



# Loon Calls

Fall 2012

**G R E A T E R L A K E S Y L V I A A S S O C I A T I O N**

## GLSA Fight Against Invasives

by Carl Swanson and Chris Hector

In the early nineties when the first milfoil bill was passed, it was woefully inadequate.

The legislature and DNR said it was an educational effort. The assumption was people will do the right thing if they know what it is. Jabberwocky! At DNR random roadside check stations, begun this summer, more than 35 percent of boaters failed inspections. The body count is 225 lakes with Eurasian Water Milfoil, 750 lakes with Curly Leaf Pondweed, and 30 lakes with Zebra Mussels. These numbers will only increase due to the DNR's ineffective approach. It's true the state has been increasing resources, but there are only 118 public access inspectors for 3,000 locations. The DNR can only spend that which

the legislature appropriates. Some new thinking is required by our legislators.

This year GLSA applied unsuccessfully for a DNR grant that would have split costs of \$15,000 for 1,000 hours of

'At DNR random roadside check stations, begun this summer, more than 35 percent of boaters failed inspections.'

DNR inspections at the public access. Had there been more funding, we probably would have received this grant, because Lake Sylvia has the largest public access in Wright County.

The GLSA has created a taskforce to examine all of the options available to us in our efforts to keep invasive species from entering our lake.

We are developing action plans for the 2013 boating season in parallel with longer-term strategies.

**Invasives**

*continued on page 7*

## Lake Sylvia Water Report

by Kent Davidson

Lack of rain has made it evident to everyone that the lake level has dropped dramatically. There are two recent events worth noting. First, in August the DNR completed a study of Moose (Moses) Lake, and found no evidence of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). For now, that means that the GLSA will be prohibited from purchasing a machine to cut cattails between the two lakes in an effort to make the water flow less restrictive. Secondly, the county commissioners passed an ordinance on August 21 that allows individual lakes to adopt wake restrictions specific to their lakes in the event of high water.

**Water Report**  
*continued on page 7*



## Eurasian Water Milfoil 2012

by John Swanson

As we all know, the winter of 2011-2012 was unusually warm and we had very little snow. Because of this, we had a much earlier spring and the sun was able to penetrate the ice, thus allowing more aquatic plants to grow more abundantly and in more places. We also had high water levels which gave those plants more water cover.

**Milfoil**  
*continued on page 7*

### Inside this issue:

|                                      |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Executive Board . . . . .            | 2     |
| A Word From Your President . . . . . | 2     |
| Fall Loon Report . . . . .           | 3     |
| Advertisers . . . . .                | 4 & 5 |
| GLSA Help Wanted . . .               | 6     |
| Membership Report . . .              | 6     |

### GLSA Calendar 2012

#### FINAL BOARD MEETING

Saturday, October 13  
9 a.m. Meeting  
Southside Town Hall  
County Rd. 3

Get your T-shirts, sweat shirts, caps and anything else you want with the GLSA logo at Annandale Embroidery!



**Al's Almanac**

### PRECIPITATION

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| April.....         | 2.45" |
| May.....           | 9.54" |
| June.....          | 5.17" |
| July.....          | 4.04" |
| August.....        | 0.82" |
| September.....     | 0.23" |
| (through Sept. 21) |       |

**Total for June 25 through Sept. 21 .....**1.25"

**Executive Board**

June 2012-May 2013

**President**

Joe Lepley\* 320-274-2632  
joelepleyglsa@hotmail.com

**Vice President**

Kent Davidson\* 320-274-6448  
robinkentd@gmail.com

**Treasurer**

Peggy Jo Fortner\* 320-274-8228  
peggyjofortner@hotmail.com

**Secretary**

Pat Beithon\* 320-236-2292  
pbeithon@hotmail.com

**Board of Directors**

June 2012-May 2013

Jerry Dock\*  
jerry@greenhavenmarketing.com

Jerry Euteneuer\*\*  
euteneuerd@aol.com

Chris Hector\*\*  
chris@logictran.com

Nancy Hector\*  
nancyhector@gmail.com

Don Holm\*\*  
holmcyril5@aol.com

Steve Holmstoen\*\*  
sholmstoen@yahoo.com

Chuck Lingen\*\*  
alingen@comcast.net

Mike McNellis\*  
mmcnelis@lakedalelink.net

Tom Plihal\*  
plihal@lakedalelink.net

Carl Swanson\*\*  
swansylvia@charter.net

Harry Wahlquist\*  
hgwahl@aol.com

\* Term Expires May 2013  
\*\* Term Expires May 2014

**Greater Lake  
Sylvia Board Meetings**

2nd Saturday of each month, 9 a.m.

April through October

Southside Township Hall, County Rd. 3

**All GLSA members are welcome to attend.**

**GLSA Website - Check it Out!**

www.lakesylvia.org

# A Few Words From Your President

Joe Lepley

It's been another busy summer for GLSA. Here are just a few of the things that our dedicated and talented volunteers have been doing for our membership this year:

**GLSA Picnic** - In case you haven't heard, the GLSA picnic was a fun filled event on a perfect day on the beautiful grounds of Jim and Mary Schwebel's lake home. What you may not know is that the committee that organized and ran the event raised sufficient funds to cover all the costs of the picnic AND make a significant contribution to the GLSA invasive species fund. Hats off to Rose Mary Nelson, her dedicated committee, the many volunteers and all those who made donations to make this year's picnic a success. I am also pleased to tell you that a new picnic committee is already being formed to plan and organize next year's event. Rhonda Brau and Allison Barkley have volunteered to co-chair the committee. Next year's event will be held at Camp Chi Rho on August 10. More information will be forthcoming once the committee has had a chance to meet and develop their game plan.

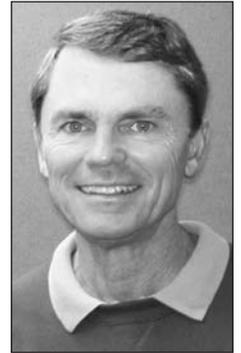
**Invasive Species Control** - GLSA's CLP and milfoil teams were hard at work this summer. Carl Swanson and the CLP team found very little CLP to treat this year, but they did treat any CLP they found. Their efforts to treat CLP over the last five years are paying off. John Swanson and his team found milfoil in a few more locations this summer than last year. Fortunately, the problem is still limited to the west lake and none of the infestations found and treated were very large. The time and effort these volunteers contribute are

invaluable and we all owe them a big "THANKS!"

**Lake Level and No Wake Zone Ordinance** -

Mother Nature has done her work to lower our lake to more normal levels over the past year. As of mid-September, the lake level is now TWO FEET below last summer's high point of 1051.4 feet above sea level. The Sept 19 lake level of 1049.36 is more typical of the levels seen from 2003 through 2010. GLSA continues to work with the DNR and the Lake Francis Association to keep the areas downstream open and flowing. GLSA has also worked with Wright County officials to develop a high water - no wake zone ordinance. Our "thanks" go to Kent Davidson, John Swanson and volunteers who have worked with them on these projects.

**Public Access Monitoring** - GLSA remains very concerned about the threat of zebra mussels. Although we have had some success using volunteers to talk to incoming boaters and fishermen, we would like to have a greater presence at the access to protect the lake. GLSA has applied for DNR inspection grants for the last several years - unfortunately, the DNR has not deemed our lake to be a high priority. We are re-doubling our efforts to find a way to get DNR approved inspectors at our public access for next summer.



**From Your President**  
*continued on page 7*

# Fall Loon Report 2012

by Mike McNellis, the Old Loon Ranger

When I was sent the notice that an article was needed for the Fall Loon Calls, I already knew what was on my mind. Of course it was the loons, the chicks, and migration.

This was not the best year for the loons. We had an early ice out and loons came back a couple of weeks earlier than normal. The spring started out so wonderful. The lake was host to 7 nesting pairs. Early on it was hard counting loons because it seemed like there was a pair or four every direction you turned. Several loon spotters noted they were seeing 3 or 4 adults in the areas of the nests.

When we sat on the patio at sunset, (we being my wife Barb, and 1 of the 2 Swamp Angels), we could hear a chorus of songs that seemed to never end. The singing was coming from all directions. There also were two pair of loons on Pickerel Lake that added their part to the concerto.

The hatch was one of the best in years with 12 chicks being born. But after the hatch, Mother Nature decided to send a wakeup call that this was still Minnesota. Cool spring weather, several cool rains, and high predation reduced the hatch to what would be a very poor summer survival rate. Only 3



chicks survived. The loon spotters had very little to report. The pair we had on Shoot N' Holler Bay (Molly and Gus) hatched two. We watched this event with a stellar telescope. Three or four days after they hatched we counted one. Two weeks later there was none. No reports of little ones washing up on shore anywhere led me to believe predators were feasting on the little chicks. Northern, Bass, Dogfish or Turtles probably made a meal of the new born chicks.

You must understand when the chicks are young, they can't control their body temps for the first several weeks, maybe up to 3 weeks. They rely on Mommy and Daddy for their life saving body heat. With cool days and nights, plus the cold rains, even protection by the adult's wings isn't enough.

The adult loons

**'The hatch was one of the best in years with 12 chicks being born. But after the hatch, Mother Nature decided to send a wakeup call that this was still Minnesota. Cool spring weather, several cool rains, and high predation reduced the hatch to what would be a very poor summer survival rate.'**

that lost their hatchlings didn't stick around too long, and left early. By mid to the end of July the lake seemed empty. We had several migrating loons on the lake, but migrating loons do not sing as much as nesting loons or the loons with chicks.

Let's hope next year we'll have the following:

- Better or normal weather.
- Boaters, and fisherman, will have learned to watch for and stay a good distance from the loons.
- Fisherman, and boaters, will respect the loon nesting sights.



Designing Landscapes that Reflect your Style!

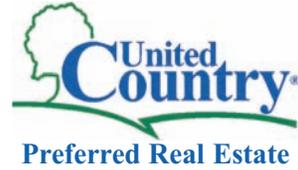


## Backyard Reflections, Inc.

We Create Outdoor Dreams

- Lakeshore Restoration • Retaining Walls
- Paver Patios & Driveways • Water Features

320-274-6336 ♦ Annandale, MN



**John Peery**  
Broker/Realtor/GRI

Preferred Real Estate

Cell 612-490-6161

johnpeery61@gmail.com

www.johnpeeryrealestate.com

140 W Elm Street • Annandale, MN 55302

320-274-1341

**Elizabeth Hood Anderson**  
ARTIST

“ART .... a timeless gift for life”

Telephone: 320-274-5163

Cell: 320-266-0708

Web Page: e\_hood\_A\_Art.com

Sales  
Winterizing



Service  
Storage

## J&J MARINE Inc.

Dock and Lift Service

www.jjmarineinc.com • Hwy. 55 • South Haven, MN 55382

320-236-DOCK (3625)

## HEDLUND PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.



- Septic & holding tank pumping
- Portable toilets & sewer cleaning



Master Lic#  
058290PM

320-286-2368



Wear your love for Lake Sylvia!

Sterling Silver, 14k White & Yellow Gold  
Customize with a diamond

## Miller's Jewelry

Est. 1892

MAIN STREET, ANNANDALE

320-274-5313

M-TH 9-5:30 | FRI 9-6 | SAT 8:30-3



*residential  
house cleaning*

ALLISON  
BARKLEY

320.815.9916  
ALLIE\_BARKLEY@HOTMAIL.COM

*Got Lake Weed Problems?*

Rid your lake of Duckweed and Broad Leaf Weeds.  
Eliminate nuisance weeds and enjoy your  
beautiful body of water!

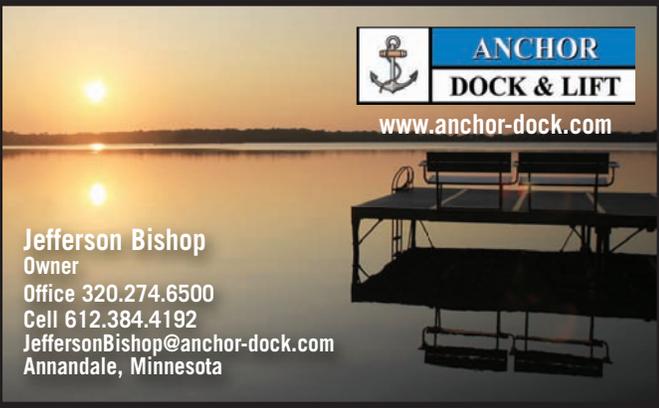


(612) 805-2063 • www.safe-shore.com  
facebook.com/SafeShore



[www.anchor-dock.com](http://www.anchor-dock.com)

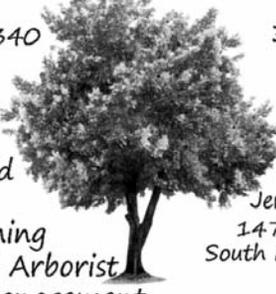
Jefferson Bishop  
Owner  
Office 320.274.6500  
Cell 612.384.4192  
JeffersonBishop@anchor-dock.com  
Annandale, Minnesota



**Norgren Tree Service Inc**  
Free Estimates

320-980-5340 Cell      320-236-7715 Home

Fully Insured  
Removal  
Tree Trimming  
Professional Arborist  
Property Management



Jeremy Kaskinen  
14799 90th St NW  
South Haven, MN 55382  
[www.treertrimmingservicemn.com](http://www.treertrimmingservicemn.com)

Check out our large selection of wines and craft beers

Experience our ....  
**Wine Club**  
\$25 Annual Membership  
Discounts ♦ Wine Tastings

Senior Citizen Mondays  
10% discount on all non-sale beverages  
Must be 60 years or older



**Maple Lake WINE & SPIRITS**

320.963.3715 | [www.mlwine-spirits.com](http://www.mlwine-spirits.com)  
901 State Hwy 55 E • Maple Lake • Next to Cenex



**Snooty Fox Gallery and Gifts**  
20 East Cedar Street  
Annandale

\*Minnesota Artists \*Home Decor \*Gourmet Food  
\*Clothing \*Books \*Culinary Gadgets & More  
Hours: Wed-Friday 9-5, Sat.9-4 Summer Sun. 10-2  
"Good Taste Is Original"

**Cleaning by Annette**



Over 15 Years Experience  
References Available  
Phone 320-286-5158  
Cell Phone 612-518-4419

**In Hot Water**  
Coffee & Tea House

(320) 274-6828  
25 East Cedar  
Annandale, MN 55302  
Located next to City Hall  
[www.inhotwatercoffee.net](http://www.inhotwatercoffee.net)




**CVA Design Construction**  
MN Contractor License # 20634594  
Roofing-Siding-Gutters-Windows  
Storm damage? We can help!  
Bob Adams 320-274-6708 / Cell 612-408-2216



**OAK REALTY**  
Since 1974  
[www.oakrealtymn.com](http://www.oakrealtymn.com)  
Annandale 274-5737 | Maple Lake 963-2088

# GLSA HELP WANTED!

GLSA has several areas where volunteers are needed to help continue the great work of the association

## GLSA Board of Directors

The GLSA Board meets once per month on the 2nd Saturday, April through October. The board sets organization priorities and allocates funds to address those priorities. Directors serve a two year term. Elections take place each June at the Annual Meeting. If you would be willing to serve as a GLSA Director starting next June, please contact Carl Swanson, head of the GLSA Board Nominating Committee at [swansylvia@charter.net](mailto:swansylvia@charter.net)

## History Committee

The history committee has gathered historical information about Lake Sylvia and the surrounding area over the years and captured the information in the Lake Sylvia History book. If you would be interested in gathering additional Lake Sylvia historical information and

sharing it with the GLSA membership, please contact [JoeLepleyGLSA@hotmail.com](mailto:JoeLepleyGLSA@hotmail.com)

## Newsletter Editor

Kathy Lepley has been editor of Loon Calls for the last five years and she plans to step down after this issue of Loon Calls. The job of editor has been simplified by the wonderful staff at the Annandale Advocate who handles the layout and printing of each edition. As editor, you will be responsible for gathering articles and information from our board members and proofreading for clarity, grammar and punctuation. Articles are then sent electronically for layout. When the printed copies are ready, applying the address labels and dropping off at the Annandale Post Office is the last step. The LOON CALLS is published 3 times each year – spring, summer, and fall. If you would be

interested in taking on the role of editor for Loon Calls, please contact Kathy at [JKLepley@hotmail.com](mailto:JKLepley@hotmail.com)

## Area Coordinators

We still need coordinators in the following areas -

- AREA 7 - Quinlar Ave NW
- AREA 9 - Quimby, Quinar and Porter Ave NW
- AREA 17- 64th St and Osborn Ave NW

Area Coordinator responsibilities include reporting changes in property ownership to the membership coordinator. Area coordinators also distribute new directories.

Without the coordinators it is very difficult to keep our database current. Please consider becoming an area coordinator. If you would like to represent your area of the lake, contact Nancy Hector, Membership Coordinator, at [NancyHector@gmail.com](mailto:NancyHector@gmail.com)

## Membership Report

by Nancy Hector

It has been a busy year for membership. We are at an all time high of 422 paid members!!! Thanks to all who responded to the dues mailings. Your membership supports the mission of the GLSA "To Maintain and Improve the Quality of Lake Sylvia."

Annual Dues are currently \$30. Your annual dues and additional tax deductible donations are used in the battle against Aquatic Invasive Species and other lake quality improvement projects.

This past year questions have been raised regarding what constitutes membership in GLSA. As stated in the GLSA By-laws, membership is defined as "lake shore owners and others interested in the well being of the lakes and lake management. There shall be one vote allowed per membership."

If you co-own property with other family members or another family, each owner should join GLSA to enjoy the benefits of membership.

Any person not owning lakeshore who has an interest in Lake Sylvia and becomes a paid member, will be categorized as a "Friend of Lake Sylvia" and receive full benefits of membership.

### Benefits of Membership include:

- Subscription to LOON CALLS, the GLSA Newsletter, published 3 times a year
- An annual directory of lakeshore owners
- A single vote at the annual meeting
- The ability to serve as a board member or officer of the GLSA

## Zebra Mussel Watch

When removing your docks and lifts this fall, check them for Zebra Mussels.



If you see anything suspicious, please contact Carl Swanson at 763-300-3902.

**Invasives** from page 1

Actions will include:

- Studying the DNR and legislative plans for inspections, public education and decontamination
- Meeting with the Christmas Lake Association which succeeded in getting inspections at their ramp which is owned and operated by the City of Shorewood. These inspections were made possible by a joint agreement between City of Shorewood, Minnehaha Watershed District and Minnesota DNR
- Working within the Wright County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA)
- Becoming active in the newly formed Minnesota COLA
- Pursuing DNR grants to fund DNR inspectors at the public access on Lake Sylvia
- Exploring partnerships with Southside Township and Wright County to provide local government support for privately contracted inspections
- Educating our membership through our website, newsletter and meetings

Learn more and stay up to date on task force actions at <http://lakesylvia.org/AIS>.

**Water Report** from page 1

Lake Sylvia's proposal was included in the ordinance and has two main provisions; a no wake restriction in the channel connecting East and West lakes, and when the lake reaches 1050.08 feet above sea level, watercraft will be restricted to a slow-no wake speed

within 300 feet of all shoreline. There is an exception for picking up and dropping off skiers to and from open water.

One last thank you to everyone on the lake for comments and feedback as we worked through this to reach a reasonable solution.

**Milfoil** from page 1

This happened in all of the lakes in our area. We found Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in 10 new areas, (all small areas and in scattered locations). These new areas and the older areas are all located in West Lake Sylvia and mostly in the bays south of Bull's Point. Fortunately to date, we have not found any EWM in East Lake Sylvia. Some of the reasons may be: soil in East Lake Sylvia contains more sand, rock and gravel; West Lake Sylvia has more bays and consists of more heavy soils that allow EWM to prosper; the water flows from East Lake Sylvia to West Lake Sylvia then out to Lake Moses and eventually into the Crow River; the public access is located in West Lake

Sylvia so there are more "off our lake boats" entering our lake that can bring unwanted aquatic plants such as EWM.

We have given at least one treatment to every area that we found with EWM and additional treatment was given to some of the larger areas. We estimate that we may have up to 2 acres, (scattered) of EWM and feel we have all known areas under control. This is and will continue to be an on-going effort on everyone's part to help spot and report whenever or wherever EWM is found. We thank each and every one of our lake owners that take the time to look for EWM, as with your help in spotting, we can keep EWM under control.

**From Your President** from page 2

**GLSA Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws Update** - GLSA became a non-profit 501 (c) (3) in 1999. The association articles and by-laws have not been revised since then and are in need of some updating. The Board is fortunate to have attorney Pat Beithon as a director. Pat has graciously agreed to review these governing documents and advise the board on the changes and updates needed to ensure that GLSA complies with all applicable regulations. The updated documents will be shared with the GLSA membership once the board has completed their work. The revised Articles of Incorporation will require review and approval by GLSA membership at the 2013 Annual Meeting next June.

We are all very fortunate to have an army of volunteers who contribute many hours of their time to our Association. Through our combined efforts, GLSA is fulfilling its mission "to protect and improve the quality of Lake Sylvia."

# Thank You Public Access Monitors

by Carl Swanson

We owe a lot to our dedicated volunteers who monitor the public access on Lake Sylvia. These volunteers spend many hours of their "lake time" inspecting boats and trailers and talking to and educating those who use the public access to launch their watercraft.

***A special THANK YOU to those who have generously given their time and effort to protecting our lakes!***



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**GLSA 2013 Annual Picnic**  
 Saturday,  
 August 10, 2013  
 at Camp Chi Rho  
 More Details Next Spring!

**GLSA Memberships & History Books Make Great Gifts!**

**History Books are available for purchase:**  
 \$35 for members  
 \$40 for non members

**Consider a GLSA Membership as a gift for your family & friends!**  
 Annual Membership is only \$30

Contact Nancy Hector at [NancyHector@gmail.com](mailto:NancyHector@gmail.com) to make your purchase!



**GREATER LAKE SYLVIA ASSOCIATION**

PO Box 41  
 Annandale, MN 55302

Non-Profit Organization  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Permit No. 5  
 Annandale, MN  
 55302

*Deliver to addressee or current resident.*

Editor: Kathy Lepley  
 Advertising:  
 Carole Gertgen  
 Layout & Design:  
 Annandale Advocate

**Mission Statement:**  
 To Maintain and Improve  
 Lake Sylvia