

Shoreline Ramblings

A Newsletter of the Pleasant Lake Improvement Association



Online at www.pliamn.com and www.facebook.com/pleasantlake

Early 2016

Pleasant Faces: The Newberg Story

GLORIA WARNER

We see lake property legacies all over Minnesota, and the joys of "cabin living" are evident. On the west side of Pleasant Lake five generations have relished in lake living at 552 Lakeshore Circle. The present day Newberg family cherish memories as their grandparents had the foresight to buy property on Pleasant Lake.



Gathered around the campfire, 1987

Al and Ruth Bjorsness decided to try lake living in the 60's. They had a car dealership in Redwood Falls, and when they retired, they decided to buy property on Gull Lake in Brainerd, MN. They loved lake living, but disliked being so far away from family. They found Annandale and Pleasant Lake in 1967, and it has been a family cabin ever since. When they purchased the property there was one house on Lakeshore Circle.

The Bjorsness family enjoyed the lake until a tragic car accident sadly ended Al and Ruth's

lake experience. Their daughter, Carole (and John) Newberg bought the cabin from the estate in 1973, and that has continued through 2016. Robbie and Art, Al and Ruth's grandson, started coming in the early 70's and eventually with their five daughters. They would come every other weekend from South Minneapolis. The girls all shared a bedroom in the back. Art had two other siblings that came on a regular basis, as well. Grandma and grandpa worked hard to keep the kids coming with

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Help Wanted: Zebra Mussel Monitors

DAVE BOIE

Last year we had three lake residents that put out and checked Zebra Mussel monitoring units. We are happy to report at this time there is no evidence of any activity in Lake Pleasant.

With the discovery of Zebra Mussels in a couple of our neighboring lakes, we would like to increase the number of monitoring units in our lake this coming year. The units are small and do not in any way interfere with lake

activities. If you would be willing to hang a unit on your dock, lift, or any other structure on your property, please contact Dave Boie at 320-274-2688 or dboie@earthlink.net. We will provide you with a unit and an instruction sheet. Also, all lake residents are encouraged to check your docks and lifts as they are removed from the water in the fall for evidence of these sometimes tiny invasive species.

Community Calendar

Business Expo, AHS
Saturday, April 9, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

All-City Garage Sale
Saturday, May 7

Fishing Opener
Saturday, May 14

14th Annual Chili Cook-Off
Saturday, May 28

Farmer's Market, City Hall Square
Saturdays 8 a.m.-12 p.m.
June-October

Summer Concerts in the Park
City Park, 7 p.m.
June 10, June 24, July 8, July 22,
August 12, August 26

127th Fourth of July Celebration
www.annandale4thofjuly.org

**PLIA Boat Parade
Sunday, July 3rd, 7 p.m.**

31st Heart of the Lakes Triathlon
Sunday, July 17, 8 a.m.

Summer Art Crawl, Annandale
Saturday, August 13

**PLIA Annual Meeting & Picnic,
City Park Pavilion
Saturday, August 20, 5 p.m.**



Send your favorite lake photos to pliamn@yahoo.com or share them on our Facebook page

Visit www.pliamn.com for board meeting minutes, lake photos, lake surveys, past issues of our newsletter and more!

Your Pleasant Lake Improvement Association at Work

JOHN SEDEY (President)

As we discussed at last August's General Membership Meeting, the board was engaged in conducting an analysis of vegetation present in the lake. To do that, the board contracted with Wenck Associates. Not only was Wenck the lowest bidder, but they had also conducted a similar study for us in 2011. This was helpful in making comparisons between the findings of the two studies.

Vegetation samplings were taken at 154 100-meter points all around the lake wherever the depths were shallower than 20 feet. Point identification and data analysis software technology were used to insure the scientific methods worked. An early summer survey was conducted specifically to estimate the distribution and abundance of curly leaf pondweed, a non-native species known to be detrimental to lake water quality. A late summer survey was conducted to assess the native plant community in the lake.

Major findings of the surveying process:

- Pleasant Lake has a diverse aquatic vegetation community of 21 different aquatic vegetation species observed during the 2015 surveys.
- Submerged aquatic plants were found to depths of 19.5 feet but are especially abundant in areas of the lake shallower than 15 feet (littoral area). The littoral area of Pleasant Lake is well vegetated as nearly 100% of sample points in the littoral area of the lake had at least one species of submergent vegetation.
- Near-shore areas of the lake shallower than six feet are dominated by dense stands of native vegetation in many locations.
- Curly leaf pondweed is abundant in the lake and was found at approximately 65% of sampled sites during the June 2015 survey. Based on past surveys of the lake, curly leaf pondweed appears to have expanded significantly since a

2007 survey, but only moderately since the 2011 survey.

- Eurasian water milfoil, a common exotic species, was not found in Pleasant Lake during the 2015 surveys.

Our efforts to control major invasive vegetation, curly leaf pondweed, appear to be having positive results, with its growth having been monitored since 2011. Due to financial limitations our treatment efforts have been cut back somewhat over the past few years. One wonders, if we are able to treat to previous levels, or slightly above, could we halt the increased spread completely? Perhaps, we will have some additional data to share with you at our Annual Meeting this year, August 20.

Both the 2011 and 2015 survey reports are available on the main page of our Pleasant Lake Improvement Association website: <http://www.pliamn.com/> under surveys of our lake.

Winter Fun on the Lake



From Our Readers

The 4th Annual "Bronx Horn Hog fishing tournament" was held Saturday, February 27, 2016. The circumstances were a little different than past contests due to the ice

conditions. Since it was unsafe to have many vehicles out on the ice, the event was held on the shoreline in front of Dave and Penny Hogberg's home on the South Side of Pleasant Lake. Sixty-two people were in attendance. There were holes dug in the ice for fishing, games of Jenga, bowls of hot chili and refreshments. It was a great time for everyone with the temperature in the upper 50's. What a way to celebrate the end of February, 2016!

Welcome PLIA Director

Kevin Bergstrom and his wife Gale own a cabin on the North side of Pleasant Lake. The cabin was originally built by Gale's grandfather and



Kevin Bergstrom

grandmother George and Clara Herbst in the late 50's. Kevin and Gale have lived in Coon Rapids for about 33 years. Kevin spent about 25 years working in management for a variety of medical device companies in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, and he is now on his second career as a certified veterinary technician. He works part time at the Animal Humane Society in Coon Rapids. Gale is a 5th grade teacher in the Anoka Hennepin ISD 11 district. They have a daughter, and son, at home, and one daughter in law that lives in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. The entire family loves Golden Retrievers, and there are five dogs total for the family. Everyone in the family loves to spend time at the cabin, reconnect, and just have fun. Kevin has been impressed with PLIA and all the things that are being done to preserve the lake for generations to come. Kevin was able to work with the weed control suppliers to ensure we are getting the best value.

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fishing, swimming, water skiing and other fun times. In the winter it was ice-skating, snowmobiling, and sledding on the lake hill. There were many times that everyone would come together at the cabin. The Newberg's daughters have grown with lake memories and now through marriages, 14 grandchildren are part of the fifth generation that enjoy the cabin.

Art and Robbie shared historical events at Pleasant Lake, and of course the 4th of July topped the list. They reminisced about winning the Kiddie Parade in 1977. "Grandpa said they wouldn't win because they weren't local, but low and behold, their Tweetie Bird and Sylvester won." The family, with help from Anandale friends, put together a winning softball team sponsored by Diva's for the 4th of July tournament. It was a sigh



of relief when city water and sewer came down their street. The change from fuel oil to natural gas was welcome, as well. You can feel the tears and nostalgia as Art and Robbie share special memories.

The Bjorsness and Newberg families have watched homes being built on Lake Shore Circle. A special relationship developed between the Newberg's and a young couple, John and Jill Bishop. The Newberg's watched as the Bishops built their house next door. The five Newberg

granddaughters were similar in age to the Bishop's three children. The relationships between the children has continued over time. Now the Bishop grandchildren have friendships with the Newberg grandchildren. If you go by on the boat in summer you will see the beach filled with children and adults. The combined beach of the Newberg/Bishop families is used for swimming, jungle gym play, sand castles, campfires, laughter and eating!

Because of the Bjorsness and Newberg grandparents, the family's fifth generation is enjoying Pleasant Lake! It is difficult to know how long a family cabin can continue in this day and age, but yet how wonderful that Al and Ruth had the foresight to share this way of life with future generations. The memories are with the Newbergs forever.



Special Mentions

- Join the PLIA! 2016 membership dues can be mailed in anytime. If you did not receive a letter, please call Jim Peterson at 320-274-5043.
- Thank you to Maggie Nilson for keeping the PLIA website and Facebook page up to date.
- Thank you to Dave Haugland, lake resident and owner of **Impressive Prints** in St. Paul, for donating our newsletter printing.

Thank you to the following members who donated to the Water Quality Improvement Fund in 2015:

City of Annandale
Dennis Arfsten
Joe and Judy Bayer
Steve and Sandy Beckman
John and Jill Bishop
David and Toni Boie
Steve and Kelly Bruggeman
Joe and Janice Carlson
Mike and Susan Carlson
Jim and Rhonda DiOrio

Mike and Coreen Dougherty
Harvey and Tina Fraber
Cal and Denise Froehlich
Nate and Cindy Geske
Tim Hable
Jeff and Rebecca Harkman
Carolyn Harper
Dave and Nancy Haugland
Don and Carole Hausken
Dave and Penny Hogberg

Dean and Bonnie Hoglund
HOLT Triathlon
Matt and Tina Honsey
Roger and Kim Johnson
Joe and Renee Joyce
Mike Joyce & Katie Joyce Milton
Ralph and Bernice Kampa
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Ed Mader | Director

Tina Honsey | Director
Steve Miller | Director
Kevin Bergstrom | Director

Amy Miller | Director

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

Pleasant Lake Improvement Association
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