



# Loon Calls

www.lakesylvia.org

Summer 2022

GREATER LAKE SYLVIA ASSOCIATION



## FIREWORKS ON LAKE SYLVIA 2022

By Randy Wilson

We were fortunate again this year to have beautiful fireworks on display on the south end of the lake on July 2nd. Without the generosity of many individuals making a financial contribution, it would not have been possible.

This is the seventh year we have worked together to raise funds. The GLSA board authorized

an increase from \$7,500.00 to \$8,000.00 this year to keep the show fun and keep up with cost increases.

Camp Chi Rho should be recognized and thanked for allowing us to use their property as a launch site. Please make sure you mention that to Dave and anyone you know from the camp, thanking them for their contribution.

RES Pyrotechnics is the company we use and they do a great job each year with the show. The clean-up of the litter from the fireworks is something that could be overlooked as a priority, but RES does a great job making sure to take care of our lake in a timely fashion.

We all have fun memories of the lake with family and friends. I hope

this event is one of those memories we can look back on fondly. It's always fun to see the multitude of boats heading south on West Sylvia, filling the bay, and anxiously waiting for the show to begin.

With the July 4th holiday a memory now, keep enjoying the lake and be safe.

## GLSA Annual Picnic Saturday, Aug. 20

Camp Chi Rho Center - 4 p.m.-8 p.m. • "Roll Out the Barrel"

To attend, you must be a GLSA member and dues must be current. Register for the picnic on or before August 14, online at [lakesylvia.org/events](http://lakesylvia.org/events) tab.

### ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Karaoke DJ "Cowboy Up"
- K9 Unit - Wright County Sheriff Department
  - Deputy Michael Loomis and K9 Grizz
- Gunnysack races

- Face painter
- Barrel rolling
- Bean bag tourney
- Fricket
- Kickball
- Dinner at the Dining Room closes at 7:00 pm
- Adults 13 and up** - \$10.00
- Children 5-12** - \$5.00
- Children under 5** - free
- Menu:**

Provided by B&P Catering.

### Age 13 - Adult:

Smoked/dry rub baby back ribs, Marinated chicken, Au Gratin potatoes, Fresh fruit, Deluxe garden salad, dinner roll, beer and wine (adults)

### Age 12 & under:

Grilled hot dog or chicken breast, mac 'n' cheese, potato chips, bottle of water

**ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL JAN EVENSON 612-720-0428**

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## Are You A GLSA Member?

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE FIGHTING AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES. The future health of our lake literally depends on it.  
- Thank you

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  - **Picnic Committee**  
Jan Evenson (Chair)
  - **Water Quality & Clarity Committee**  
Blaine Barkley, Mike Mischuk
  - **Wildlife Conservation Committee**  
Mike McNellis
- Please contact any chair to join their committee.

## GLSA Loon Calls Editor

- Stephanie Schaunaman  
2stephm@gmail.com

# A Letter from the President

By Russ Fortner

**A**nother GLSA summer is about over. The picnic is left on the list of GLSA sponsored events. Please attend.

This season saw heat and humidity like no other. GLSA Golf tournament saw a change in leadership. Rhonda Brau took over, and she exceeded all expectations. The tournament continued as the GLSA biggest fundraiser.

We still need a chair-person for the Boat Parade.

Lisa Peery is stepping down as VP. Randy Wilson will be the new VP. Lisa will concentrate on the website and membership. A big thank you to Lisa for all her work as VP.

See you on the lake!



# Keep an Eye on Water Level

By Mike McNellis

As of this writing the lake is 10 inches below the normal high-water level (NHWL), and the water has been receding by about one inch a week since June 6th. This is the second dry year in a row. There were some problems removing the larger boats, and pontoons, at the access last year.

If you had problems getting your boat out last year, you may want to consider taking it out early this year. The DNR is promising to upgrade the access, but the work has been moved back to sometime in 2023.

## GLSA Event Calendar for 2022

Aug 13th – Board Meeting 9 am  
Aug 20th – Annual Summer Picnic  
Sept 10th – Board Meeting 9 am  
Oct 8th – Board Meeting 9 am

All members are welcome to attend board meetings. We meet at the Southside Town Hall. To request a presentation to the board, contact President Russ Fortner.

## REMEMBERING LAKE SYLVIA HISTORY BOOK

Available for purchase for

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All proceeds go to the GLSA

- Over 200 pages of Lake Sylvia history. Including stories, maps and many pictures.

## Remembering Lake Sylvia fun Facts

Fun facts from the Lake Sylvia history book

(see page 7 for answers)

1.) Traveling to Lake Sylvia got even better when the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault St. Marie Railroad, known as the Sioux Line, arrived in South Haven in what year?

- a. 1887
- b. 1901
- c. 1908

2.) By 1912, South Haven had two churches, a Commercial Club, an opera house, a hospital, a bank, a hotel, a creamery, an electric light plant, blacksmith, a general store, a newspaper and a hardware store.

- a. true
- b. false

3.) In Annandale in 1886, lots sold rapidly and in less than a year the settlement had a population of?

- a. 68
- b. 105
- c. 200

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual GLSA Golf Tournament



**Hockey Stick Putter**



**Boyz Havin Fun**



**Foursome Champions**  
'Grip It and Sip It'



**Bullseye Shoot Out**  
Tricia Maddox Wins 3rd

Our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual GLSA Golf Tournament was held on Saturday July 16<sup>th</sup> at Southbrook. A Great day to be out on the course.....the temps were in the mid 80's with overcast and a breeze at times. We had 134 golfers who enjoyed the Bloody Mary Bar at the driving range.....Thank You Spilled Grain Brewhouse! Shot gun was at 10:00am and they put their skills to the test on four hole-in-one's with anticipation of winning great prizes including an \$11,000 Hawaiian Golf trip, \$15,000 Ireland Golf trip, \$8,000 Atlantis Paradise Island trip and a Vertical Charcoal Smoker.....unfortunately, we didn't have a winner. They also tried their skills at the 'Hole of Insanity'.....you might say a little Crazy! Putting tips were given out at the Bullseye game (some listened and some didn't.....guess what their score was). We had a shootout with 3 players for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, that was fun to watch. Several other great hole prizes were given out....Congrats to all of you. Following the round of golf we had the awards ceremony with 'Grip It and Sip It' as our Foursome Champions.....Congratulations! This year we had a trophy made which will display the year and the name of the Champions and we will continue to do this every year moving forward. We sold LOTS of tickets for our raffle items which included a Paddle North Paddleboard, Wake Surf Board, 2 Adirondack Chairs and side table, 2 wheelbarrows filled with beverages ('Electric Buzz' & 'Barrel of Fun') and 2 gorilla carts filled with house/lake items ('A Bachelor's Dream & 'Kitchen on Wheels'). So fun to see everyone checking their tickets....Congrats to the Winners!

Thank you to All of our sponsors and those who donated items. This would not have been possible without your support. To the volunteers who spent the day out on the course, thank you. To our team who put this together, no one person can do this alone, it takes a village and countless hours, thank you. Thank you Southbrook Golf Course.

Thank you Golfers for being a part of this Fun event. We look forward to seeing you next year!

Russ Fortner and Rhonda Brau, Co-Chairs

Jerry Euteneuer, Dave Forsman, Jeff Simon, Matt Johnson, Ed Prewitt

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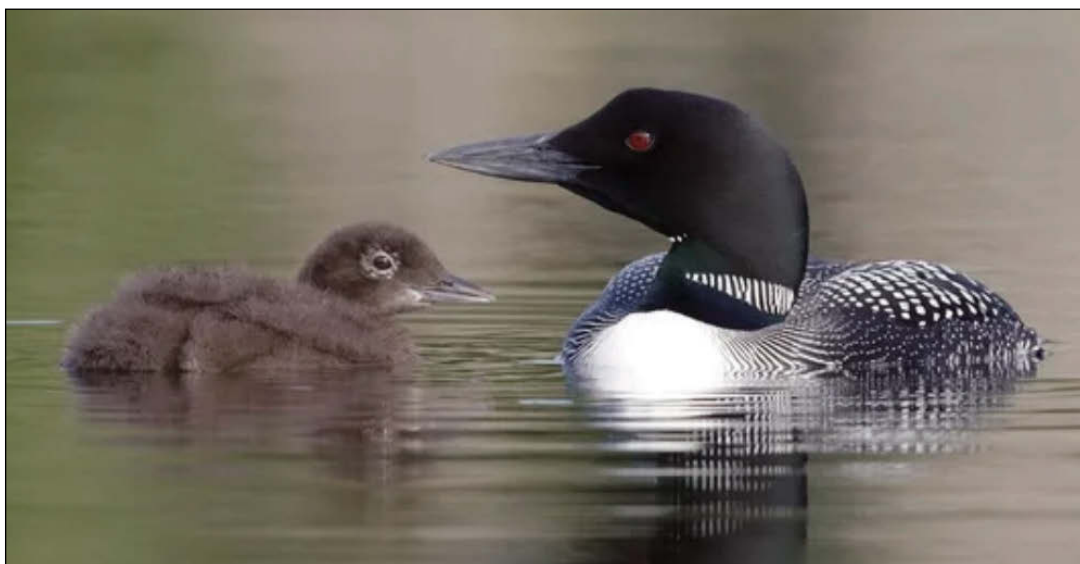


# Life of the Loon Chick, part III

By Mike McNellis, the Old Loon Ranger

(Part 1 and 2 in the previous newsletters)

As the cool day of spring gets warmer, and summer heat progresses, the adult Loons will leave the chicks for short periods of a time. At first only one leaves to search for food while the other protects the chicks. As the chicks get larger the need for food increases greatly. A Loon chick will eat 40% of its body weight a day as it grows this first summer. For the first 6 or 7 weeks of their life this food is all brought to them by the adults. The chick themselves will start catching minnows at 3 to 4 weeks, but they have not developed enough gathering skills to survive without the adults. As they get bigger the adults will start to leave the chick alone. When they leave the chicks alone you will hear the chicks chirp until the adults return. The time they are left alone grows as the chicks grow. This helps the chicks learn how to survive. They grow quickly during the 3 months of the summer. As they grow their body lengthens. Their legs seem to stay in the same place as their chest and wings get longer and farther ahead. Their eyes will develop and get the red color pigments, so



they can see in the depths of the lake.

By the time they are 12 weeks old they are nearly their full size. As they approach full size their food intake slows to about 25% of their body weight. A full-grown chick will weigh nearly 7 to 8 pounds, some slightly bigger. They've lost their fuzzy feathers and will learn to sing/call the

same as the adults. They will dive and eat the same size food as the parents, and even start to take short flights. Young Loons at first only slap and walk on the water as they test their wings. As the

young Loon start to fly that's the time the parents will start leave them alone on the water for longer, and longer period of time, until one day they are alone.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Whether or not a lake has any invasive species, Minnesota law requires people to:**

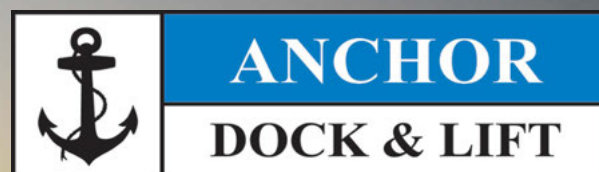
- Clean watercraft, trailers and equipment to remove aquatic plants and prohibited invasive species.
- Drain all water and leave drain plugs out during transport.
- Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash.
- Never release bait, plants or aquarium pets into Minnesota waters.
- Dry docks, lifts and rafts for 21 days before moving them from one water body to another.

**These additional steps reduce the risk of spreading aquatic invasive species:**

- Decontaminate watercraft and equipment – find free stations on the courtesy decontamination page of the DNR website ([mndnr.gov/Decon](http://mndnr.gov/Decon)).
- Spray with high-pressure water or rinse with very hot water (120 degrees for at least two minutes or 140 degrees for at least 10 seconds).
- Dry watercraft and equipment for at least five days before using in another water body.

## Remembering Lake Sylvia Fun Fact Answers

1.) a 2.) a, 3.) c



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# Water Quality Perspectives for Lake Sylvia in 2021

By Mike Mischuk, *Chair of GLSA Water Quality Committee*

The overall water quality in both basins of Lake Sylvia in 2021 continues to be very good and meeting the use attainability classification of the State's water quality standards. Transparency (clarity) as measured with a Secchi disk averaged 25 feet in the East Basin and ranged from 22 to 30 feet. The average was

slightly much higher than the 2020 measurements. The West Basin average for 2021 was 26 feet and ranged from 21 to 32 feet. The average was again way above the average as measured in 2020. Total phosphorous levels have remained below the State Standards and reflect the lake's ability to cut off the availability of this nutrient

from bottom sediments due to the lake's thermocline. This in turn limits the biologically available phosphorous to algae in the summer growing season. The low Chlorophyll-a level during the same time frame also reflect the limitation of this nutrient. Therefore the over Trophic State Index status still remains in the Olig-

otrophic to Meso-trophic range. For more details the report can be found on the GLSA web site under Lake Data.

The fish consumption advisory is still in effect for both basins for mercury even though the data is old and no new sampling has been done or is planned for the near future.

## Walleye Stocking in Lake Sylvia

The board has been discussing stocking Walleye every other year. The DNR has been stocking Walleye on the even years. In 2020 the DNR stocked 11,224 Fingerlings in the West Lake, and 7,820 fingerlings in the East Lake. I do not have a number for what they are stock this year yet.

We could stock on the odd years, by purchasing Walleye from DNR approved hatcheries. Fingerling Walleye's average three to eight inches. The cost to stock the same amount as the DNR every other year would run about \$8,300 at today's prices.

Do you have thoughts about the association stocking additional Walleye, let me know.

Mike McNellis

mmcnellis@lakedalelink.net



Photo by Minnesota DNR

## Personal Water Craft Laws You Need to Know

We have been seeing an increase in PWC's on the lake. Here is a list of some of the PWC laws to be mindful of:

- No one 13 and under may operate a PWC. Ages 14-17 must complete the Minnesota Boater Education

- Anyone operating or riding on a personal watercraft must wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket

- Personal watercraft must travel at slow no-wake speed (5 mph or less) within

- 150 feet of non-motorized boats, shore (unless launching or landing skiers directly to or from open water), docks, swim rafts, swimmers, or any moored or anchored boat.

- Operation of personal watercraft is allowed only from 9:30 a.m. to 1 hour before sunset.

- If the machine is equipped by the manufacturer with a lanyard-type engine cutoff switch, it must be attached to

- the person, life jacket or clothing of the operator when underway.

- You may not chase or harass wildlife.

- You may not travel through emergent or floating vegetation at greater than slow no-wake speed.

- You may not weave through congested watercraft traffic, or jump the wake of another watercraft within 150 feet of the other watercraft. This includes other personal watercraft.

- Some lakes have additional restrictions, see [mndnr.gov/boatingsafety](http://mndnr.gov/boatingsafety) and click on local water restrictions.

## Welcome Wagon

If you know of a friend or neighbor that is new to the lake, please let us know so we can welcome them and reach out with a variety of information on the lake and the local area. Or if you have neighbors who moved to the lake in the last 3-4 years, check with them to see if they have joined and are receiving the newsletter.

So far in 2022, 4 lots/homes were sold on the lake/s.

Thank You!

Steph Schaunaman

2stephm@gmail.com

Lisa Peery

uragoodboy@gmail.com

320-274-6655

## Community Corner

### Sundays on Sylvia

Continuing this year, Sundays on Sylvia. A casual outdoor worship gathering on the lake. The group is planning for 4 gathering opportunities over the summer months.

Our last date will be:

Sept 4th

We will be gathering near the Koinonia Cove on East Lake

Sylvia and will begin promptly at 10:33 am. Plan to come early to anchor and enjoy some music.

Like our "Sundays on Sylvia"

Facebook page for updates and weather alerts.

## WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

- Rhonda Brau

- Jeff Simon

- Sara Stephens

- Randy Wilson

Thank you to the following members for their service: Stephani Lind, Jim Maciej, Keith Schaunaman, Ken Schumacher.



# Stranded Boat Assistance

By Russ Fortner

Again, this year, GLSA volunteers are available and willing to assist stranded boaters. Enter these names/ numbers into your cell phone con-

tacts in case you need their services. This information is also available on the GLSA website at [lakesylvia.org](http://lakesylvia.org).

## Our thanks to these volunteers.

If you'd like to add your name, contact Steph Schaunaman.

### NAME

Chris Hector  
Keith Schaunaman  
Mark Struble  
Chase Bullock

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If you have forgotten your login information, email Lisa at [uragoodboy@gmail.com](mailto:uragoodboy@gmail.com) and she will email you a link to login and change your password.

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Lake Sylvia

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