~ A Letter from the DNR
- ~ Spring Clothing Report

2012 Calendar of Events

June 9	Annual Meeting	9:00 am MCC
July 4	Boat Parade	11:00 am
July 14	Directors Meeting	9:00 am
August 18	Annual Fundraiser	5-10:00 pm
October 13	Directors Meeting	9:00 am

Lake Miltona News

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ASSOCIATION
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