



IDA LAKE ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER August 2013

Website: www.lakeida.org

From your President

Summer is finally here – Enjoy! The last few weeks have been just beautiful with more on the way. Your lake association has been very busy this summer. Coming soon is our Annual Fall Meeting Saturday, August 24th – starting at 10am with lunch to follow! We have an exciting guest speaker, Tim James, from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Tim will talk about Ditch 23, the effects of ALASD on Lake Ida, and how we all can work on keeping Lake Ida healthy. He will also be available afterwards to answer your questions.

We had over 60 people at our Spring meeting. Our membership is now well over 300. Please check the address part of this newsletter to make sure you are paid for 2013. A form is included to bring to the meeting or send in.

Other projects we are working on this summer include monitoring our lake accesses for invasive plants and animals and testing our lake water quality and clarity. Special tests are also being performed in and near Ditch 23. which has been causing more and more problems each year. We are also working on getting the Lake Ida-Charlie dam fixed, stocking lots of walleyes, and we had a fantastic 4th of July boat parade!

--Dian Lopez

Fall, 2013, Annual Meeting & Potluck

The Ida Lake Association Annual Fall Meeting will be Saturday, August 24, 2013, at 10A.M. in the Ida Township Hall. Please note the later time for this meeting as we are having a potluck meal immediately after the meeting. The association will be providing the main course, fried chicken from the Leaf Valley Mercantile Bar & Grill (one of our sponsors for the 2010 ILA

directory). Please join us for the meal and social gathering and bring a hot dish, salad, or dessert to share with your Lake Ida neighbors.

Besides our speaker, the meeting will also include our annual elections. This year we will be electing a president, secretary, and district directors for odd numbered districts. We also still have a vacancy for two co-directors for District 10. Currently the 47 residents there are not represented, and we need your input.

2013 Boat Parade: The fifth annual Lake Ida 4th of July Boat Parade was bigger and better than ever. This year there were approximately 65 boats participating. The best decorated boat contest was won by:

- 1st place: The Hunt sisters
- 2nd place: Tim Austrums family
- 3rd place: Nick Smith

Photos courtesy of Dian Achterkirch, District 11 and Anita Conn, District 14. For additional pictures go to the ILA web page

<http://www.lakeida.org/photogallery.html>



Fishing Committee Report: The ILA directors at the July 27, 2013, meeting approved increasing our expenditures for walleye fish stocking next year. In addition to any DNR stocking the ILA will match dollar for dollar the Viking Sportsmen and other fish stocking contributions up to an additional \$5,000. This will probably translate to doubling the stocking efforts usually done on our lake. The Fishing Committee is continuing to look for additional members to explore opportunities to improve fishing on Lake Ida. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jeff Johnson. (jeffj@atms.us.com.)

Lake Ida Boat Launch Inspections: The ILA is sponsoring boat and trailer inspections at our three boat launches for the second year in a row. There have been 6 inspectors checking boats for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and providing information to boaters. In addition to their physical presence and service, information is electronically submitted to the Minnesota DNR. We won't receive a summary report until later this year, but last year 668 boats were inspected from May through August. Most of this project is funded with a grant from the DNR.

Curly-Leaf Pond Weed: The Curly-leaf Pond Weed near the shore in District 1 was treated by the Minnesota DNR on June 5, 2013. As of August 4th it has not reappeared. The weather this Spring and Summer has been unusual, so we are hopeful. Although it has been limited to a small area on the lake, thanks to Jerry McClure and Wes Smith for managing this issue for the past three years for all of us on the lake. This project was also financed with a grant from the Minnesota DNR.

Zebra Mussels: There is nothing significant to report about Zebra Mussels in Lake Ida since the ILA May newsletter. The Minnesota DNR is doing additional testing with Zequanox in Lake Darling. The DNR is installing Clean-and-drain areas at 200 boat launches across the state, and also installing reminder signs:

“**Dispose** plants and animals in disposal bin
Dump bait bucket water and unwanted minnows and leeches into disposal bin. Transfer minnows and leeches to containers prefilled with well, bottled, or purified tap water. Take unwanted worms and garbage to trash, which is often offsite

(wanted worms can be saved.)

Drain water from boat, ballast, tanks, and motor. Drain bilge, live well and bait well by removing drain plug. Keep drain plugs out and all water-draining devices open for travel" (**Echo Press, p.A3, Wednesday, July 13, 2013.**)

Lake Charlie Dam: The dam on the southeast corner of Lake Ida flowing through the creek to Lake Charlie still has not been repaired as of July 4, 2013. The DNR has inspected the problem and agreed to repair it once the water level on the lake declines. Dian Lopez is in continuous contact with Dean Beck of the Glenwood office of the Minnesota DNR to ensure the dam gets fixed.

Rules and Regulations: It is illegal to burn within 100 feet of the ordinary high water level of the lake, except for recreational campfires. Campfires do not require a permit but need to be no more than three feet in diameter and three feet tall. Any other burning does require a permit, but county burning restrictions may still be in place. See the DNR Burning Permits Information website:
(<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/questions.html>)

This is especially important as Fall approaches and the leaves begin to fall. Some of our residents mulch their grass all year long and then mulch their leaves for their gardens in the Fall. Also, be careful not to damage shoreline vegetation or to tamper with DNR structures in the lake. Stay clear of spawning beds to allow future fish to thrive.

North Boat Landing: Our sponsors for fish stocking each year, the Viking Sportsmen Club, have stepped up to the bar again (sand bar of course). They recently expanded the cement portion of the landing out into the lake with 2-3 more cement slabs. Please tell them Thanks!

Highway Cleanup: Rob Auel, our former ILA President, is an instructor at the Alexandria Technical and Community College. For the past several years Rob and Todd Zarbok, also a Lake Ida resident and ATCC staff member, have led a team of students from the Mechatronics division at ATCC in the roadside ditch cleanup project along County Road 34. Thanks Rob and students! with a long overdue acknowledgement from the ILA, your neighbors, and friends on Lake Ida.

Memorials: In addition to the annual dues that 69% of Lake Ida property owners contributed last year, we receive several memorial donations primarily for loved ones who have departed. So far we have received six additional memorials this year for over \$300 (with \$135 of the memorials dedicated to fish stocking).

Sandra R Grove:

in memory of William L. Grove

Cliff and Ed Drentell:

in memory of Trish Drentell

James and Shirley Bracken

in memory of Sheryl Brackken-Feely*

*Sheryl loved the lake. Her favorite place on earth was walking over to stand on Pilgrim's Point.

Rob & Barb/Deb Bruflat

in memory of Tim Bruflat

Don and Norma Vinger

in memory of Norm Gillette Jr.

Kevin and Betty Anderson

in memory of John Mayer

• **Suggestions, comments, or complaints are always welcome. Please just email:**

newsletter@lakeida.org

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