

IDA LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Mailing address: P.O. Box 175, Garfield, MN 56332 -0175

Website: www.lakeida.org

Ida Township website: www.idatownship.com

October 2007

- Greetings from the new president, Rob Auel:

I hope everyone had a great summer. Whether you are a sun-bather, one who enjoys the fish of Lake Ida, or one who just enjoys a beautiful sunset, what a great summer. I know we could have used more rain to keep the water levels up. However, when compared to the level changes of other lakes, we did ok. I truly believe we live on one of the best lakes around.

MISSION STATEMENT FOR IDA LAKE ASSOCIATION: “The mission of the Ida Lake Association is to preserve and protect the serenity, quality, and natural beauty of Lake Ida. In addition, it is our purpose to organize and educate all those concerned with Lake Ida including lakeshore property owners, area residents, and visitors. We acknowledge our role as caretakers and propose to work as one to accomplish our responsibility to water and land.”

Please take some time to review the Mission Statement as printed above. Then ask yourself what it is about “your lake” that you admire and can’t wait to get back to. I do believe it is the “serenity, quality, and natural beauty of Lake Ida” that attracts all of us. However, we each need to “acknowledge our role as caretakers” to at least maintain all of the above. Hopefully, it will be there again next year.

While we each need to do our individual part, the directors from each district need to get involved to “organize and educate all those concerned with Lake Ida.” The officers and directors will meet on the 4th Saturday monthly from April through September to determine and discuss the top priority items. We did this in our September meeting by separating into groups. Each group then came back to the meeting listing their top priorities and making recommendations or motions as they deemed necessary. This is the type of meetings I enjoy and hope to continue so that these groups may report accordingly to the general assembly meetings in May and again in August.

I should point out that there is a group starting to work with land owners and authorities in regards to the run-off into Lake Ida. They will be pursuing potential grants and other possible funding to find a possible overall solution to what many of you have documented as a main concern. This may take some time to provide a good overall solution.

While there are several individuals who have dedicated numerous hours to the preservation of Lake Ida, there is one that we are planning to acknowledge next summer. There will be a social dinner held on Saturday, August 23 at the Corral Supper Club in Nelson to honor our immediate past president, Bud Nielsen, and his wife Sue. Bud has

committed endless hours representing the Ida Lake Association. There will be more details concerning this recognition event at a later date.

Meanwhile, thank you members for the trust you have put in electing me as your president. Regardless of where you may call home, hurry back to “your lake.”

- **THIRD ANNUAL PICNIC**

The third annual Ida Lake Association picnic has been scheduled for Saturday, July 19, 2008 at Pilgrims Point Camp from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Mark it on your 2008 calendar **NOW!** Additional information will be provided in future newsletters.

- **BURNING REGULATIONS**

Douglas County regulations prohibit burning within 100 feet of the ordinary high water level of a public water and/or within a drainage ditch that discharges into waters of the state. Ashes are very high in phosphorus and contribute to excess algae and weed growth. A wood burning campfire less than three feet in diameter, designed to enclose ash for removal would be exempt from this rule.

Home burning of household waste is illegal for everyone except farm households that have no garbage pickup service.

- **LEAVES AND GRASS**

PLEASE DO NOT DEPOSIT LEAVES OR GRASS INTO THE LAKE OR DITCHES. THESE ARE POLLUTANTS AND ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO INCREASED LEVELS OF PHOSPHORUS AND TO EXCESS ALGAE AND WEED GROWTH.

- **ROAD BUMPS (Submitted by Allen Hayes Dist. 11)**

Why dirt roads develop a washboard surface as reported in the August 18, 2007 issue of “Science News This Week”.

Vehicles passing constantly over dirt roads create an irksome washboard surface. Several physicists have conducted several experiments as to why this phenomenon occurs. Their research has explained why washboard forms, and the dispiriting message for road crews: Scrape often, or give up. Washboard is inevitable. There is only one solution: Slow down a lot. The critical velocity below which (the surface) would remain flat is about 5 miles per hour.

- **2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**

Board of Directors meetings will be held on the 4th Saturday during the months of April through September at the Ida Township hall. A general assembly meeting will be held on Saturday, May 24 and the Annual Meeting on Saturday August 23.

- **DIRECTORS ELECTION**

During the September Annual meeting directors and co-directors were elected for the odd numbered districts.

The following were elected for a two year term.

District 1 Wes Smith, Director
Sharon Underhill, Co-Director
District 3 Denny Gormley, Director
Co-Director vacant
District 5 Rob Auel, Director
Curt Sax, Co-Director
District 9 Andy Lopez, Director
Dian Lopez, Co-Director
District 11 Don Erstad, Director
Mike Shaughnessy, Co-Director
District 13 David Josephs, Director
Co-Director, vacant
District 15 Director vacant
Co-Director vacant
District 17 Barb Jespersen, Director
Jane Norris, Co-Director

As you can see Districts 3 and 13 are in need of Co-Directors. District 15 needs both a Director Co-Director.

Please come forward and consider filling one of these positions.

If you are interested call our president, Rob Auel (320) 846 – 1110.

Congratulations and thanks to those individuals who were elected or re-elected.

- **OFFICER ELECTION**

Congratulations and thanks to Tom Searcy upon being elected vice – president during the September Board of Directors meeting. Tom will be a great asset to the board.

- **MIKE SHAUGHNESSY**, newly elected District 11 Co-Director.

Mike has been coming to Lake Ida since 1964, when he was dating his wife of 39 years, Julie Thomas. Julie’s parents bought a place on the south shore that year. In 1980 Mike and Julie purchased the red log cabin on the southwest side of the lake, just before you enter Schwab’s Bay. It was built by the Johnson family whom owned John’s store in Garfield in 1928. After 18 years they moved to a larger property where the Royal Oaks Resort used to be and rebuilt in 2003. In total, seven families from the Shaughnessy and Thomas families have or have had summer homes in Alexandria, five of them on Lake Ida.

Mike and Julie retired in June, 2006, sold their townhouse in Plymouth, and moved to Lake Ida full time. Mike spent 26 years inn the computer business, after working for Dayton’s Department Store and being in the US Army. Julie was an elementary school teacher in the Osseo School District for 25 years. Both are graduates of the University of Minnesota. They have a son and family in the Chicago area and a daughter and family in the Boston area, with a total of four grandsons. They are both substitute teachers in

the Alexandria School District. They love it here and are enjoying participating in the community.

- **TOM SCEARCY**, Newly elected Vice-President

Tom is a native of Minnesota from Winnebago. He joined the Marine Corps at the age of 20, spending 3 years in the service, one of these in Vietnam.

He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with a degree in Park and Recreation. After serving New London/Spicer, School District as Community Education/Recreation Director for 19 years; and various other districts for 17 years in the same capacity he retired in June 2006.

He and his wife Janis have been married for 37 years this October and have 2 adult sons, Chad and Todd.

The family has been coming to Lake Ida since the late 60's when Tom's folks had a trailer home at Big Horn Bay Resort

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