

# LSIA Newsletter

## 2016-17 Lake Sarah Neighborhood Directory

Back by popular demand! We updated our neighborhood directory and sent out an electronic copy to everyone in our database. If we missed you or if you would like a paper copy, please email [lakesarahassociation@yahoo.com](mailto:lakesarahassociation@yahoo.com)



## Happy New Year LSIA Members!

### 2017 Calendar

- April 4 Spring General Meeting
- July 23 Annual Meeting and Summer Picnic
- Oct 10 Fall General Meeting

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### LSIA Mission Statement

To promote policies and practices those represents and protects the interests of the Lake Sarah stakeholders and enhance their ability to maximize enjoyment of their shared resource.

**LSIA TREASURER REPORT**  
**12/31/16**

	2014	2015	2016	2016
	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL TO DATE</u>
<i>Assets:</i>				
Beginning checking (Jan1st)	\$ 9,023	14,469	\$ 24,916	\$ 24,916
21st century CD - 6 month	\$ 6,974	6,984	\$ 6,991	\$ 6,991
21st century CD - 12 month	\$ 8,930	8,951	\$ 8,967	\$ 8,967
21st century CD - 6 month	\$ 30,000	30,000	\$ 30,038	\$ 30,038
<b>Total Beginning Cash Balance:</b>	<u>\$ 54,927</u>	<u>60,405</u>	<u>\$ 70,911</u>	<u>\$ 70,911</u>
<i>Receipts:</i>				
Membership for 2015	5,145	5,180		-
Membership for 2016		105	5,250	5,310
Contributions - Walleye Fund	435	920	500	505
Contributions - Other	3,000	4,260	3,000	-
Interest -- checking	9	5		14
Interest -- CD's	27	60		46
<b>Total Receipts:</b>	<u>9,472</u>	<u>10,530</u>	<u>8,750</u>	<u>5,875</u>
<i>Disbursements:</i>				
Office Supplies, Printing/Mailing (news letters, postcards)	783	54	500	102
Directory			100	47
Membership/Board meetings	296	225	300	
Spring Meeting			150	63
Spring Meeting Room Deposit (to be refunded)			1,000	-
Boat Parade (prizes)	200	200	200	150
Biff at Public Access	-	236	250	250
Biff at Picnic Grounds		252	250	367
Summer Picnic/Annual meeting	209	583	600	597
Fall Meeting			150	
Winterfest	-		100	
Walleye Program	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Lake Improvement Projects (Cost)	49,242	44,144	46,500	40,943
Lake Improvement Projects (Proceeds)	(49,006)	(46,779)	(16,800)	(49,203)
PayPal fees	85	106	125	267
Other Fees	1,186	4	600	
<b>Total Disbursements:</b>	<u>3,994</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>34,425</u>	<u>(5,417)</u>
<b>Overage / (Deficit)</b>	<b>5,478</b>	<b>10,507</b>	<b>(25,675)</b>	<b>11,292</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE:</b>	<u>60,404</u>	<u>70,911</u>	<u>45,236</u>	<u>82,204</u>

# LSIA Summer Highlights

2016 was a beautiful and fun summer here on Lake Sarah!

## Summer Fun!

The month of July was once again filled with fun activities on Lake Sarah!

The 20<sup>th</sup> annual 4th of July Boat parade sponsored by LSIA was a fun filled afternoon enjoyed by many lake residents. The theme included the traditional "Patriotic" theme and "Favorite Sport/Team". Lots of time and thought went in to creating the decorated boats for the parade. Top prize for the most patriotic went to the Bechetti family and the top prize for the sport theme was awarded to the Martineau Family. Thanks again to Paul Klesmit and Ginny Cook on Woodhill Drive for being the official judges.



Let us know if you have any ideas for this year's Theme?

## LSIA Summer Picnic

The LSIA summer picnic was held on July 17<sup>th</sup> at Jorgenson's park on Shady Beach Circle. Well over 100 lake neighbors attended on this beautiful afternoon.

Some of the activities included the popular Kube tournament, a Bass Fishing Tournament and a jump house for the kids! The food table was filled with yummy dishes provided for this pot luck event. Special thanks to Ron and Mary Jorgenson for once again hosting this popular event and to everyone who helped!

A brief LSIA summer meeting was held to elect new officers and board members. The meeting was followed by our picnic which included hamburgers, hot dogs, brats and many dishes brought by neighbors to share.

Keep our annual picnic in mind for next year. Any suggestions or donations would be appreciated!



**Great Neighbors!!**

**Great Entertainment!!!**

**The Swing Sisters Band**



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## LSIA Membership

We had a very successful membership drive for 2016. Thank you to all the 152 lake area residents who supported LSIA this year. The \$35 membership goes in to the general fund to support many projects including our boat parade, summer picnic, meetings, and water quality improvement projects. Our 2017 membership drive will begin in January!

## Lake Sarah Neighborhood Directory

The updated 2016 directory was sent out by email in July. We also have a limited number of printed directories available by request. If you did not receive a directory and would like a copy emailed or delivered to you please contact me at the email below. We are always interested in updates. If you noticed that your information was incorrect please let us know so we can make changes. Also we would like to know if a neighbor has moved. If you have any corrections or additions, please contact Anne at [annehutchhorn@msn.com](mailto:annehutchhorn@msn.com)

## Thank You!

Many hours of volunteer time go in to supporting Lake Sarah Improvement Association. We would like to thank the board members who served in 2015-2016 including Nate Uselding, Greg Koopman, Brent Lau, Ron Jorgenson, Scott Heintzman, Brent Foster, Terry Wise, and Mike Peterson. We also have many other neighbors who serve as block captains and volunteer at our community events. So join us in thanking all who have helped to make this lake association successful!

# Water Safety and Navigation

Scott Walsh

Hi All,

It was another very wet year. In fact, it was the wettest ever recorded in our area to date. We wanted to give some updates on the weir outlet. LSIA continues to monitor the creek and work as needed to keep Sarah creek flowing. We sometimes monitor daily when we have high water, but at least once a week.

Here are some highlights for this year!

\*Sarah Creek was sprayed again for cattail. 3rd time in the last 6 years or every other year seems to work the best. Spraying is done to keep cattail from overgrowing and blocking creek flow. Thanks John Wise for his boat and help!

\*Drone flights like the ones posted on Lakesarah.com and U Tube done by Todd Zaugg are very helpful in spotting areas of concern, beaver dams, loose bogs etc. Work was done by hand this year clearing pinch points north of the railroad tracks thanks to the drone video supplied by Todd!

\*Sarah Creek seems to be working well, we hit just over 50 cfs leaving the lake in September at TRPD monitor located on County Road 92...To date our record was 42 cfs back in 2012.

\*An agreement has been made between the Cities of Greenfield/Independence and TRPD to maintain Sarah creek. Once i get a copy of the agreement we will publish at the next LSIA newsletter. From what i have heard LSIA will be responsible for just monitoring and reporting. We will keep you up to date once i know more.

\*Lake Sarah Was on No-Wake for over a week and LSIA reported water levels to the Cites. LSIA also posted and removed signs on buoys and public access.

\*Thanks should go out to Joe Slavec, Mike Peterson, Todd Zaugg, Cindy Keating, Fred Lang and John Wise for their help this year ...and of course Brad Spencer for keeping the website updated with warnings and current info.

## 5 THINGS MINNESOTANS CAN DO

to protect and preserve MN's water for future generations:

### Kids & Schools

- Turn off the faucet
- Carry a water bottle
- Build a rain garden
- Check for leaks
- Ask your school to help

### Business

- Seal your wells
- Create places for water to soak into the ground
- Minimize use of fertilizers and pesticides
- Request renewable energy
- Be climate smart

### Communities

- Clean green
- Don't flush your medicine
- Pick up after your pet
- Follow directions to dispose of hazardous materials
- Check your toilet

### Farmers

- Become certified
- Manage nutrients
- Implement conservation tillage
- Manage field and drainage water
- Living cover and buffer strips

### Outdoor Enthusiasts

- Volunteer to monitor lakes and streams
- Let plants grow along shorelines
- Visit parks and trails
- Inspect your watercraft
- Share your enthusiasm



# LSIA History

## LSIA's good friend and founder-Harold Burrows

By Dolores Ullstrom

Shortly after moving into his lovely new home on Fern Drive in 1980, Harold Burrows was relaxing with a beer at Shady Beach Resort. As he sat, he visited with Harry Poole and a few other locals. Each individual had a strong property rights point of view. What was said is unknown but the conversation peaked Harold's interest. He wanted to learn more about other neighbors and their way of thinking. How to do it? LSIA was conceived.

Harold grew up in south Minneapolis. In his youth he had been to Lake Sarah several times. He loved the water. He remembers spending all day catching painted turtles while in a boat tied to shore. At day's end he released the turtles back into the lake.

His father died of lung cancer at age 41. Harold became the "man of the house." He went to college and graduated from Iowa State with degrees in math and physics. From the U of M he earned his Master's Degrees in physics and business. His first job was with Honeywell where he worked on missile laser guidance systems. Finding this a little tame, he wandered into the field of finance and became a stock broker. It was there that he stayed until retirement.

In 1965 Harold married Renee. She also grew up in south Minneapolis. When Harold wanted a date for a U of M homecoming dance, his mother suggested that he ask Renee. He did and, as we say, the rest is history. They have been married 51 years.





Harold was not the first person to believe in the benefits of organizing lakeshore owners. The first attempt at organizing took place in the early 1970s. Roger Pitts, currently at home with his wife Betty, at 4330 Woodhill Dr. incorporated the first lake association. He told me he did it just because a lake needs an advocacy group.

The newly organized group contacted the DNR and buoys were placed in the narrows and near North Shore Dr. The latter buoys are no longer placed on resident request but Hennepin County continues to provide buoys for the narrows.

During Roger's presidency a small company in Loretto was dumping its waste into Lake Sarah. The Lake Association contacted the MN Pollution Control Agency about their concerns. The MPCA toured the company and demanded they stop. The company changed its behavior. The company's President later attended an Association meeting and speaking to members assured them that the company was no longer dumping waste in the Lake, and it would never happen again. His graciousness impressed Roger who believes the situation was handled well by the MPCA. It was a major success for the Lake Association and no enemies were made.

After 4 or 5 years Roger stepped down as president. Due to lack of quality leadership the Association fell apart. That was the status until Harold came onto the scene.

Under Harold's leadership, LSIA was soon a reality with Harold as President. It was some time later that he learned how much of a time commitment he had taken on. The desire to meet his neighbors took second place as the desire to work to improve the lake became his primary goal.

Harold and Renee's home is now up for sale. Here is a quick history of the land their house sits on. A relatively large piece of property that included the present Fern Dr. was deeded by the United States to Joseph Meyor in 1857. It was soon divided up and sold to several individuals for amounts varying from \$250 to \$803. In 1882 135 acres was sold to Hilarius and Magdalena Schumacher for \$3200. From 1889 to 1941 the land was deeded to John and Clara Schumacher. In 1941 they lost the land to foreclosure. In 1946 the land was owned by Alfred and Eulalie Klaers. The Klaers leased out part of the land and sold other parts. In 1965 Jean and James Oeffling bought a piece. Walter and Louise Klaers bought 5 acres ("more or less"). This land would soon be known as Wally's Resort. In 1972 Gust Kempf, Jr and his wife Fern bought 5 parcels. In 1973 the Village of Independence adopted subdivision regulations "for the orderly, economic and safe development of land." The Kempf's got approval for the development of what would become known as Fernwood Hills. It can be assumed that Fern Drive was named for Fern Kempf.

The plans for the home that Renee and Harold would eventually build in Fernwood Hills were taken from a home they had seen and admired in North Oaks.

Harold ably served LSIA as President for many years. There was no term-limiting by-law until years later. Most of the documents he had saved over the years regarding his tenure that would have historical interest have been destroyed. In preparation for moving many things had to go. When I spoke with him, Harold apologized for not remembering dates and specific details.

The most pressing issues during his tenure were lake level, no wake zone during high water, and cattle in the water and their impact on water quality.

In order to have a more effective voice in the management of Hennepin County lakes including Lake Sarah, Harold ran for and won a seat on the Hennepin County Conservation District Board of Directors. The role of this Board was to employ and manage a group of water experts who advised local groups such as water shed districts throughout the County.

An example of how the Conservation District operated is shown by the fencing project that took place to keep cattle out of Lake Sarah. After being made aware of the situation, advisers determined that the cattle were having a negative impact on water quality. It was advised that a fence be put in place to keep them out. Property owner permission was obtained, funding was provided and LSIA volunteers were found to put the fence up. While this may seem like a straight forward endeavor, it took education, patience and a good many people handling skills. Cows had always used Lake Sarah to cool off, and the general consensus among farmers was that the Lake was doing okay. Changing ways of thinking and old habits is not easy.

Harold's people management skills are particularly good, and no one worked harder than he did. I think an important reason he has been able to accomplish so much is that he displays a genuine, selfless interest in Lake Sarah and its welfare. While he has been known to describe himself as a benign dictator, he is able to entertain different points of view without rancor. He, for example, does not like to see chemicals poured into the Lake for weed control. He prefers mechanical weed removal. Time will tell. Through it all he remains a gentleman.

When asked how LSIA could help landowners be more responsible lake owners, Harold says education is the key. It often takes years for new landowners to learn what they need to know about water quality and what humans do both positively and negatively to impact the Lake. He thinks a Welcome Wagon type program may be helpful. The cities can also be helpful by informing land owners up front about lakeshore regulations. A strong, active LSIA is also very important.



Harold has attended all of LSIA's picnics. He still wants to know his neighbors. He leaves Lake Sarah with very mixed emotions. He loves it here. He has been a good citizen and his service has been over and above the call to duty. While he leaves the Lake and LSIA in good hands, he will miss being away from the action and being around to make sure the energy and effort needed to protect the Lake never falters.

When asked about legacy, Harold wants to be remembered as a person who from the very beginning has been focused on improving water quality for future generations.

Thank you Harold and Renee. I hope we see you at future picnics. We will miss you.

## 2016-17 Board of Directors

### LSIA Board and Committee Chairs

<u>Title (term exp)</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Committee Assignments</u>
<i>PRESIDENT (2018)</i>	<i>Kevin Horn</i>	
<i>VICE PRES. (2017)</i>	<i>Nate Uselding</i>	<i>Water Quality</i>
<i>SECRETARY (2017)</i>	<i>Michele Sebenaler</i>	<i>Communications</i>
<i>TREASURER (2017)</i>	<i>Melissa Ulberg</i>	
<i>DIRECTOR (2018)</i>	<i>Scott Walsh</i>	<i>Water Quality/Water Level</i>
<i>DIRECTOR (2018)</i>	<i>Kent Roers</i>	
<i>DIRECTOR (2018)</i>	<i>Mike Malone</i>	<i>Membership</i>
<i>DIRECTOR (2018)</i>	<i>Anne Horn</i>	<i>Community Relations</i>
<i>DIRECTOR (2017)</i>	<i>Reid Lau</i>	<i>Directory/Fishery</i>
<i>DIRECTOR (2017)</i>	<i>Andy Lewis</i>	<i>Water Level</i>

### Welcome Mike Malone and Kent Roers!

**Mike Malone** and his wife Colleen have lived on Lake Sarah on South Lake Sarah Drive since 2007. They have 3 grown children; Tommy is 26 and lives in the mountains of Colorado, Katie is 27 and lives in Denver, and Dan is 29 and lives here. Puppy Finley is a golden-doodle and is now 3. Mike recently retired from Polaris in Medina after 32 years, most recently as the VP-Finance and Chief Financial Officer. Mike enjoys many recreational activities including water skiing, wake surfing, snow skiing, cross country skiing, RZRing, snowmobiling, motorcycling, and hiking. Mike is looking forward in retirement to spending more time on the lake, and in helping our neighbors preserve the Lake Sarah lifestyle for generations to come.

# Lake Sarah Improvement Association

## Membership Form

<b>Member Information:</b>	
Name	
Address	
City	
State	
Zip Code	
Lake Address (if different from above)	
Telephone(s)	
Email(s)	
<b>Annual Dues:</b>	<b>Amount:</b>
Membership Fee:	\$35.00
Additional Donations:	Water Quality Fund
	Walleye Fund
	Other
*All fees and donations to LSIA are tax deductible	Total:

**Please make checks, corporate matches, or other gifts payable to LSIA and mail to:**

LSIA  
PO BOX 25  
Loretto MN 55357

**You may also pay with PayPal on [www.lakesarah.com](http://www.lakesarah.com)**

Interested in getting involved? Volunteer on one of our many committees! Please check here to be contacted with more info!

Membership committee

Water Quality committee

Summer Picnic/Boat Parade

Bog/Outlet Army

Fishery committee

Ice Clean up committee

**Thanks for supporting LSIA! We are looking forward to another great year on Lake Sarah!!!**