Pleasant Faces

GALE BERGSTROM (Lake Resident)

I had a chance encounter with a delightful woman named Liz whose family owned a farm on the north shore of Pleasant. She laughed about how in the 1930’s her dad would get so mad when he had to retrieve cows from Oak Avenue after they got out and wandered into town. She had fond memories of Pleasant Lake.

I got to thinking about growing up on the lake. I turned to Kathy, a lake resident who grew up on a farm on the north side of Pleasant. She brought in her lifelong friend and cousin, Julie. Julie’s family owned Shady Lawn Resort from 1949 to 1968.

The resort was run by Dad, Mom, Grandfather and Grandmother, along with Julie and her two sisters. They all worked hard each Spring painting all of the cabin floors gray, taking all of the dishes out and washing them, and scrubbing the one cupboard in each cabin. All of the sheets were washed and ironed by hand. Dad would hang up the big chart that showed a summer full of reservations.

The wooden flat-bottomed boats needed to spend time in the lake after a dry winter, so they were anchored out on the lake.

While Summer still meant work, it also brought lots of fun. Julie and Kathy spent time swimming and catching turtles at Pleasant Lake Beach (where the county beach is now), sunning on the hill, riding bikes on the dirt path between the resort and the farm, and building tree forts in the cow pasture. On the farm, they loved playing on the thrashing machine, playing dolls in the corn crib, and sliding down the hay stacks and getting into trouble for knocking them down. They often walked through the dishwater.

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President’s Letter

JEFF HARKMAN (President)

With Spring upon us, your Lake Association is busy implementing treatment plans to ensure we diligently manage the health of Pleasant Lake for all to enjoy!

The board has developed a realistic plan to manage the following Aquatic Invasive Species: Eurasian Water Milfoil, Starry Stonewort, and Curly-leaf Pondweed. The lake association members have been responsive to our fundraising requests, enabling us to budget the appropriate expenditures to manage these items. As we embark with our lake surveys and treatment, we will be able to better understand and determine whether last year’s treatment has been effective. In particular, we are interested to see how our hand pulling and treatment of Starry Stonewort worked. Did it curtail the growth? Will we find it in other areas? We know eradication is not possible, however annual management is our focus. The answers will help guide our annual treatment plans.

I am very proud of the team we have in place representing the PLIA. This group of dedicated volunteers meets on a regular basis to understand the current issues we face and do what we can do to ensure a bright future for Pleasant Lake.

In addition, we have worked to communicate our regular board meeting schedule to encourage all lake residents to come and get involved. We meet six times per year and welcome your active participation.

Please consider joining us for the PLIA Annual Meeting and Picnic on Saturday, August 17th at 3 p.m. It will be held at the Pavilion in the City Park.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to having you join us!
PLIA Invasive Update
KEVIN BERGSTROM (Vice President)

Contractors are lined up to address the three invasive species we have in the lake.

**Starry Stonewort:** In late May to early June a contractor will do a dive survey and pull any plants found by the county landing. Then a chemical treatment will be applied. This same procedure will be completed each month during the summer subject to dive survey results.

**Eurasian Watermilfoil:** In early June a delineation survey will be done, then a granular chemical treatment will be applied by the city landing and any other areas it is found.

**Curlyleaf Pondweed:** A chemical treatment will be applied to a total of 15 acres by the city landing, the county landing, and the west end of the lake.

In August we will complete a lake survey to look for any new areas of invasive species.

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**Fundraising Update**
JIM KELSO (Director)

You'll recall that we exceeded our first-year goal of $25,000. Now, thanks to the generosity of many of our members (plus the City of Annandale and Wright County Parks and Recreation), we have already raised $16,000 or nearly 65% of our second-year goal.

You all know the importance of having funds available to manage our AIS challenges!

Remember that our Association continues its 501(c)(3) tax exempt status as approved by the IRS -- meaning donations are deductible for members who itemize.

A very big THANK-YOU to all members who have made contributions. We hope that by year end, all members will make a donation - or another donation!

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**A Special Thank You!**

As Ed Mader leaves his PLIA Director position, the Board would like to thank him, and his family, for their many years of service. Everyone truly enjoyed the annual picnics you planned!

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**Thank You AIS Donors!**

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**Bronze continued**
Dave & Penny Hogberg
Dean & Bonnie Hovlund
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Tim & Nancy Whitesell
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Pleasant Faces
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corn field trying to get lost in the maze of stalks. They laughed about a big horse who would run home like gang-busters always trying to knock the riders off. They even talked about the outhouses and using a catalogue before eventually putting in more modern plumbing. Sometimes the whole family would head over to Kathy’s farm for dinner. Not wanting those evenings to end, the girls would hide all of the shoes thinking that no one could go home without them!

The resort hall was the perfect place to enjoy the breeze coming off of the lake. In fact, Kathy said that was when she told herself she always wanted to be by the lake and that breeze. The girls played ping pong, listened to the bands, and played endless games of solitaire. They listened to the jukebox that played five songs for a quarter, and read ‘Hit Parade’ magazine, learning the songs and putting on shows. Sweeping the hall on Sunday morning was a chore Julie and her sisters loved to do, collecting all of the change that had been dropped the night before. Using a spiked stick that their grandfather had made, the girls picked up candy wrappers and trash.

They also helped make change for resort guests when they bought pop, beer, candy bars, and then pizza brought in from a frozen pizza supplier in North St. Paul. Later the family added a very popular polish sausage with sauerkraut on a rye bun. Fall brought the harvest and the closing of the resort’s year. The girls loved riding on the wagons in the fields. Kathy’s mom, Ella, prepared a big dinner at noon, including favorites such as her famous homemade rolls, and a sugar, mayo, bananas on leaf lettuce salad. Over the Winter, Kathy would celebrate her birthday with a skating party on the lake. Julie’s family would come out and stay overnight on the farm.

Listening to these women share about their time on Pleasant Lake was so much fun. It reinforced what the lake does best – create fond memories.

Welcome to the PLIA Board

Dave Lundberg, Director

Married to Barbara (Heino, an Annandale girl) for 49 years. I was brought up in south Minneapolis and graduated from Washburn H. S., spent two years at St. Olaf College, and graduated from the University of Minnesota. We have three children, Mandy, Gretchen, and Jon. We are blessed with four grandkids who all live within 60 miles. After college I went to work for Chrysler Corp. After 5 years of corporate life, I resigned and bought a car dealership. That ended in the 80’s. Since then I have been in the Commercial Real Estate business as an Income Property Services Provider. I continue to work at it daily and have an office in Plymouth.

I began coming to Annandale in the early 50’s. My uncle had a cabin on Clearwater Lake. I loved the area from the first time I came “up to the cabin”. In 1978 we decided to move to Annandale so the kids could be raised in a small town. We bought our house on the SW shore of Pleasant Lake in 1980. It was built in 1885. We are the gathering place for friends and relatives. I am an avid golfer and enjoy yardwork. I also enjoy exercising and walks.

Water quality and clearness is better since the 1980’s, but there is always room for improvement!

Karen Larson, Director

I grew up spending my summers at our family cabin on Big Eagle Lake just outside of Big Lake. Our cabin was always filled with friends and family making happy memories. When I got married I packed a box and wrote “cabin” on it because I knew someday I would have a cabin with my family. Six years later my husband Ray and I, along with our 3 daughters (Aly age 2, Sami age 4, Kirsten age 5), purchased our cabin on Lake Pleasant and got to unpack that box. My family and I live in Bloomington, Minnesota, but every spring we look forward to our summers in Annandale. As an educator of 30 years, most of them in Minneapolis, Minnesota, I am blessed to have my summers off, so I spend most of my time at our cabin. My daughters and I would spend the entire summer at the cabin when they were younger. The girls played softball for the Annandale Youth Program and attended many community education classes. We spent many days enjoying the lake and riding our bikes around town. We loved being a part of the Annandale community. My husband and I plan to make Annandale our home when we retire. We enjoy sharing our cabin with family and friends and have made so many amazing memories. We look forward to making many more. As I learned about invasive species on our lake, I knew I had to join the board to help keep Lake Pleasant a lake we can all enjoy and be proud of.
Winter Fun
Brenda Bauman (Director)

Thank You!
The Annandale Lions for sponsoring the Youth Fishing Event, Maggie Nilson for doing the newsletter layout, and Dave Haugland, lake resident and owner of IMPRESSIVE PRINTS in St. Paul, for donating our newsletter printing.

A New Tradition
Oak Realty and Dingmann Marine are generously bringing a new tradition, 'Oak on the Water, Fire in the Sky', to Pleasant Lake!

The Pleasant Lake Improvement Association is very pleased to support this new 4th of July tradition, and we encourage you to participate! The goal is to create a ring of lights around the lake! Enclosed is a flyer with all of the details.

We need YOUR participation to bring this new tradition to life! Pick up your LED flares at Oak Realty by the morning of Saturday, June 29th. Hours are Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Spread the word to your lake neighbors! Let’s show our pride of Pleasant Lake!

Thank you, Oak Realty and Dingmann Marine, for this opportunity and your support of the community!