

Dedicated to  
Clean Waters



November 2021  
Vol. 35, No. 8

## UPDATE



**It's Time to Jingle and Mingle!** The PLAs annual holiday party is scheduled for Saturday, December 11. See the article included in this edition!

### A Message from your President

by Tom Rice

As we wrap up the last newsletter until next spring, it is time to look back and thank all the volunteers who have generously given so many hours of time and effort. The list is as large as the commitment these folks have made.

Because we are a member-driven organization, the hard work all starts with our membership recruitment. Thanks to all of you who have helped establish, maintain, and grow our member base!

We also have many people working behind the scenes, including those who contribute to building and grounds maintenance, financial management, donation coordination, education initiatives and social involvement. We couldn't do it without you.

The one area that does not get enough attention and is the most critical to our long-term lake health, is the work that Al Johnson relentlessly pursues. Thank you, Al!

We must also recognize and thank the dozens of folks who have chipped in their leadership, energy and time toward the activities that make us who we are. Thanks to those working the Freshwater Fair, our weed cutting operation, the hard work of the silent auction, and all the members who worked toward the success of the corn booth.

Additionally, our board members and gambling audit committee members make decisions, on a daily basis, that affect the long-term success of our organization. We also have new members who have stepped up to help us usher in a new "digital presence."

Finally, this newsletter will be Becky Gardner's last contribution as editor. We all appreciate her dedication and contributions over the last eight years. She will be missed.

### Greetings (and a fond farewell) from your Editor

by Becky Gardner

In 2014, I took over the position of *Update* editor from former PLA member Ruth Larson. I was excited for the opportunity to utilize my writing and editing skills and help the PLA with its outreach mission. Eight years later, I have decided it is time for me to step aside and let another avid writer seize the opportunity to helm the *Update*. This will be my last publication of the newsletter as editor.

I would like to thank all members who have contributed articles, photos, and information to the newsletter over the years. There is one person who has been, and continues to be, a core contributor to the *Update*—Al Johnson. Thank you, Al, for your diligence on behalf of the PLA!

### UPCOMING PLA EVENTS (at the PLA Building)

**Saturday, November 20**  
General Membership Meeting  
9:00 a.m. (Social Time at 8:30 a.m.)

**Saturday, December 11**  
Holiday Party at Northwoods Steak House

**Saturday, December 18**  
General Membership Meeting  
9:00 a.m. (Social Time at 8:30 a.m.)

AND, I would be more than remiss if I did not thank my husband, Ron, for his proof-reading, editorial assistance and patience on days when I was pulling my hair out due to formatting issues!

I hope that you all continue to support the PLA in its mission to educate folks about the importance of this wonderful resource we all share. My husband Ron and I do hope you to see you on the lake in the coming years. And in the meantime, I hope you all have a warm and peaceful holiday season. Take care and enjoy your read.

## **Lake Improvement Report**

*by Al Johnson*

This month I want to talk about “Stewardship.” What is Stewardship? It is an attitude, and it reflects an understanding that what we do on land and in the water affects the lake. I look at it as all the things we can do to make our planet better for future generations. This was drilled into us in the submarine service. We were taught to always leave a place better than the way we found it. We can use this axiom in all walks of life, whether it is our property, our public domain, our lake, or our environment. What kind of planet do you want your grandchildren and their grandchildren to inherit? With respect to the environment, we have a lot of work to do to make this planet better. The same can be said for our lake.

Now what else can we do to make our environment and lake better? First off, get involved as greater dividends can be obtained with a group effort.

To improve our lake water quality, we need buffer strips, rain gardens, rain barrels and run-off protection. Other things we can do is make sure the human waste from ice fishing and boating is not dumped into the lake. Did you know there is a free RV dump site at the fairgrounds north of the horse barn and adjacent to the rabbit and poultry barn?

If we have a choice between a 2-cycle engine and a 4-cycle engine for our boats, jet skis and pontoons, the 4-cycle is a better choice for the lake. Two cycle engine release as much as 30% of the gas into the water and air, while the 4-cycle is more efficient and saves money.

For lawn care, plant fescue grasses that grow slower and are more tolerant of dry conditions, let the grass grow to a height of 2-1/2” to 3” before you mow (saves work and money), and aerate the lawn every couple of years, as this provides more oxygen, will make for a better lawn, and has the added benefit of allowing more infiltration of rain and therefore less run-off. Put in a rain garden that will reduce the size of your lawn size and the amount of mowing required.

If you have to burn leaves and branches, do it away from the lake and not on down slopes to the lake. Better yet, compost your lawn waste, as it reduces carbon emissions. Now is a good time to clean out the fire pit too!

As you can see there are many tasks we can do to help improve our water quality and several of them also help reduce our carbon footprint.

## **Get Ready to Jingle and Mingle**

*by Becky Gardner*

The PLAs annual holiday party will be held on Saturday, December 11 at the Northwoods Steakhouse in Mora. The evening will be filled with great food, conversation, games, and overall merriment. The “dress code” is plaid, flannel or elfin. View the [PLA Holiday Party Invitation 2021](#) or see the invitation attached to this newsletter mailing.

RSVPs are due by Tuesday, November 30. If you have any additional questions, please contact Jo Ann Laumeyer at [jolaumeyer@yahoo.com](mailto:jolaumeyer@yahoo.com), Marlys Kufner at [mkufner@midco.com](mailto:mkufner@midco.com) or Terri Anderson at [Tander6277@gmail.com](mailto:Tander6277@gmail.com)

## 2021 Remaining Events

All meetings are held at the Pokegama Lake Association Building located at 12965 Lake Line Road, Pine City, MN

November 20	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m.
December 11	Holiday Party at Northwoods Steakhouse
December 18	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

## 2022 Calendar of Events

January 14	Board of Directors Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
January 15	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m.
February 19	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m.
March 19	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m.
April 15	Board of Directors Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
April 16	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m.
May 19	Fresh Water Fair at Fairgrounds and VFW from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
May 21	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m. Welcome Back Potluck at 5:30 p.m.
June 18	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m.
June 21	Food Booth Cleanup at 9:00 a.m. at the Fairgrounds
June 25	Freedom Fest, Fundraiser at PLA Food Booth
July 15	Board of Directors Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
July 16	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m.
August 2-7	Pine County Fair Corn Booth
August 20	General Membership Meeting and Election of Board of Directors at 9:00 a.m. PLA Member Picnic and Silent Auction at 12:00 p.m.
September 16	Board of Directors Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
September 17	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m.
October 15	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m.
November 19	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m.
December 10	Holiday Party at Northwoods Steakhouse
December 17	General Membership Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

### Please Remember to Visit our Gambling Sites

Bear Creek Tavern, Cloverdale  
Braham Event Center, Braham  
Brass Rail, Grandy  
Marge's Pub and Grub, Brook Park  
Northwood's Steakhouse, Knife Lake, Mora  
Red's Liquor Box, Pine City  
Side Tracked Bar and Grill, Brook Park

## Officers and Directors

Tom Rice, President (612) 781-3101  
Scott Waste, Vice President (763) 238-6310  
Bobbi Eich, Treasurer (612) 202-1723  
Luranne McLean, Secretary (612) 716-9022  
Larry Eich (612) 868-1243  
John Hoyny (612) 644-4297  
Shaun Nelson (612) 860-8555  
Laurie Simonsen (952) 892-0425  
Steve Simonsen (952) 334-4678  
Connie Stone (612) 799-2955

## GAMBLING

Kim Erickson (763) 300-7181

## COMMITTEES

### Audit

Bruce Phelps, Chair (507) 649-0474

John Hoyny (612) 644-4297

Jake Jacobson (320) 629-2430

Luranne McLean (612) 716-9022

Gene Olson (320) 629-3842

### Building Management

Chuck & Pauline Royce (320) 629-2805

### Clothing

Melody Fraser (612) 599-4326

Stacey Bolton (651) 336-2259

### Communications Committee

Stacey Bolton, Social Media (651) 336-2259

Becky Gardner, Newsletter and Website (507) 271-4237 or  
beckyfgardner@gmail.com

Mary Holmgren, Membership (612) 481-2223

Susan Kubitschek

### Corn Booth

Scott & Sandy Jeanson (651) 341-2103

### Donations

Chuck Royce (320) 629-2805

### Education

Marietta Jacobson (320) 629-2430

### Freedom Fest

Tom Rice (612) 781-3101

### Freshwater Fair

Lyn Johnson (320) 629-7744

### Lake Improvement

Al Johnson (320) 629-7744

### Silent Auction

Marta Malone-Rice (612) 781-3101, Kathy Nielsen,

Connie Stone (612) 799-2955

### Social

Committee Chairperson--OPEN

**Annual Picnic**—Tammi Kraft, Theresa Watson

**Holiday Party**—Terri Anderson & JoAnn Laumeyer

### SRWMB & DNR

Henry Fischer (651) 253-9377

### Weed Harvesting

Bruce Phelps (507) 649-0474