

## **October LSIA Membership Meeting and Social**

*By Paulette Tollefson, VP*

Leaves have turned and the air is nippy – time to join your neighbors for our fall meeting and social! The October LSIA General Meeting will be held on Thursday, 10/26 at 7:00 PM at Independence City Hall on County Rd 90 just north of Highway 12. Topics include:

- What Can You Do On the Lake Without a Permit?
- Proposed LSIA Meeting Changes
- Project Updates
- Election Planning - Board positions open in April 2001

Enjoy cider and cookies after the meeting!

## **Calendar**

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|---|----------------------------------|
| • 2000 General Meeting                                    | 10/26/00                         |
| • Directory Updates Due                                   | 11/18/00                         |
| • LSIA Board Meeting                                      | 1/22/01                          |
| • Chili Feed & Skating Party                              | 2/18/01                          |
| • Ice Cleanup   | 3/3/01                           |
| • Fertilizer Drop   | 3/31/01                          |
| • 2001 General Meetings                                   | 4/26 (Elections), 7/26, 10/25/01 |
| • 4 <sup>th</sup> Annual July 4 <sup>th</sup> Boat Parade | 7/4/01                           |
| • 12 <sup>th</sup> Annual LSIA Picnic                     | 7/29/01                          |

## **Fall Yard Work Reminders**

Help combat GREEN -- keep sources of phosphorus and other nutrients out of Lake Sarah:

- Use only a non-phosphorus fertilizer.
- Avoid fertilizing close to the water so it does not wash in.
- Pick up leaves and branches that fall into the water.
- Keep grass clippings away from the shore.
- Pick up any masses of lake weeds in the water or on the shore.
- Treat weeds along your lake shore each year (call any Board member for information).

## **Wanted: Lake Sarah Area Directory Updates**

Is your name, address, or phone number incorrect in the Lake Sarah Area Directory? Do you have any new neighbors since last December? Have new addresses been added on your street? The updated Directory will be published in December. We need your help to get updates! Please contact Paulette Tollefson NOW at 763-479-2240 to report any additions or corrections. Last date for corrections is 11/19/98.

## **LSIA Members Run for Greenfield Council**

Two LSIA members are candidates for the two seats on the Greenfield City Council this fall. Cindy Sykes, former long-time LSIA President, is running for re-election, and LSIA Board member Steve Riley threw his hat into the ring for the second seat. Both candidates are strongly supportive of Best Practices in the Pioneer-Sarah Creek watershed, which includes Lake Sarah.

## **Membership Up!**

*By Mary Lou Peterson, Membership Director*

We are growing!! LSIA memberships have increased from 114 in September 1999 to 127 in September 2000. Our business year is from March to March, so if you have not mailed your \$25 dues, it is *never* too late. The number of LSIA members participating in the Superior trash service savings has increased to 46; the next savings level is 50.

If you have a new family next door, please call Mary Lou with their name and address so a newsletter and membership information can be mailed to them.

## **Next Loretto Creek Detention Ponds Planned**

*By Paulette Tollefson, Project Coordinator*

Our first detention pond on Loretto Creek is complete (by Bell Rose Drive and Co Rd 11). Two more ponds are planned near Townline Road to trap even more phosphorus before it enters the lake. One pond may be behind Doug Doboszanski's home, with the other pond on Gerald Williams' property. Initial meetings with the Hennepin Conservation District, DNR, and Army Corp of Engineers indicated that the ponds are feasible. Current activities include developing detailed pond designs, determining funding sources, and locating spots to dump the excavated soil. Get the latest update on these plans at the October General Meeting.

## **Treasurer's Report**

*By Brad Spencer, Treasurer*

LSIA's balance on 1/1/00 was \$2241.28. As of 9/11/00, receipts were \$16,652.22 (including a CD redemption) and disbursements were \$7153.99. Ending balance was \$11,739.51. Part of this balance will be rolled into a CD.

## **Best Practices Education**

*By Mary Lou Peterson, Project Coordinator*

LSIA is involved with several activities to educate area residents on Best Practices that can help the lake quality.

- Best Practices Placemat: The fall version of the placemat was provided by LSIA to local restaurants including Dobos. It was funded by a donation from the City of Independence.
- Best Practices Brochures: The multi-color brochures remaining from a previous distribution will be sent by LSIA to the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed, funded by a donation from the City of Greenfield.
- New DNR Educational Poster: LSIA would like to publicize an article that appeared in the 8/27 Star Tribune. "A colorful poster explaining what watersheds are has just been printed by the DNR. The two-sided poster shows a topographical relief map of major watersheds across the state on one side; on the other side the poster features suggestions for protecting and improving watersheds and water resources. The poster is designed to be a tool for teachers, lake associations, service groups, and anyone else interested in promoting protection of water resources. The poster is available free by calling (651) 296-6157 in the Twin Cities or 1-888-MINNDNR outstate."

## **4<sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade 2000**

*By Brad Spencer, Parade Coordinator and Judge*

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual boat parade was an overwhelming success again with as many as 25 vessels participating in the afternoon sunshine. As usual, the parade left the main channel area at 3:15 and proceeded clockwise around our lake. Spectators along the shoreline enjoyed the most decorated parade in the event's short history.

Most notable entrants included:

- The Horazuk family pontoon with a vast number of decorations and a full boatload of fully costumed friends and family members. An amazing effort even without the tubing banjo player!
- The Jorgenson family pontoon with by far the most red, white, and blue banners and flags. They were in serious contention for the decorating contest until the participants used large squirt guns to spray any unsuspecting boat that ventured too close (including that of the self-appointed judge).
- The Stibbard family with several neighbors decorated their pontoon with the Boston Tea Party theme, complete with cases of tea (?). They quickly decided, however, that Long Island teas were preferable to the typical variety, which explains the seemingly random course their boat followed.
- The Englund pontoon clearly had the tallest flagpole, estimated at over 20' tall and topped by both Old Glory and a large 19<sup>th</sup> hole flag. They also installed forward facing cannons and numerous signs and decorations. Apparently the signs were made using water soluble ink, making for a quick dash home to clean their upholstery after a water gun attack.

The pontoon boats seemed to have the edge, as there is more area to decorate. We smaller boat owners are going to have to get more creative if we are to have a chance at the decorating contest prize.

The bonfire and barbeque at Lyreks following the parade was fairly well attended, with several people bringing salads and desserts to share. If you didn't come to the barbeque this year, make a point to include it in your next year's plans!

This year's decorating contest came out as a tie in an informal poll of participants, causing great delay in awarding the only prize – a \$50 gift certificate for Von Hansen's Meats. The tie breaker came down to the outcome of employment of an official random decision generator (flipped coin). The winner is: Bernie and Sherry Stibbard and friends on their Long Island Tea Party entry! Sorry to the Englunds and better luck next year!

## **Picnic Pix**

*By Dolores Ullstrom, Picnic Chair*

Great summer weather, good company, and wonderful food – what more can you ask of a picnic? Lake Sarah residents and friends gathered on July 30<sup>th</sup> at the home of Kim and Becky Jacobsen for the 12<sup>h</sup> annual LSIA picnic. Over 80 people attended, including guests State Senator Gen Olson, Commissioner Penny Steele. and Independence Mayor Marvin Johnson.

### **Photos: Kids plus water equals FUN!**

Thanks again to the **Jacobsens** for hosting the event; to the **Mizells** who donated paper products; to the **Sandlasses** who donated game prizes; to **Mary Jorgenson** and Shady Moon Properties for donating the burgers, hot dogs and buns; to the many business who donated prizes; and to all the LSIA Board members who organized and cooked and cleaned.

### **Photo: Cooks Tom Mizell and Steve Riley relax with with Julie Riley and Steve Hancock**

Many local businesses contributed door prizes. Thanks to:

- Weller Works for a Minnesota sweatshirt, won by Bob & Bev Schoonmaker.
- Bill Hibbard of Budget Printing for 5 sets of personalized note pads won by Paul Klesmit, Steve Hancock & Paulette Tollefson, Michael & Julie LePage, Earl & Jean Truax, and Warren & Julie Grist.
- Greg Hani, owner of Hani's Studio, for an original framed cardinal print, won by Steve & Teri Hoogenakker.
- Coast to Coast, for a certificate for 1 dozen night crawlers, won by Anni Lee.
- North American Foods for a \$10 gift certificate, won by Fred Lang.
- Jean Jacobs of Pleasant View Farm & Produce, for 1 dozen ears of corn, won by Bill & Gloria Hibbard.
- Ron Jorgenson of Acoustical Floors, for a \$25 Target gift certificate, won by Gary & Kelly Sandlass.
- Choo Choo Restaurant & Bar for a \$40 gift certificate, won by Lee & Val LaMere.
- Stop-N-Go Liquor for a bottle of Wild Vines wine, won by Dan Cady.
- Olson's Mercantile for four 12-packs of pop, won by Gene & Dolores Ullstrom, Rick Niedzielski, Brad Spencer, and Steve & Julie Riley.
- Dobo's Café and Bakeshop for a \$10 gift certificate, won by Kim & Becky Jacobsen.
- Fritz & Joyce's for a \$25 gift certificate, won by Paul Klesmit.
- Detour 19 for a \$15 gift certificate, won by Fred Lang.
- Von Hanson meats for two \$10 gift certificates, won by Ron & Mary Jorgenson and Tom Mizell.
- Dale & Kathy Hahn for ten 2-liter bottles of root beer and orange, won by Jim & Gaye Schrack, Ed Penney, Craig & Mary Lou Peterson, Pat & Joan Lyrek, Jerry & JoEllen Horazuk, John & Teresa Jorgenson, Duane & Mae Nielsen, Kevin & Gina Ward, Ron & Chris Lyrek, Jason & Kathleen Nelson

## ***Lake Sarah Area History***

### **A Visit with Dorothy Jacobs: Historical Nuggets**

***By Dolores Ullstrom***

Dorothy Jacobs (nee Snodgrass) lived for over fifty years in Loretto on the corner of Lorenz and St. John in a home that she and her husband Lawrence built. She is a widow now and lives in Hillcrest apartments. She has been slowed up a bit by a broken leg that is healing ever so slowly. I had the good fortune to share a few hours with her this past summer. Our conversation inevitably got around to local history. The following are a few facts/stories that she shared with me.

#### **Photo: Dorothy Jacobs**

Dorothy was born in 1909 in a log house on a farm that is currently owned by her nephew. The farm is situated on Lake Charlotte near Greenwood, a Girl Scout camp. A sign on the property proudly proclaims the farm's historical beginnings as the Snodgrass homestead. Dorothy was the youngest of 13 children. When Dorothy and her family moved out of the log house and into their new house, the log building became an ice house. Ice blocks were cut from Lake Charlotte, hauled to the log structure, and packed with saw dust for use during the hot months.

After graduating from eighth grade, Dorothy found work as a hired girl. Her first job was working for a family who had just had their tenth child. At 16 she moved to Minneapolis to live with a brother and to find work. For three years she left her Minneapolis job during the summer months to come back to Lake Sarah and work at the Lake Sarah Inn. She and her sisters Florence and Nettie worked there together during the 1920s, earning \$7 per week for 7 days of work.

Every Sunday Mrs. Anderson, the Inn's owner, made a delicious chicken dinner. She got up about 3 AM and started preparing dinner. About 100 people from the cities showed up each Sunday. Dessert was always chocolate cake. The hired girls helped prepare the chickens and vegetables. They also worked cleanup. A light meal was served in the evening. When everything was cleaned up after supper, the girls had the rest of the evening off.

During the '20s everyone worked hard, but people were very poor compared to today's standards. The "good life" was lived by the few who were wealthy.

Dorothy's sister Charlotte (Hohl) worked for a time as hired girl for the Florida family, owners of the historical house in Rockford now known as the Ames/Florida/Stock House.

In the early days, automobiles were driven in good weather only. During the winter months, roads were impassable and cars were put up on blocks.

The Lake Sarah Dance Hall was located on the site of the Terry and Mark Holten home. The entrance was off Highway 55. Dances were held in the summer only because the building was unheated. Dorothy reports that it was the biggest social draw in the area. It was the most popular site of local wedding dances.

For many years there was, in the building that has been until recently called Fritz and Joyce's, a restaurant known as Ma Widner's. Ma Widner was a large woman who was, shall we say, a little rough around the edges. Ma was known for the high top leather boots she wore, her delicious fried chicken, and cooking for Loretto's volunteer firemen. After every fire all the firemen were invited back to her restaurant for chicken dinner. Often she got up in the middle of the night to fix dinner so that it was ready when the firemen returned to town. The dinner was served at no cost to the firemen.

At one time Loretto had a creamery called Dutch Mill Dairy (because of the numerous Dutch farmers in the area?). Part of the brick building and smokestack are still visible. The dairy was known for its delicious ice cream. Before the creamery was built, farmers sent their cream to Minneapolis via train. After the creamery closed, the building was used by the plastics division of Tonka toys, which later moved to Spring Park.

## Simon's Hotel

Barbara Ebert (nee Simon) was the youngest of the Simon's 13 children, seven of whom lived to adulthood. Many of her older siblings died in childhood when they became infected with whooping cough and chicken pox at the same time. Barbara was the only child left at home when her parents moved from their farm east of town into Loretto to the hotel which they had built. Barbara was often kept home from Saints Peter and Paul school to help with chores. She changed beds, waited on tables, and helped her mother prepare meals. She said her mother was a really good cook.

### **Photos: Simon's Hotel**

The upper floor of the hotel had six rooms. Many railroad employees, including the station master, stayed at the hotel. Salesmen traveling in the area or going through town on the train also stayed in the hotel. Mrs. Simon served her guests three meals a day. At one time there was a stable on the property. After her husband died, Mrs. Simon ran the hotel by herself. After she died the hotel was sold. At one time the hotel was made into a duplex.

In 1966 Rick and Rosie Arens moved into one of the apartments. They bought the hotel in 1967 and sold it in 1974. The next owner, a family named Benson, returned it to a single family dwelling and sold it to Jim and Jan Marris in 1978. The Marris continue to live there and plan to remodel in the fall.

Thanks, Dorothy, for sharing your memories with LSIA members. Word has it that local history is a favorite topic with readers.

**Lake Sarah Improvement Association Board  
2000 to 2002**

<b>PRESIDENT</b> 479-2119	2001	Kelly Sandlass (Spouse: Gary) 6601 Genaker Way Maple Plain, MN 55359
<b>VP/SECRETARY</b> 479-2240; 671-8729 w	2001	Paulette Tollefson (Spouse: Steve Hancock) 6225 Lake Sarah Hts Drive Rockford, MN 55373
<b>TREASURER</b> 479-3525	2001	Brad Spencer (Spouse: Lisa) 4510 Shady Beach Circle Maple Plain, MN 55359
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b> 479-6535	2002	Mary Lou Peterson (Spouse: Craig) 6804 Rachel Ridge Court Maple Plain, MN 55359
<b>GOVT LIAISON</b> 479-3292	2001	Dolores Ullstrom (Spouse: Gene) 4740 Lake Sarah Hts Circle Rockford, MN 55373
<b>DNR LIAISON</b> 479-3994	2001	Ron & Mary Jorgenson 4594 Shady Beach Circle Maple Plain, MN 55359
<b>WATER LEVEL/QUALITY</b> 479-3040	2002	Al Moen (Spouse: Sally) 6205 Lake Sarah Hts Drive Rockford, MN 55373
<b>SAFETY/NAVIGATION</b> 479-3150	2002	Steve Riley (Spouse: Julie) 6235 Lake Sarah Hts Drive Rockford, MN 55373
<b>GRANT/EDUCATION</b> 479-1143		Jane Maland Cady (Spouse: Dan Cady) 5709 Lake Sarah Hts Drive Rockford, MN 55373
<b>NEWSLETTER</b> 479-6602		Sue Mizell (Spouse: Tom) 5665 Lake Sarah Hts Drive Rockford, MN 55373