



The Siseebakwet Lake Association Journal

Newsletter #91 August, 2015

VIEW FROM THE EAST END

By Pat Doherty, 2015 SLA President

This column is written as we pass the mid-summer mark and need to take-a-minute to appreciate the exceptional place we have here at Siseebakwet.

AIS – well there is new information every few days and much of it is not good. Starting on the plus side, the efforts of Itasca County – led by Bill Grantges, County AIS Coordinator - have sounded a can't be missed "wake-up call" to our communities. Numerous people have stopped me saying "when I saw the pennants and the boat inspection people at Sherry's Arm & Tioga it hit home. This is here and it's now". The SLA has funded inspection at the Cty Rd 458 boat ramp and will supply community members for local support at that site beginning 8/01. We are working thru the county to eliminate the "back in" option for boat launching at the Cty Rd 473 ramp. On the minus side, the announcement that Forrest Lake (the big Forrest Lake in Washington County) has been infested with Zebra mussels (Z.M.) tells us that outstanding efforts can sometimes not produce the desired results. The re-testing that again found Z.M. in Christmas Lake (after a major effort to remove them) indicates that an unlimited budget couldn't reverse the problem. Several of us from the SLA board were active attendees of the watershed conference at Sugar Lake Lodge July 31st – yes update on the big picture on water issues - but to particularly focus on AIS.

Weir project – it is slower than we would like but it is moving forward. The May 22nd meeting at SLL with DNR, Itasca County and State Fisheries clarified several key points. They support our program to replace the current weir that is 30+ years old and wearing out. Cement is no longer an acceptable component material for the weir. Many cement structures are failing and proving to be very difficult/expensive to repair. Rock weirs (and I don't mean rocks that can be moved by citizens with lake level aspirations) have demonstrated much more durability, much less cost to maintain and they cost about half as much to put in place. They also have the capacity to be erected in the winter that limits collateral damage and repair, can be done from the

lake side and faces much less competition for time on contractors schedules. I'm told that there is a very creative program for the Fall Annual Meeting (9/06/15, at SLL, 5:00 pm) to move the "Damn Weir" forward.

FALL POTLUCK ANNUAL MEETING

Bring your children and holiday guests to enjoy the beautiful Sugar Lake Lodge, catch up with old friends, meet new friends and show new area residents our Siseebakwet Lake Association hospitality! A cash bar will be available for your enjoyment. The dinner will be a Potluck! Please see the Events Cut Out Page for details.

Brian Jarvi will be the guest speaker at the Annual Meeting on September 6th. Brian combines intricate detail, dramatic lighting and anatomical accuracy in his artistry. Brian has become widely known for his "up close and personal" compositions. Africa and its incredible wildlife have been Brian's passion for the past decade. Amidst the lush African scenery and wildlife Brian creates new masterpieces.

This will be a potluck event with Sugar Lake Lodge providing turkey, lemonade and eating utensils. Please bring a dish to share.

The agenda for the Annual Meeting is as follows:

**5:00 PM – Registration, Social, Cash Bar –
Register by Alexander I
Update Your Membership
Dues Accepted Until 6:00 PM
Vote: Ballots Accepted Until 6:00 PM**

**6:00 PM – Introductions, Announcements and
Potluck Dinner**

**6:40 PM – Annual Meeting, SLA
Accomplishments in 2015, Election Results**

7:00 PM – Brian Jarvi- Professional Artist

**8:00 PM – Adjourn to Otis's Grill & Bar for
More Socializing**

LAKE SHORE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

by Bill Hagenbuck

Excerpted from the Itasca County Environmental Services Website: The ecology of many of our lakes is being stressed to the point of permanent damage as a result of excessive nutrient and sediment deposits, clear cutting, mowing, and extensive shore and aquatic vegetation removal. As a custodian of lakeshore property the most beneficial thing you can do is to adhere to the DNR's BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES and leave the shoreland as nature intended.

Before you:

- Cut down any tree or brush
- Remove any soil
- Fill any hole
- Cut any aquatic vegetation (weeds)
- Make any shoreland or wetland alteration
- Undertake any construction

Verify that you are not violating Department of Natural Resources or Itasca County Zoning regulations. Fines of up to \$700 and/or a 90 day jail term can be imposed for violations. Restoration may be required at owner's expense. Permits obtained after the project is started will generally cost double the usual fee and may result in an order for restoration.

These regulations DO NOT prevent proper development of lakeshore property but they DO prevent harmful and destructive development such as that done in past years before current regulations went into effect. They also help the property owner from inadvertently damaging his/her own property, thus reducing its commercial value.

PLEASE, for the sake of the lake, contact your Lake Association, Department of Natural Resources, Itasca County Zoning and/or Itasca County Soil and Water Conservation District for more information before making any alterations: Itasca County Environmental Services 218-327-2857, Itasca SWCD 218-326-0017, DNR 218-327-4416 or 218-327-4322.

ROAD CLEANUP – SEPTEMBER 19TH by Bill & Deb Hagenbuck, bad@hagenbuck.com, 972.423.5214

Have you seen anything nasty or trashy on the shoulders of the roads around Siseebakwet Lake—from Sugar Hills to the northwest end of the lake? All of North Sugar Lake Rd to CR 449 and CR 459 to Sugar Lake Hall? From Forever Wild to Sugar Lake Trail? It doesn't belong there. We don't want to see what it looks like next spring! Please come help us with the fall road cleanup.

We'll meet at 9:30am, Saturday, September 19, at the Sugar Lake Town Hall, for conversation, coffee and

something homemade by Deb to charge you up for making the seven miles of road we all hold dear to us look pristine again and honor the memory of Betty T. Olson. Hopefully we won't have to fire up the stoves in the town hall and the sun will be out for a productive morning. If you want to sign up for a section in advance, just drop us a note. And as some of us do, if you're out walking along our roads for exercise and to view the flora and fauna, you can pick up the large and obvious stuff anytime.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE SLA BOARD

We are pleased to advise that all 5 current board members with terms that expire Sept. 30, 2015 have agreed to run for re-election. Given the number of issues facing the lake community their experience is very valuable and helpful.

The candidates are:

Marv Christenson – Marv lives on the north shore of Siseebakwet. Marv & JoAnn make their primary home in Andover, but have found ways to spend more time at the lake. Marv is the primary board member on the weir project, and without him we would be lost in DNR and County issues and requirements. His capacity to be patient with the government, but still move forward is amazing.

Pat Doherty – Pat has a cabin with his wife Lou on the east end of Siseebakwet. Their primary residence is in Long Lake, on the Twin Cities' west end. Pat has been on the Association's Lake Management & Education Committee for several years with primary interest in lake quality & protection. Pat is the current SLA President.

Bill Hagenbuck – Bill lives with his wife Deb (also a board member) on the Siseebakwet Shores Rd, immediately east of the bridge. They have relocated from Texas and are in the process of converting the family cabin to a permanent residence. Bill is the Board's Vice-President, Receiver of Notice and point person for activity with Itasca County on permits & variances.

Tim Monson – Tim has a place on Siseebakwet Shores Road. He is our "distance runner" with primary residence in Des Moines, IA. Tim is in the construction business in Iowa and gave guidance and support in providing requested documents for the DNR and Itasca County to get the Weir Project moving. Those documents were later described by the County as "by far the best and most complete we have ever seen".

Roger Quern – Roger lives on the southwest corner Siseebakwet - two places east of Forever Wild. Roger and Sharon have made Siseebakwet Lake their permanent residence since retirement. Roger has been Association Treasurer for several years and keeps us ahead of the game on non-profit requirements.

The board would also like to make the membership aware that there are two additional short term vacant

positions. At this time, we do encourage all Association members to “write in” candidates, as that becomes a primary means to find possible new board members to fill the short term positions. We also request any association member to contact any board member with suggestions of individuals who would serve the community well. We also realize the need to seek balance on the board. To achieve this we need to seek more women, permanent lake residents and younger members.

REMOVING YOUR DOCK, BOAT & WATER TOYS FOR THE WINTER? USE THIS AIS CHECKLIST

by Bill Grantges

Everyone must closely inspect ALL of your water recreation equipment when you take it out of the water to prepare for winter. While it is true that a Minnesota winter is one of the best decontamination tools, it is also true that early detection of AIS is an essential weapon in the fight to help stop the spread of AIS. Many of the Zebra mussel infestations that were found this year in our area were made by ordinary people who noticed something strange attached to a piece of equipment they owned. So don’t just pull it out of the water and put it in storage, give it a thorough inspection too. Don’t think that because you never visited any other lakes or rivers this season you have nothing to worry about. It is possible that our lake has become infested and no one knows it yet. You may be the person responsible for its early detection and starting the quick response to stop its spread to other lakes, rivers and streams.

If you pay to have someone remove and store your dock, boatlift, boat and other water equipment, be certain that this person is a DNR licensed & certified Lake Service Provider, it’s the law. Ask your Lake Service Provider (LSP) what other lakes they work in and what they do to decontaminate themselves and their equipment when moving from one lake to another. “There’s nothing in that other lake” is not an acceptable answer. Ask them to give you a report on the condition of all of your equipment that they remove from the water. Did they find plant material? Did they notice any growths or sandpaper like bumps. All Lake Service Providers are trained to look for AIS. Your DNR Certified LSP is one of our best allies in the fight against the spread of AIS.

Perhaps you do all your own work and have your winterizing rituals perfected. Be sure to inspect all of your equipment that you use on the water. You are looking for plants, plant parts, animals or crustaceans. Some maybe very small and feel like sandpaper bumps. Here are some things you should add to your end of season check list if they are not already there:

- Pay special attention to the areas on the equipment that were in shaded areas. Zebra mussels do not

like to be in direct sunlight. The undersides of docks and boatlifts are two such areas.

- Look closely at the rear of your boat and its intakes, upper and lower motor areas and prop.
- Inspect your live wells and all bait containers.
- Take a good look into the bilge.
- Inspect all ropes, anchors and anchor lines.
- Inspect all of the boat hull that comes in contact with the water.
- If you have a pontoon boat with Sea Legs (uber cool!), take a close look at them too.

If you find anything suspicious, don’t just scrape it off; take a digital picture of it first with some way of suggesting its size. Write down where the object was found and place it in a plastic bag if possible. **Contact your local DNR Invasive Species Specialist immediately. Do not transport the equipment or your unknown sample under any circumstances unless told to do so by the DNR.** Siseebakwet Lake is in the DNR’s Northeast Region. Our Invasive Species Specialists are :

In Grand Rapids, Richard Rezenka, 218-999-7805
richard.rezenka@state.mn.us

In Brainerd, Dan Swanson, 218-833-8645
dan.swanson@state.mn.us

Or on the web:

www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/contacts.html#aquatic

Thank you for doing your part to help stop the spread of AIS!

HOW SLA SUPPORTS LAKE SHORE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT by Bill Hagenbuck

The SLA has a board member who’s role is to provide a single point of contact and liaison between the Siseebakwet Lake Association (SLA) board of directors and the Itasca County Environmental Services (ICES) department to assure riparian and neighboring property development is appropriately balanced for both the land owner’s and SLA’s interests. Your representative for the 2014-2015 year is Bill Hagenbuck.

Roles & Responsibilities:

- Receive and review Variance Requests and Shoreline Request for riparian and neighboring properties on Siseebakwet Lake and South Sugar Lake from ICES.
- Review and discuss any concerns with SLA board.

- Meet with ICES representatives prior to scheduled site visit and variance hearings to address any questions or concerns (per ICES request).
- Participate in site visit and variance hearing before the **Itasca County Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment** to represent SLA (or delegate representation to another board member if not available)
- Communicate SLA's position to variance board members as appropriate, usually "no objections" if pre-review with ICES is concluded satisfactorily.
- Report to the SLA board on activities as appropriate at each board meeting
- Provide SLA newsletter input as appropriate.

Activity for June:

- Shoreland Alteration Inspection: Nancy Sue Lindquist, 38659 N. Sugar Lake Rd., Cohasset
 - Project: Remove an ice ridge; remove dying birch tree from over boathouse; install top soil as needed.
 - Project within guidelines, approved by SWCD with no objections from SLA
- Shoreland Site Inspection: Anita Dahl Schwantes, 38749 N Sugar Lake Rd., Cohasset
 - Project: Rock Rip Rap
 - Project within guidelines, approved by SWCD with no objections from SLA

DOGGIE DO-DO

Just a reminder to dog owners that walk their dogs along the beautiful roads around the Siseebakwet area. Please pick up after your dogs. No matter the size of your pouch. Bring along a plastic bag or more to dispose of the dropping left by your pets. This is part of owning a dog. When you pick up after your pouch this makes the walks of non dog owners much more pleasant.

THANK YOU LAKE COUNTRY POWER

Thank you Lake Country Power (LCP) for your donation of \$250 toward the \$550 fee for the handicapped accessible porta potty at the public landing. Those using the facility appreciate it very much. As do the neighbors of the public landing.

The funds from LCP are a result of patrons rounding up their electric bill to the nearest dollar. So, if you do not already participate in Operation Round Up please consider doing so. Contact LCP at 1.800.421.9959 to sign up for this worthwhile endeavor.

BE PART OF THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

If you have something you would like included in the next newsletter, such as Community Service Announcements, Nature Notes or items for sale, please send it via:

Mail: SLA Editor, PO Box 295, Cohasset, MN 55721

Email: djheren@q.com **Call:** Dianne Herendeen 326-8487.

**Submission deadline for the next Newsletter is
October 1, 2015**

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Storage Space for Rent: Need a place to store your boat, pontoon, car etc.? Indoor storage in a 40' X 60' building with a cement floor. Available October 1 – May 15. Contact Ginny Marshall at 326-3361.

Annual Meeting/ Potluck Dinner at Sugar Lake Lodge! Sunday, September 6, 2015 – 5:00 P.M.

Bring your family and guests to enjoy the beautiful Sugar Lake Lodge facility, catch up with old friends, meet new friends and show new area residents our Siseebakwet Lake Association hospitality! Please bring a dish to share--with serving utensils.

🏆 Brian Jarvi, Professional Artist, will be the guest speaker

5:00 - Registration, Social, Cash Bar – Register by Alexander I

- Update your membership.**
- Dues accepted until 6:00 P.M.**
- Vote: Ballots accepted until 6:00 P.M.**

6:00 - Introductions, Announcements and Potluck Dinner

6:40 – Annual Meeting, SLA Accomplishments in 2015, Election Results

7:00 – Brian Jarvi, Professional Artist

8:00 - Adjourn to Otis's Grill & Bar for more socializing.

Please Join Us!

2015 Voting Instructions, Ballots and Membership Form

If mailed, ballots must be received by Friday, September 4, 2015; OR ballots may be hand delivered to the Annual Meeting on Sunday, September 6, by 6:00 P.M.

Mail to: Roger Quern, 39454 Siseebakwet Shores Rd, Cohasset, MN 55721

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

Two ballots have been included. **Only 2015 paid members may vote**, however, you may include this year's dues with your completed ballot(s) to qualify to vote. Dues are \$10 per adult per year or \$20 per household. **SPECIAL RATES: 5 YEARS FOR THE PRICE OF 4; PAY \$80 (or \$40 for a single) AND GET ONE YEAR FREE.** Check the mailing label for the expiration date of your membership.

Each completed ballot must be sealed in an envelope and a **legible signature of each voter written on the outside** of the envelope. Place the signed envelope in a second envelope and mail to the above address. According to Merriam Webster's Rules of Order this is required to assure that only authorized members vote. If the voting instructions are not followed, the ballot(s) will **not** be counted.

NOTE: If membership dues accompany the ballot(s), the ballot(s) envelopes will be placed in a voting receptacle separated from the membership form. Your vote will remain confidential since the envelope with your signature and membership form is separated from the ballot(s) upon receipt.

If you are paying your 2015 dues, your dues will be paid through December 31, 2015 at which time 2016 dues are payable (both years' dues may be paid). If you are a '15 paid member and wish to pay your '16 dues, you may enclose your dues with your ballot(s) or pay at the Annual Meeting. There is a membership/renewal form in this newsletter. Please cut the form off to accompany your dues and ballot envelope(s). Please make membership dues check payable to Siseebakwet Lake Association.

Membership definition:

"A member is defined as any individual(s) owning land within the Siseebakwet Lake watershed or in sections 8,9,10 or 16 of Range 26 West, Township 54 North and who subscribes to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Siseebakwet Lake Association. The member's parents, immediate adult children and spouse or significant other are eligible for membership."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

There are five positions (3 year terms) open for election to the SLA Board of Directors. The candidates are: **Marv Christenson, Pat Doherty, Bill Hagenbuck, Tim Monson and Roger Quern.**

If you would like to be on the SLA Board of Directors, or know someone in the membership area that would like to be on the SLA Board of Directors, please vote for them by using the Write-in Candidate space on your ballot.

Thank you to all the Directors who have or are now serving on the Association's Board.

BALLOT FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Mail in ballot must be received by 9/4/15)

VOTE for up to 7 Board Members. Mark an X on the line before your choice of candidates and/or write in a candidates.

Marv Christenson Pat Doherty Bill Hagenbuck Tim Monson Roger Quern

Write In _____ Write in _____

Remember: PLACE BALLOT IN BALLOT ENVELOPE. A LEGIBLE SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE BALLOT ENVELOPE. PLACE BALLOT ENVELOPE IN MAILING ENVELOPE AND MAIL TO:

Roger Quern, 39454 Siseebakwet Shores Rd, Cohasset, MN 55721 **Mail in ballot must be received by 9/4/15**

BALLOT FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Mail in ballot must be received by 9/4/15)

VOTE for up to 7 Board Members. Mark an X on the line before your choice of candidates and/or write in a candidates.

Marv Christenson Pat Doherty Bill Hagenbuck Tim Monson Roger Quern

Write In _____ Write in _____

Remember: PLACE BALLOT IN BALLOT ENVELOPE. A LEGIBLE SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE BALLOT ENVELOPE. PLACE BALLOT ENVELOPE IN MAILING ENVELOPE AND MAIL TO:

Roger Quern, 39454 Siseebakwet Shores Rd, Cohasset, MN 55721 **Mail in ballot must be received by 9/4/15**

MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL and CONCERNS/INTERESTS DATABASE

Your membership expiration year is on your newsletter mailing label. Dues are \$10 per adult or \$20 per household per year. **SPECIAL RATES: 5 YEARS FOR THE PRICE OF 4; PAY \$80 (or \$40 for a single) AND GET ONE YEAR FREE.** Use this form to pay current dues or upcoming dues. Help update our database by completing your mailing and the lake concerns and interest information. **PLEASE** give us your email address; we may be able to cut costs with electronic transmissions to members and we are sending email 'reminders' of meetings and events. To place you on our SLA lake map, please indicate the neighbors on each side of your property or the previous owner of your property. Contact a board member if you have any questions.

(Please print clearly)

Name(s): _____

Lake Address: _____

Phone #(s): Lake: _____ Permanent: _____ **Email:** _____

Property Owner: Yes: _____ No: _____ Permanent Resident: Yes: ____ No: ____

Mailing Address: _____
(If different than above)

Neighbors/Previous Owner: _____

Lake Concerns and Interests: _____

Please send me my Newsletter by **email** only: Yes: ____ No: ____

PLEASE JOIN THE SLA or RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Make checks payable to Siseebakwet Lake Association
MAIL TO: Roger Quern, 39454 Siseebakwet Shores Rd, Cohasset, MN 55721

SLA Board Members and Officers:

President – Pat Doherty 327-1456 pjdoherty11@yahoo.com	Gwynne Bobich 322-4592 gwynne@sugarlakelodge.com	Paul Grooms 259-2157 pr_grooms@yahoo.com
Vice President - Bill Hagenbuck 972-423-5214 Bill@Hagenbuck.com	Marvin Christenson 326-4525 chris181@tc.umn.edu	Betsy Martin betsy.martin48@icloud.com
Treasurer – Roger Quern 999-5929 rdquern@aol.com	Bruce Erickson 326-3309 vizbe@aol.com	Tim Monson 515-491-7375 tmonson@mediacombb.net
Secretary – Deb Hagenbuck 214-403-3041 Deb@Hagenbuck.com	Bruce Freeman 612-812-2180 brucefreeman05@earthlink.net	Maxine Otis 326-5565 sugarotisjwo@gmail.com
	Bill Grantges 326-0486 Bill@Grantges.net	John Otis (Honorary) 326-5565 sugarotisjwo@gmail.com

SLA Committees & Chairs:

Email Coordinator – Bill Grantges 326-0486 Bill@Grantges.net

ICOLA (Itasca Coalition of Lake Associations)
Pat Doherty 327-1456 pjdoherty11@yahoo.com and
Bill Grantges 326-0486 Bill@Grantges.net

July Fireworks – All SLA Board. Contact any SLA Board Director for info.

Lake Management & Education –
Bill Grantges 326-0486 Bill@Grantges.net

Lake Map – Vacant

Neighborhood Crime Watch – Karen Lucachick, 259-6490 kato5761@msn.com

New Neighbor – Vacant

Newsletter Editor – Dianne Herendeen 326-8487 djheren@q.com

Newsletter Layout – Bill Grantges 326-0486 Bill@Grantges.net

Nominating – John Otis 326-5565 sugarotisjwo@gmail.com,
Pat Doherty 327-1456 pjdoherty11@yahoo.com

Receiver of Notice – Bill Hagenbuck 972-423-5214 Bill@Hagenbuck.com

Road Clean-up – Bill & Deb Hagenbuck 972-423-5214 BaD@Hagenbuck.com

Social – Pat Doherty 327-1456 pjdoherty11@yahoo.com and
Gwynne Bobich 322-4592 gwynne@sugarlakelodge.com

Website – Vacant

 **Email** – SiseebakwetLakeAssociation@gmail.com 

PO Box 295, Cohasset, MN 55721

Zebra mussels found on boat attempting to launch into Pokegama Lake on June 10 at Sherry's Arm access.



Zebra mussels on a log on shore of Sand Lake, 2015

