

Lake Miltona



SPRING News

May 2013



lake-miltona.org

Volume 1, No. 21

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

OFFICERS:

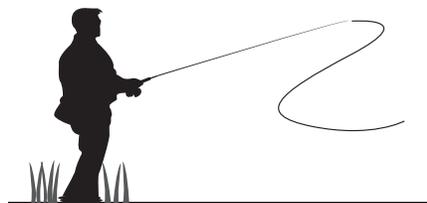
President:	Dick Kuehn
Vice President:	Steve Desutter
Treasurer:	Bob Larson
Secretary:	Gene Rose

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
Tim Lind	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

Seventeen years is a long time to be a director and an officer. As of the LMA Annual Meeting on June 22, I am stepping down from being President of our association. The

immense dedication of the officers and directors has been so gratifying to me. The progress of many past and current projects is a tribute to them. As I stated in the fall newsletter, "Yes, indeed we are facing changes, but the lake will survive and we will as well."

Thank You,
Dick Kuehn

Web Site Addition

Our LMA website, <http://lake-miltona.org> has a new page for displaying photos from members. If you have a picture to share, send the electronic file to the webmaster at labenson@q.com. Lowell will add your name, a picture title, and the date taken before posting on the web site.

Treasurer's Report

	12/31/2012	12/31/2011
INCOME		
Member Dues	\$ 8,280	\$ 8,200
Walleye Stocking	6,296	4,555
Zebra Mussel Prevention	3,194	3,132
Fundraiser	11,536	9,822
Directory Advertising (1)	-	6,000
Miscellaneous Donations		100
Other	196	417
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 29,502	\$ 32,226
EXPENSES		
Association Dues	\$ 1,055	\$ 1,150
Walleye Stocking	4,000	2,000
Zebra Mussel Inspection/Mitigation	-	672
Donations & Contributions	2,930	3,650
Fundraiser	4,252	3,936
Printing, Publication & Mailing (1)	3,511	8,050
Insurance	282	282
Lake Management Plan	5,946	2,191
Other	2,859	3,154
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 24,836	\$ 25,085
NET INCOME	\$ 4,666	\$ 7,141
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$ 19,475	\$ 14,809
CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT	24,000	24,000
LAND/CONSERVATION	55	55
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 43,530	\$ 38,864
FUND BALANCES:		
Lake Management Plan Grant	\$ -	\$ 420
Walleye Stocking	4,508	2,212
Zebra Mussel Prevention	6,783	3,589
Smokey Timbers	-	2,500
Memorials - Undesignated	-	100
Land Donated for Conservation	55	55
General Fund	32,184	29,988
TOTAL FUNDS	\$ 43,530	\$ 38,864

Note (1) Directory is updated every 3 years. Financial Reports are published quarterly on the website - lake-miltona.org

Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 22nd, 2013
9:00am
Miltona Community Center

We are happy to announce that our annual meeting will feature Mark Ranweiler, Minnesota DNR Assistant Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist. He will provide information concerning the discovery of zebra mussels in the east end of our lake. He will describe both the general effects observed upon zebra mussel infestation of a lake, and what we might expect to see specifically in Lake Miltona.

Please join us at the Miltona Community Center on June 22, at 9am.

Annual Fundraiser 2013

Saturday, August 17th, 2013
5:00pm - 10:00pm
Leaf Valley Town Hall

This year the event will be held in the Leaf Valley Town hall.

We are planning the event similar to the 2012 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:

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
410	383	426	388	375	410	414

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.

Lake Management Plan

Our lake association has a long history of projects that either monitor, maintain, or improve the water quality of Lake Miliona. For example, lake water quality data is available on Lake Miliona beginning in 1997 at www.rmbel.info (Site 101; ID No. 21-0083-00). The water quality monitoring of the lake is still an on-going project that is supported by volunteers of the Lake Miliona Association. In 2012 a project to maintain/improve the lake's water quality, and a new inlet stream water quality monitoring project were completed.

The maintain/improve project, completed in 2012, was a joint project with the Douglas County Soil and Water Conservation District (Douglas SWCD) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MNPCA). We worked with a local farmer to develop and implement a plan to keep cattle from entering the lake. The project involved establishing a well for watering the cattle and fencing to prevent their access into the lake. Douglas SWCD managed this project and obtained a grant that provided three-fourths of the cost of the project. The Lake Miliona Association contributed the remaining one-fourth of the cost. This plan has been completed and Douglas SWCD

authorized payment for the project in November 2012.

The project monitoring water quality completed in 2012 was also a joint project with Douglas SWCD and the MNPCA as part of the Long Prairie Watershed monitoring program. Our part of this program was to monitor the water quality of the four major streams coming into Lake Miliona. The Douglas SWCD obtained a grant to monitor the inlet from Lake Irene at MN Highway 29 and to monitor Dittberner's Creek at Dittberner's Creek Road. The Lake Miliona Association covered the expenses to monitor the inlet from Spring Lake at Spring Lake Road and to monitor the inlet from Lake Vermont at the east entrance to Tamarac Circle. Lake Miliona Association volunteers and Douglas SWCD staff collected water samples at all four of these sites every two weeks from May through September, in both 2011 and 2012. The samples were analyzed by RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc. in Detroit Lakes. The following data was obtained: E. Coli; nitrogen (ammonia, nitrite and nitrate, total Kjeldahl); phosphorus (total and o-phosphorous); solids (total suspended and volatile solids); conductivity; pH; oxygen concentration; temperature and clarity. All of this data has been submitted to the MNPCA

and can be downloaded from their web site. This data has been evaluated by Lee Engel, MPCA Lake Assessment and Monitoring. Two positive conclusions were possible from it. First, we do not have any major inorganic (nitrogen or phosphorus) loading into the lake. Second, we do not have any adverse nutrient contribution to our lake from the old Miliona city sewage lagoon that had an outlet into the wetlands through which the inlet from Lake Irene flows. However, we did see high concentration of E. Coli at all sites in late August and early September at all of our sampling sites. This seasonal trend is somewhat to be expected. However, the concentration of E. Coli at the Tamarac Circle site was high enough that the Douglas SWCD is investigating the cause of this contamination. The concentrations at the Dittberner's Creek site was sufficiently high enough that Dittberner's Creek will be listed on the 2013 Impaired Waters List and a state developed bacterial reduction plan will be requested. Also, based on the high concentrations of E. Coli in the inlet stream from Irene to Miliona, it is labeled "non support" for aquatic recreation, and due to low dissolved oxygen it appears to be "non supporting" for aquatic life.

Lake Management Plan (Continued)

One of the other lake management concerns is the control of invasive species. Our first objective is to prevent their entry into our lake and the second is to take appropriate action if they are detected. We have sponsored an invasive species inspection program in cooperation with the MN DNR at our boat landing sites. WE have also posted informational invasive species signing to help achieve the objective of preventing contamination of our lake by invasive species. Unfortunately, we have not been able to prevent

the invasion of zebra mussels, but we will continue our inspection program to prevent additional invasive species contamination. To address concerns about what we might do about the zebra mussels we have invited Nathan Olson, an invasive species specialist from the MN DNR, to be our speaker at our annual meeting. (See companion article in our newsletter.) Possible programs to address the zebra mussel invasion will be reviewed.

Clothing Report

As we look forward to the warm weather approaching, we hope everyone took advantage of the

online apparel ordering form which came with your dues letter. As the board, we have found this to be the best way of continuing the apparel sales for our members. We give everyone the opportunity to order in your own size without a substantial inventory output. Since the deadline for ordering spring merchandise has passed, we will have some extra pieces available for your purchase at the annual meeting and also at the August Fundraiser dinner. So if you did not get a chance to order, please plan on purchasing at the meetings. The online form continues to grow, so we look forward to sharing the next opportunity with you soon.

Canopies Available for Member Use

The Lake Association owns two 10' X 20' shelter canopies. Maybe you have seen them in use at some of the Annual Fundraisers. Side curtains are available to attach to them. The canopies and curtains are available for use by Association members on a first come, first served basis. The cost is \$20 per day, per tent. Smokey Timbers Camp has agreed to store them for the Association, and reservations to use them as well as pick up and return can be arranged by calling the Camp at 320-766-5290. Please leave a message with your name, phone number and request.

Docks and Access in Public Waters

What you should know about docks and other water access structures

Docks and watercraft lifts are commonly used access structures on Minnesota lakes and rivers. If you own waterfront property, a temporary structure that provides access to a lake or river is preferred to a permanent structure. Permanent structures are more likely to sustain ice damage, and a snow-covered structure over the ice poses a hazard to recreational vehicle users. Below is a list of installation guidelines for docks and access structures like boat lifts. These guidelines are intended to minimize impacts

on water resources and shoreline habitat. If you follow these guidelines, no permit is needed from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). A shoreline owner may request a permit to install a dock wider than 8 feet. Docks that have no permit and that exceed the 8-foot-wide limit are subject to enforcement action, including a citation, an order to remove the dock, and fines for both the landowner and the dock installer. Design and locate your dock and boatlift to avoid interfering with your neighbor's use of the water. Docks and boatlifts should be placed so that mooring and maneuvering of watercraft can normally be confined within the property lines if they were extended into the water.

Docks and Access in Public Waters (continued)

Do I need a permit for my dock?

No permit is needed to install, construct, or reconstruct your dock on shoreline property you own if you comply with the following:

- A dock is a narrow platform or structure extending toward the water from the shoreline. A dock may provide access to moored watercraft or deeper water for swimming, fishing, and other recreation.
- The structure, other than a watercraft lift or watercraft canopy, is not more than 8 feet wide and is not combined with other similar structures so as to create a larger structure.
- The dock is no longer than needed to achieve its intended use, including reaching navigable water depth.
- The structure is not a hazard to navigation, health, or safety.
- The structure will allow the free flow of water beneath it.
- The structure is not used or intended as a marina.
- The structure is consistent with the guidelines of the local unit of government.
- Docks placed on rock-filled cribs are located only on waters where the bed is predominantly bedrock.

Restrictions on docks and other structures

You may not place a dock or other structure in public waters if the structure:

- obstructs navigation or creates a hazard;
- is detrimental to fish or wildlife habitat or is placed in a posted fish spawning area;
- is intended to be used for human habitation;
- includes walls, a roof, or sewage facilities; or
- is located on property you do not own or have rights to use.

If you have questions concerning the contents of this brochure, contact your DNR Area Hydrologist.

Purpose of the dock rules

Intensive shore land development causes deterioration of a lake's ecosystem. Dock installations and their associated uses are factors in this deterioration. Studies of lakes in the Midwest show that docks and boat lifts may shade out important aquatic plants and eliminate critical habitat where fish spawn, feed, grow, and find shelter from predators. Shoreline views may also suffer when large dock systems are installed. Also, there is a growing concern about the private use of the water surface if docks and associated structures extend too far, cover too much surface

area, or span the entire owned frontage. The proliferation of dock configurations and dimensions is a concern to the DNR, lake associations, anglers, lake-home owners, and others. Finding the appropriate balance between reasonable access and resource protection requires collaboration by all interests. Another issue of concern is any attempt to control access to a lakebed or water surface. Even when land ownership extends into the lakebed, all who own land abutting the water or gain legal access have the right to use the entire surface of the water. For this reason, a dock configuration should never close off part of the lake to other users.

Complete article available at: http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/publications/waters/shoreline_alterations_water_access.pdf

DNR Contact Information

DNR Ecological and Water Resources website and a listing of Area Hydrologists:

mndnr.gov/contact/ewr.html

DNR Ecological and Water Resources

500 Lafayette Road, Box 32

St. Paul, MN 55155

(651) 259-5100

Smokey Signals from the Camp

Smokey Timbers Camp and the Smokey Timbers Foundation are most appreciative of the on-going financial support and increasing interest it is receiving from the Lake Association and individual lake residents. We have very good neighbors here on the lake! A recent \$2,500 grant from the Association was a most welcome boost to meeting the Camp's financial obligations.

2012 was another very good year for the Camp – again the best season yet since the “rescue” in 2004 and transfer of ownership to the Smokey Timbers Foundation in 2009. Over 1540 guests were hosted at the Camp, another wonderful increase over the previous year. We continue to see an ever increasing diversity of groups discovering Smokey Timbers to be a destination of choice – school science groups, high school sports teams, faith-based activity groups, service family gatherings, youth day camps -- in addition to the historic Boy and Girl Scout organizations, church groups, 4Hers, and family gatherings. Reservations for 2013 were a bit slow coming in but now that the weather is showing definite signs that we will have summer again, activity has picked up significantly. Smokey Timbers

is becoming recognized as the unique asset that its supporters have always known it to be.

The Camp's annual fish fry, to which all Lake Association members are invited, is scheduled for August 10th this year. Be sure to mark your calendar for this increasingly popular event.

The Foundation Board recently took significant steps to focus its efforts and seek volunteer assistance for the primary operational responsibility areas – Programming and Grants, Fundraising, Buildings and Grounds, Financial, Marketing and Media Relations, Registration and Hosting. Action committees are being formed for each of these areas and the assistance of people with interest in any of these areas will be most welcomed.

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, email usatsmokeytimbers@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.

Annual Boat Parade Rules

The Annual Independence Day Boat Parade will be Thursday, July 4th starting at Noon 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:

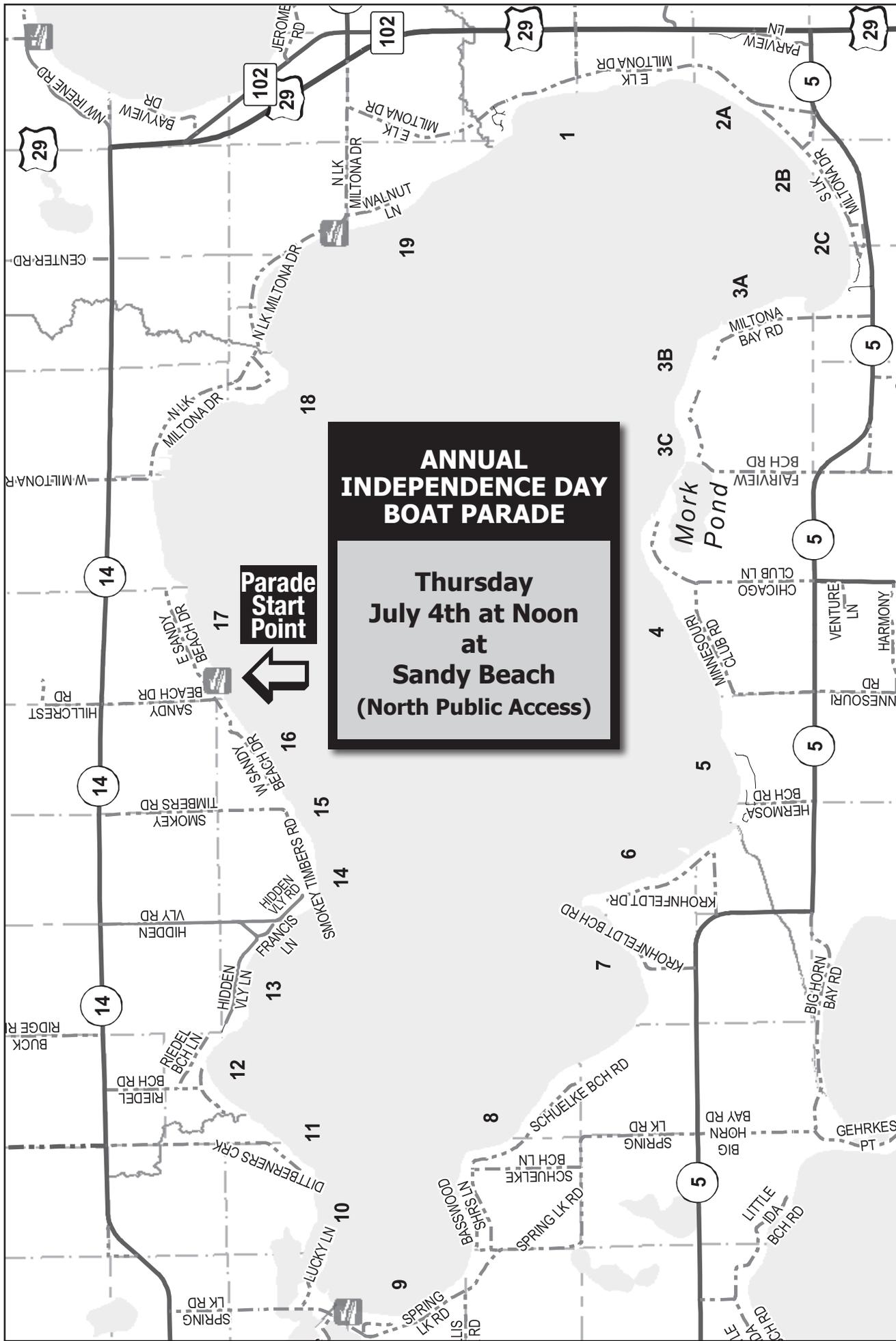
Register the day of the parade 1 hour before start time. On July 4th go to Sandy Beach / North Public Access. You will see a sign to register and will be given a registration number.

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. Parade will end at Sand Bar on South side of Lake. In case of rain, parade will be Friday, July 5th at Noon.

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

See you on the water!



**ANNUAL
INDEPENDENCE DAY
BOAT PARADE**

**Thursday
July 4th at Noon
at
Sandy Beach
(North Public Access)**

**Parade
Start
Point**



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2013 Calendar of Events

June 22	Annual Meeting	9:00 am MCC
July 4	Boat Parade	Noon
July 13	Directors Meeting	9:00 am
August 17	Annual Fundraiser	5-10:00 pm
October 12	Directors Meeting	9:00 am

Lake Miltona News

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