

Shoreline Ramblings

A Newsletter of the Pleasant Lake Improvement Association



Find us online at www.pliamn.com and www.facebook.com/pleasantlake

Late 2020



President's Letter

JEFF HARKMAN

2020 has been a strange and difficult year for all of us. It has changed the way we think, work, socialize and exist on a daily basis. COVID-19 has challenged us personally, as well as our economy and employment.

We have had to put on hold travel, family outings, business, and community events we all looked forward to. Our own community's 4th of July celebration was cancelled due to the current pandemic.

Throughout this challenging time, there has been one constant that we have had the opportunity to use and enjoy. That would be our beloved Pleasant Lake!

It has been a beacon of hope and ray of sunshine for the entire community. Whether it's enjoying an early morning sunrise on the dock, a pontoon ride in the evening, or a walk around the park, Pleasant Lake has been a true gem for the community. It has provided all of us the opportunity to social distance, get outside and enjoy the summer weather.

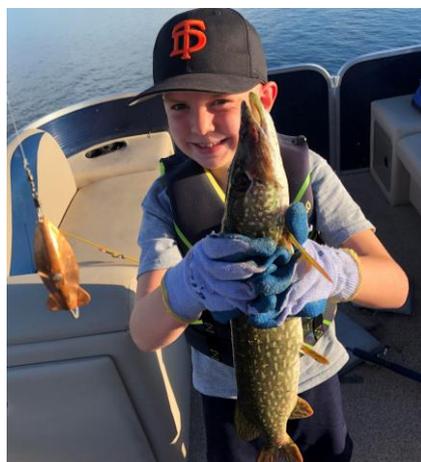
Your support as we work diligently on our mission "To improve the water quality and conservation of Pleasant Lake for all to enjoy" has never been more important.

Thank you for your continued membership and financial support. It is needed and appreciated.

A Different Kind of Summer

GALE BERGSTROM (Newsletter Editor)

Well, 2020 came and threw our social calendar out the window! While we did not celebrate in traditional ways, we still filled the days with fun and enjoyed the beauty of the nights. Here's to fishing, family, Oak on the Water, comet sightings and sunsets! Thanks for sharing your family photos! We're definitely looking forward to next summer!



Proud Fisherman by Brenda B.



Double Rainbow by Kevin B.



September Sunset by Rebecca H.

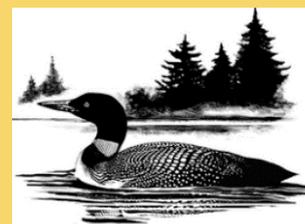


Just Married

Pictures continued on pages 2+3

Do you enjoy the sound of a loon's call on a summer evening? It's enough to make you stop in your tracks and turn toward the lake in search of this amazing bird.

We are very lucky to have our loons on Pleasant Lake, and we need your help in ensuring that the loons continue to return year after year. If you like to build things, or are looking for a family project, we would like you to consider building new loon platforms for the lake. If interested, please contact pliamn@yahoo.com or message us on Facebook. We truly would appreciate your help!





Another Fish! by Brenda B.

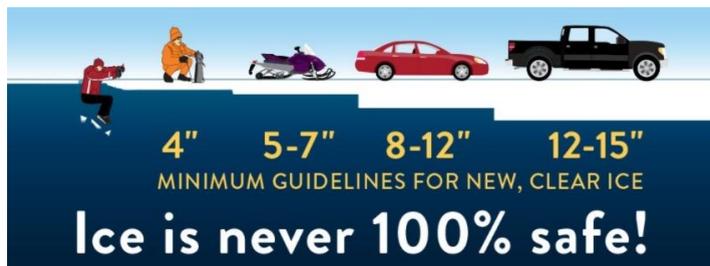


Comet Neowise Over Pleasant Lake by Matthew B.



Family Fun by Barb L.

Be Safe This Winter!



Double the thickness guidelines when traveling on white ice. White ice or "snow ice" is only about half as strong as new clear ice. Double the above thickness guidelines when traveling on white ice. Many factors other than thickness can cause ice to be unsafe.

Additional recommendations: Cars, pickups or SUVs should be parked at least 50 feet apart and moved every two hours to prevent sinking.

Tip: Make a hole next to the car. If water starts to overflow the top of the hole, the ice is sinking and it's time to move the car.

AIS Fundraiser Report

JIM KELSO (Treasurer)

Thanks to the generosity of **only 51%** of our members (plus the City of Annandale), we have raised **\$15,988** which is **just 64%** of our 2020 goal of \$25,000.

We are very pleased to recognize and thank Bronder Construction of Annandale for a generous donation. Please encourage donations from other local businesses, as well as lovers of Pleasant Lake who are not lakeshore property owners.

Are you aware that the CARES Act allows a new federal tax deduction of up to \$300 for cash donations to a charity, **such as the PLIA**, made in 2020 for taxpayers who take the standard deduction? Please consider the PLIA!

A sincere THANK YOU to all PLIA members who have made contributions during 2020. We hope that by year-end, **all** members will make a donation to the PLIA Water Quality Improvement Fund.

Invasive Species Update

KEVIN BERGSTROM (Vice President)

Unfortunately, the DNR confirmed this fall that we do have zebra mussels in the lake. They were found in several spots around the lake, and are not treatable.

Starry Stonewart (SSW): They dove and looked for SSW on the



county landing 4 times over the season and only found it once. It was manually harvested, which amounted to about a handful, and treated with Cutrine Plus. To be proactive, they also dove at the city landing to look for SSW and did not find any.

Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM): They did multiple surveys during the summer and did not find any EWM, so no treatment was done this year.

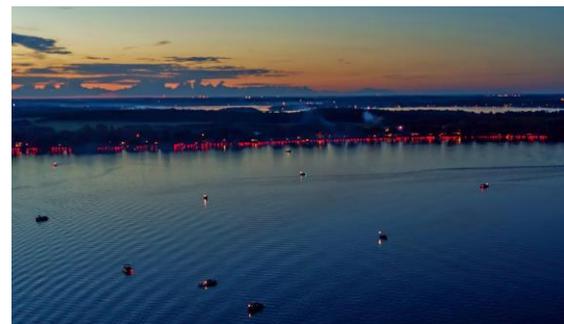
Curlyleaf Pondweed: A delineation survey was completed and a chemical treatment applied to a total of 15 acres by the city landing, the county landing, and the west end of the lake.

Finally, a whole lake survey was completed in September to look for any new areas of invasive species and none were found.

Oak on the Water

The second annual 'Oak on the Water' was a beautiful sight. It was wonderful to have this new tradition continue during this summer of cancellations. Did you notice the west end of the lake all lit up? Thank you, Mader family, for taking on that task! Also, once again, thank you to **Oak Realty** and **Dingmann Marine** for sponsoring this event.

For those who have been asking, here is a picture of the north end of Pleasant Lake 2019.





Fishy Kisses! by Brenda B.



Love Those Sunsets! by Mark T.



Summer Fun by Jeff H.

Zebra Mussels – Possible Changes to Expect

This information appeared in the Lake Marion Update by the City of Lakeville.



Water Quality

One of the main concerns for residents living on lakes with the introduction of an aquatic invasive species is how will it affect the water quality. Each AIS species poses its own potential impact to water quality but in the case of zebra mussels, researchers are finding increased water clarity due to the filtering action of the zebra mussels. Increased water clarity enhances aesthetics, but it may cause changes in the fish and plant communities.

Note: If you use the lake to water your lawn, the pump intake may clog from time to time, and you may need to clean out the zebra mussels. It is also recommended to keep your boat motor lower unit out of the water when docked.

Fish Populations

The main fish species that many anglers are after are walleye, bass and sunfish. Data from across the state in lakes with zebra mussels indicate that bass tend to do well in lakes with zebra mussels since they are visual foragers. Walleyes are sensitive to extra clear water and tend to move into deeper water, so try fishing for them there.



Plants in the Lake

Increased water clarity may end up promoting more aquatic plant growth in the lake. Most plants in the lake are native plants that help to provide vital habitat for different wildlife. They are also great filters of nutrients like phosphorous, so they are a vital part of the lake's ecosystem. Over time we expect to see zebra mussels attaching to plants, but that is mainly a concern for boaters trailering to other lakes as it could cause the spread of zebra mussels to other lakes.

Typical Myth

When people think of zebra mussels, they often think of them cutting their feet. Zebra mussels must attach to something to grow, so they will not cover the entire lake bottom composed of sand, silt, or muck. You will find them on rocks and even other native mussels, so if you keep the area where you walk free of rocks or sticks, you likely will not have an issue with cutting your feet on zebra mussels.



What You Can Do to Prevent the Spread

What is the number one thing you can do to help prevent the spread of zebra mussels? If you trailer your boat out of the lake, or sell lake equipment like docks, lifts, or pumps, you can ensure you're not transporting zebra mussels by exposing the items fully to the air for at least 21 days before it can be used in another lake. Pressure washing, preferably with heat, is another option, but you want to ensure all the wash water is kept from entering storm

drains, or even floor drains, so it is best done over a vegetated surface away from a pond or wetland.

When taking out your lake equipment, check closely for zebra mussels. After exposure to air, and with extra help from cold temperatures, any attached mussels can be easily scraped off in the spring before equipment is installed back into the water.

Special Thank You's

Thank you to everyone who shared photos of Pleasant Lake with me or on the PLIA Facebook page. Thank you to Maggie Nilson for doing the newsletter layout. Thank you to Dave Haugland for donating the printing of our newsletters. Thank you to our local businesses for supporting PLIA by advertising in our newsletter, or by making a donation!

PLIA Membership Report

- Year-to-date dues revenue is \$4,700 which equals 94 of 131 properties
- 94 properties equals just 72% of eligible properties
- 80% or 105 properties is attainable this year
- If you haven't paid your 2020 dues of only \$50, please mail your check today to: P.O. Box 71, Annandale, MN 55302

Thank you for your support. Please be sure to remit your membership dues to:

**Pleasant Lake
Improvement Association
P.O. Box 71
Annandale, MN 55302**



***Annual Membership Dues \$50.00
Membership is from January 1-December 31.**

***AIS Fundraiser \$ _____
Any additional donations will enhance our efforts in keeping our lake clean and combating invasive plants thus improving water quality.**

Total: \$ _____

Current Board Members

President: Jeff Harkman
Secretary: Dave Boie
Treasurer: Jim Kelso

Vice President: Kevin Bergstrom
Director: Steve Miller
Director: Dave Lundberg

Director: John Sedey
Director: Brenda Bauman
Director:

Contact your PLIA Board with questions, comments, concerns at pliamn@yahoo.com

Are you interested in joining the PLIA board? Or maybe you know someone who would like to join? The PLIA board needs new members! Join this group of great people and help make a difference for Pleasant Lake! We would love to hear from you!

PO Box 71, Annandale, MN 55302



Pleasant Lake Improvement Association