# Shoreline Ramblings



A Newsletter of the Pleasant Lake Improvement Association

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

# Pleasant Faces

**MEET THE UNZICKERS** 

If you have ever gone for a walk on the north side of Pleasant Lake, chances are you have been greeted by Randy and Amy Unzicker out on their own walk. In fact, I have often been known to hustle outside to join in a roadside conversation, or two, or three, or – well, you get the point. So, here is their Pleasant Lake story.



Randy and I are transplants to the state of MN, both of us relocating to the Minneapolis area after college where we met. In 2013 we were on the search for a cabin in the area after selling our cabin in South Dakota; something relatively close to the Minneapolis area, as we had young kids busy in summer activities. We found a small cabin on Lake John at that time. We fell in love with the Annandale area and after a few years decided to permanently relocate our family, but we would need to find a larger home! The views from our current home sold us on the property and the lake. We had not spent much time on Pleasant Lake but loved that it was centrally located and a great size for lake play. It was also close to the schools for our kids.

Our time on Pleasant has been fantastic. Everyone has been extremely welcoming and we have gotten to know so many people by walking the paths and spending time on the water. We are blessed with great neighbors and a fantastic lake community. Our kids have enjoyed their time in the area and have grown so much. When we moved here permanently in 2016, we had one in middle school and one in elementary school. This year Ashton is graduating and Ella is a sophomore. The time has flown by. The one thing that will always stick with us and our kids is the 4th of July week long Nobody does it like celebration. Annandale, and being on the lake makes it even more special for the family.

We had no connection to the area, but are confident that our kids will, and it is a great comfort that they have found a community like Pleasant Lake and Annandale.



# **Clearwater Watershed Message**

Many people have shared their concerns over the low lake levels in Pleasant Lake this spring.

The lake levels are very low relative to typical conditions in all our lakes this spring. This is the result of significantly lower rainfall last year than normal. Our rain gauge in Wright County registered just 21.2 inches of precipitation last year (31.74 inches is the 30 year average rainfall for that gauge). We had dry conditions the year prior as well.

The Clearwater River Watershed District maintains the outlet to Pleasant Lake, and operates the outlet under a permit granted by the DNR. That is to say, we have very strict rules from

Continued on page 2

Early 2022

## Community Calendar

Fishing Opener Saturday, May 14

#### Maple Syrup Pancake Breakfast

Pioneer Park May 15, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

19<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook Off Saturday, May 28

#### Annandale Farmer's Market

City Hall Square Saturdays, 8:00 am - noon June 11 – September 24

Antique Tractor Show Pioneer Park Saturday, June 11, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

<u>Concerts in the Park</u> Annandale Municipal Park June 17, July 15, July 29, August 12, August 19, 7:00 pm

<u>**4<sup>TH</sup> of July Celebration**</u> www.annandale4thofjuly.org

PLIA Boat Parade City Boat Ramp Sunday, July 3, 6:45 pm start

Oak on the Water, Fire in the Sky Monday, July 4, dusk

#### Heart of the Lakes Triathlon Annandale Municipal Park Saturday, July 16, 8:00 am start

National Night Out Tuesday, August 2

## PLIA Walk/Run & Annual Meeting

Saturday, August 20

Feast of Friends The Boathouse Sunday, August 21

Annandale Art Crawl

# Thank You AIS Donors! AS OF APRIL 14, 2022

#### Premier (\$2500 and Above)

Brad & Pat Andersen Kyle & Brenda Bauman Joe & Elizabeth Bayer Kevin & Gale Bergstrom John & Jill Bishop Jeff & Rebecca Harkman Roger & Kim Johnson Jim & Linda Kelso Bob & Terry McMahon The City of Annandale H.O.L.T. Triathlon Wright City Parks and Rec. Wright City Soil & Water Cons.

#### <u> Platinum (\$1500 - \$2499)</u>

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#### <u>Gold (\$1000 - \$1499)</u>

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#### Silver (\$500 - \$999)

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#### Bronze (\$100 - \$499)

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#### **Bronze continued**

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#### **Bronze continued**

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Our goal is to be 100% accurate. Please contact us if you see an error.

# **PLIA Board Changes**

As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, the PLIA Board of Directors looks a little different. This is a year of transition as many of our new Officers are beginning a 2 year term with the exception of Jim Kelso. The term for Treasurer is up on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

#### Here are the new PLIA Officers:

## Kevin Bergstrom, PresidentKyle Bauman, Vice PresidentJim Kelso, TreasurerGale Bergstrom, Secretary

We'd like to thank **Jeff Harkman** who finished his term as President and is now in the transition role of supporting the Board to ensure a seamless transition. We'd also like to thank **Dave Boie** for his many years as Secretary. He always did a great job on the meeting minutes that were sent out to you. Don't worry, though, he and his wife Toni will still be greeting lake newcomers! Finally, we'd like to thank **Steve Miller** for his many years on the PLIA Board as Treasurer and Director. Between Jeff, Dave and Steve, they have many years of PLIA experience and we truly appreciate all that they have done for our Pleasant Lake community.

# Watershed Message Continued

the DNR about when the outlet is open and when it must be closed. The lake outlet is normally open. The permit states we must close the outlet when the water levels at Grass Lake reach a certain height to prevent flooding on all the lakes. The water levels in Pleasant Lake are lower than the outflow elevation, and even though the outlet is open, no water has been leaving the lake through the outlet since very early last season.

Water levels also decline as the result of evaporation from the lake surface, and changes in groundwater elevations. We would need to see above average rainfall this year and next likely for the levels to come back up to what we are used to.

Please don't hesitate to reach out directly to me if you have more questions or would like more information.

Rebecca Carlson Clearwater River Watershed District, Administrator Direct: 612-408-7515







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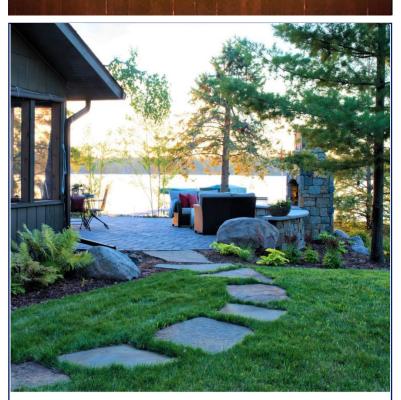
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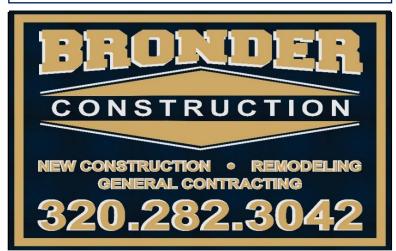
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## A Special Thank You Goes To...

Our advertising businesses, the Annandale Lions for sponsoring the Youth Fishing Event, Maggie Nilson for the newsletter layout, Dave and Barb Lundberg for hosting our March social event, Jill Gruys and Kelli Bronder for their work on fundraising and social events, Tina Honsey, Jeff Harkman, Dave Boie and Steve Miller for their many years of PLIA service, lake residents for sharing pictures of Pleasant Lake life, and Dave Haugland, lake resident and owner of Impressive Print in St. Paul, for donating our newsletter printing.



### Pleasant Lake Boat Parade

On July 3<sup>rd</sup> we will hold our annual PLIA Boat Parade! Have you joined in the parade? It's not hard – get creative and have some fun decorating your boat! We would love to see your creation! Everyone is welcome!

LAKECENTRA

**BANKING – INSURANCE - INVESTMENTS** 

### Oak on the Water, Fire in the Sky

It's the FOURTH annual 'Oak on the Water, Fire in the Sky' on July 4<sup>th</sup>! Watch for more information and a reminder to gather up your flares. Thank you to Oak Realty, Dingmann Marine, and you, the lake residents, for your support of this beautiful tradition!



# AIS Fundraising Update

JIM KELSO (Treasurer)

This is the 5th and final year of our AIS Fundraising Campaign announced at the 2017 PLIA annual meeting. Our campaign goal was established at \$25,000 per year, \$125,000 in total, to help the PLIA manage current aquatic invasive species (AIS) and be ready to promptly address any new AIS threats to Pleasant Lake. Thanks to many of you, we are currently at 81% of our 5-year goal.

2021 Recap: Thanks to the generosity of just under 60% of our PLIA members, we raised nearly \$22,000 or 88% of our \$25,000 goal.

So far in 2022, we have received \$8154 from 67 members which represents 51% of our membership, but only 33% of our goal. A generous donation from the remaining 49% would allow us to meet, and likely exceed, our 2022 campaign goal.

We hope you would all agree that it's a matter of fairness that AIS fundraising be a widely shared effort. If each member would donate \$192 this year, our goals would be met (\$25,000 divided by 131 lots). While we understand that not all members are able to donate that amount, we believe the 40+% of non-donors can contribute at some level this year. Thanks in advance for your help in making our AIS fundraising goal.

Since last year, again, an impressive number of you have moved to the next higher donor level. Congratulations! Next spring, we will provide you with a full campaign wrap-up and publish the final chart of donors by level.

Thanks to all of the AIS campaign donors for helping us to manage the on-going AIS threats to Pleasant Lake.

Thank You, Tina Honsey has organized the PLIA 4<sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade for many years. As she steps away from this role, we would like to say 'Thank you!' for all of her time and effort. We appreciate it!

# 'Farewell to Winter' Social

Thank you to everyone who came to the PLIA 'Farewell to Winter' social event! It was a beautiful day to be out by the lake! A HUGE thank you goes to Dave and Barb Lundberg for hosting.









# **CD3 Cleaning Station**

This information is taken from MLR's Stop Starry Program is Critical Shielding Strategy to Protect Lakes and Lake Communities by Jeff Forester, Executive Director of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates. The entire article is available at PLIAMN.com.



Have you noticed the piece of

equipment covered with a tarp at the city and county landings? Yes, those are the CD3 cleaning systems we have been waiting for! They are free to use and available 24/7.

In 2021 the Minnesota Legislature awarded Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates a \$1 million dollar grant from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund to give communities a new tool to help fight against aquatic invasive species. The grant will allow MLR to install self-service boat cleaning stations at the public accesses on lakes infested with starry stonewort.

Multiple studies have found that while over 90% of boaters know the steps they need to take to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, only about half fully cleaned, drained and dried their watercraft every time they were leaving an access. The reason, according to this research, is that boaters do not have the tools they need when and where they need them so that they can fully clean, drain and dry their watercraft.

"The boat cleaning stations being provided by MLR, with funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund," said Jeff Forester, Executive Director of MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates, "provides the tools boaters need; a wet-dry vacuum, high-pressure air hose, scrubbing brushes, grabbing tools and under carriage/overhead lights to help boaters see at night."



## **T-SHIRT CONTEST**

Art Jou ?

The Second Annual PLIA Walk / Run is coming up in August, and we are looking for a 2022 t-shirt design!

> Start Doodling and Designing Watch for contest details via Facebook and Email!

Want to see your design on a T-shirt?

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.

\*Water Quality Improvement Fund \$ \_\_\_ 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:** Kevin Bergstrom Vice President: Kyle Bauman Secretary: Gale Bergstrom

Treasurer: Jim Kelso **Director:** John Sedey **Director:** Dave Lundberg Director: Jill Gruys Director: Kelli Bronder Chairman Emeritus: Jeff Harkman

Contact your PLIA Board with questions, comments, concerns or if you would like to join the PLIA Board at pliamn@yahoo.com.

O Box 71, Annandale, MM 55302

