



Loon Calls

www.lakesylvia.org

Summer 2021

GREATER LAKE SYLVIA ASSOCIATION



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Fourth of July Fireworks

By Randy Wilson

2021 marks the sixth year we have raised funds on Lake Sylvania for fireworks. Thanks to everybody that contributed to make it possible. Your generosity not only helped this year, but we have a good start for next year's fundraising.

We are fortunate that Camp Chi Rho allows us to use their property as a launch site. The camp and adjacent neighbors have been very accommodating each year. I want to thank them as it would be difficult to find another place to set up the display. The lake topography makes it a little challenging to find a suitable location that allows us to shoot 'legal fireworks' that is also easy to view from the boat. When we first looked at a location it quickly became apparent that

the required setbacks limit the options we have. As it is, we can shoot no larger than three inch cakes and shells. That seems sufficient to get some cheers and boat horns honking. I also try to get the fireworks company to allow us a good date around the 4th, but long-standing contracts with other cities and groups makes getting the 3rd or 4th unlikely. It seems the dates we get are a good start for the holiday weekend. I'm always amazed how many boats head south on the lake overflowing with friends and family.

Unless I hear different, we will get things set up for next year. Thanks again for your financial support to make it possible and have a fun and safe summer on the lake.



Are You A GLSA Member?

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE FIGHTING AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES.

The future health of our lake literally depends on it.

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- **Wildlife Conservation Committee**

Please contact any chair to join their committee.

GLSA Loon Calls Editor

- Stephanie Schaunaman
2stephm@gmail.com

A Few Words From Your President

By Russ Fortner

How low can the lake go? I have been hearing some low water stories involving lake level and boat lifts, also some bent props from hitting rocks.

The 4th of July events are over with all GLSA events. I still feel bad that no one stepped up and took the chair of the boat parade. Fireworks went very well, as did the golf tourney. Now on to the picnic in August. It is nice and hot on the lake with no rain outs. Enjoy the lake and be safe.



Water Quality Perspectives for Lake Sylvania in 2020

Prepared by Mike Mischuk, Chair of GLSA Water Quality Committee

The overall water quality in both basins of Lake Sylvania in 2020 continues to be very good and meeting the use attainability classification of the State's water quality standards. Transparency (clarity) as measured with a Secchi disk averaged 20 feet in the East Basin and ranged from 18 to 24 feet. The average was slightly above the 2019 measurements. The West Basin average for 2020 was 22 feet and

ranged from 21 to 25 feet. The average was nearly the same average as measured in 2019.

Total phosphorous levels have remained below the State Standards and reflect the lake's ability to cut off the availability of this nutrient due to the lakes thermocline. This in turn limits the biologically available phosphorous to algae in the summer growing season. The low Chlorophyll-a level during the same time frame

also reflect the limitation of this nutrient. Therefore the over Trophic State Index status still remains in the Oligotrophic to Mesotrophic range.

For more details the report can be found on the GLSA web site under Lake Data.

The fish consumption advisory is still in effect for both basins for mercury even though the data is old and no new sampling has been done or is planned for the near future.

Sundays on Sylvania gatherings

The SOS planning team is excited to ramp up our 4 gatherings for the summer of 2021. Three Announcements:

- Here are the dates for our gatherings (invite your family and friends)
May 30th - Memorial Day
July 4th - 4th of July

August 8th - Father's Day in Brazil (Pastor Ben Griffin)
September 5th - Labor Day (Pastor Dave Schmidt)

- Many of you have generously asked about how you might support Sundays on Sylvania. Our costs per gathering are \$350 for music li-

censes, rolls and program costs. All excess dollars will be invested in local churches.

- New this year. Aqua-UBER. If you are unable to join us, let us know and we will pick you up by boat. See you at 10:33am Koinonia Cover.

GLSA Event Calendar for 2021

Aug. 8th	Sundays on Sylvania
Aug. 14th	Board Meeting 9 am
Aug. 21st	Annual Picnic 4-8 pm
Sept. 5th	Sundays on Sylvania
Sept 11th	Board Meeting 9 am
Oct 9th	Board Meeting 9 am

2021 GLSA Events

- Please watch or check the following for updates:
- The website (www.lakesylvia.org)
 - Email blasts from the website
 - Loon Calls newsletters
 - Annual Dues Letter

All members are welcome to attend board meetings. We meet at the Southside Town Hall. To request a presentation to the board, contact President Russ Fortner

Lake Sylvia History

By Nancy Hector

Hello fellow lake lovers, specifically Lake Sylvia. I hope you enjoyed the fourth, the weather was perfect for being at the lake. I'm sure you have probably spent a little time in the boat this summer. We love to just take a leisurely ride around the lake and reminisce. So that got me thinking of how much people enjoyed coming out here way back in the day and spending time at one of the many resorts on the lake. There were many such as Jackpot resort, Rankins Bungalow Beach, Sylvia Cedars Resort, Kingsteads Idle House resort, Camp Chicamauga, Wulleiinda resort, Cozy Comfort and West Cottages, (hello Uncle Frank). So here's a little brain teaser, can you match the following map coordinates with the appropriate resort ? Just a hint

they may not be exact, (except for west cottages), as I have no idea what the mailing addresses were back then, oh and a history book will help.

- Latitude by Longitude -
- 45.247587,-94.219957
- 45.24481,-94.19163
- 45.25762,-94.18743
- 45.26172,-94.22178
- 45.266338,-94.19318
- 45.256952,-94.221588
- 45.250246,-94.220386
- 45.25969,-94.20592

Let me know how you did, send your answer to nancyhector@gmail.com. All correct answers are entered into a drawing at the GLSA picnic on Aug. 21.

Keep an eye out when you're out in the boat. If you squint you can almost picture those who came before us.

Peace - Nancy

Aquatic Invasive Species Treatment Updates

By Blaine Barkley

Every year GLSA hires a state certified inspector to search and map locations on the east and west lake when an invasive species is found. We are fortunate to have one of the best and most recognized people in Minnesota doing this for us. His maps then become the basis for application to the State of MN Department of Natural Resources for consideration of treatment and issuance of permits to treat invasive aquatic weeds. Frequently we find areas of invasive species that the DNR guidelines stop us from treating because the density and overall quantity of invasive weeds do not materially impact the access to, or use of the lake. In other instances invasives can be found near or growing in lily pad beds, or another native weed which prevents their treatment by GLSA. As much as we may desire weed free swimming areas, unless the beach area is naturally free of lake weeds, the DNR does not issue permits to accomplish that.

This year GLSA continued searching and mapping curly leaf pondweed, Eurasian water milfoil, and starry stonewort. The good news was so little Eurasian water milfoil and curly leaf were found in such small quantities that treatment could not be justified which saved GLSA several thousand dollars. The

aquatic invasive species that continues to be of most concern is starry stonewort. After finding none over a period of nine months, very small amounts were found at the public landing July 6. At that time we found sprouts of SSW at 4 sites all within the prior years designated treatment area. The SSW lengths were less than 3 inches. The total biomass from all four sites was less than 5 grams, or less than the weight of an empty cigarette package. Most likely we are continuing to see "seeds" from the early years infestation that have been buried in sediment, now reaching sunlight and sprouting. We have not eliminated SSW, but it is very, very sparse at this time an application has been submitted to treat the landing again with a follow-up search at the landing about three weeks after treatment. If starry stonewort continues to be found we will repeat the chemical application and inspections keeping it under control.

For more information on starry stonewort go to You Tube and search for for Lake Koronis Starry Stonewort which may shock you since they also have starry stonewort and the damage is stunning. Also do a separate search for Above and Below the Waters. Now make sure your and your guests use only the public access where your boat can be inspected free of charge to lessen potential damage to your lake.

Welcome Wagon

If you know of a friend or neighbor that is new to the lake, please let us know so we can welcome them and reach out with a variety of information on the lake and the local area. Or if you have neighbors who moved to the lake in the last 3-4 years, check with them to see if they have joined and are receiving the newsletter.

In 2021, 2 homes were sold and 2 are pending sale on the lake

Lisa Peery

uragoodboy@gmail.com
320-274-6655

Stephani Lind

splind@comcast.net
612-710-1316

GLSA Annual Picnic Saturday, August 21, 2021

"HOT AUGUST NIGHTS"
Chi Rho Center 4-8

To attend, must be a GLSA member and dues must be current.

Activities include:

- Karaoke DJ
- K9 Unit – Wright County Sheriff Dept.
- Gunnie sack races
- If we find enough mud turtles, we will have a turtle race.
- Swimming ok with chaperone

Dinner @ Dining room

14-adults \$17.50

8-13 children \$10.00

Ages 7 & under free

Sunday, Aug. 22nd • 10:00 a.m.
Worship services at Chi Rho

Open to all who would like to attend.

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Consider volunteering, help out for a shift at the picnic and meet new people on the lake.

Contact Person: Jan Evenson
612-720-0428



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Summer Loon Report

By Mike McNellis, the Old Loon Ranger

My report never varies too much. I would report we only saw 4 chicks born this year. Warn boaters to watch the water for these majestic summer visitors. But if I was working for a large periodical, I would go to the editor and ask for more space to do a photo essay, of the stages the Loon goes through, after they come back to the lake each year. Just photos with a very brief sentences, give credit to the photographer. I would have the full color half page photos tell the story. It would go like this. I hope you can close your eyes and picture my thoughts after you read each paragraph.

First photo would be of a lone Loon riding out a sleet storm, coasting from wave top to wave top. The photo would be mostly grey in color, grey sky, dark grey waves, light grey foam topping each wave. The Loon would look gallant in black and white plumage, with its fiery red eyes looking downward. Having just arrived it would be tired and

hunger.

Second photo would have a Loon sitting in the water near a muskrat house. Mouth slightly open so you could imagine it calling out for a partner. The mate would be seen in the corner of the picture, high in the sparkling spring blue sky. Setting its wings. Gliding to the water's surface, too its mate.

Third photo would show a Loon sitting on a nest, head down sleepily, the mate floating nearby. A painted turtle on the edge of the muskrat house nest. A Blackbird, or two, on a cattail in the background. Surface of the water smooth. The cattail would just be turning spring green. You could see all was in peace.

Fourth would have the pair swimming close together with a chick riding on the back of one of its protectors. One of the protectors would have a small minnow in its beak, bringing it to the chick. It would be a close-up to show the fuzzy grey baby, snug and sleeping.



Fifth photo would show the three swimming in all their glory, bright colors for two. The smaller one almost the size of the two brilliant black and white adults. The young one still in mostly baby dark grey. The drab colors it was born with. A white ring just starting to show on its neck, but its eye as red as a ruby.

Sixth photo would show the two adults joining a raft of other like size adult loons, in display of wild dancing over the water's surface. Some would be taking off with their wings tips just dipping in the water, feet paddling frantically to gain lift. Others would be splashing, diving, chasing one another as if in a wild party. The summers end party.

The last photo would be the

center fold of the magazine if the editor agreed. Show a lone Loon floating on the surface of the lake. There would a light chop on the sky-blue waves, showing the north winds just starting to bluster forth. Color on the shore in the background would have the trees bursting in the intense full fall colors, extraordinary, powerful. You can see a fisherman drifting near shore. A dock on shore pulled from the water. It would even show a puff of steam as the loan Loon exhales. Some large puffy clouds in the air. A dark stormy color in the sky to the far left of the picture. Winters coming. Time to leave.

If you see a loon in distress you can call Mike McNellis at 320-266-0198.



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Water Quality and Water Column Testing of Lake Sylvia

By Blaine Barkley

This year for the first time, GLSA has recently completed taking water samples from 10 different locations on the lake, funded in part by a donation from a family on Lake Sylvia. Each sample was recorded by exact location with locations selected from a variety of places on the lake as shown on the attached map. Input from Dr. John Rogers from Clemson University who has helped GLSA on a near continuous basis with invasive species assisted in selecting the various items that could be in the water and that may be of concern. On June 30 water samples were taken, put on ice and sent to a lab for analysis with 30 boats noted as

being launched at the public landing that day. On July 6th a second water sample was taken at each of the 10 sites, placed on ice and sent to the lab for analysis and comparison to the first sample. These samples will give an indication of what chemicals and sediment is in the water column before the busy Fourth of July weekend and after the Fourth of July weekend. The results should indicate if there are any chemicals or sediments of concern in the sampled locations and provide insight to the question “does boating activity change any of the amounts of items being analyzed.” Results will be presented to the GLSA Board of Directors once received.

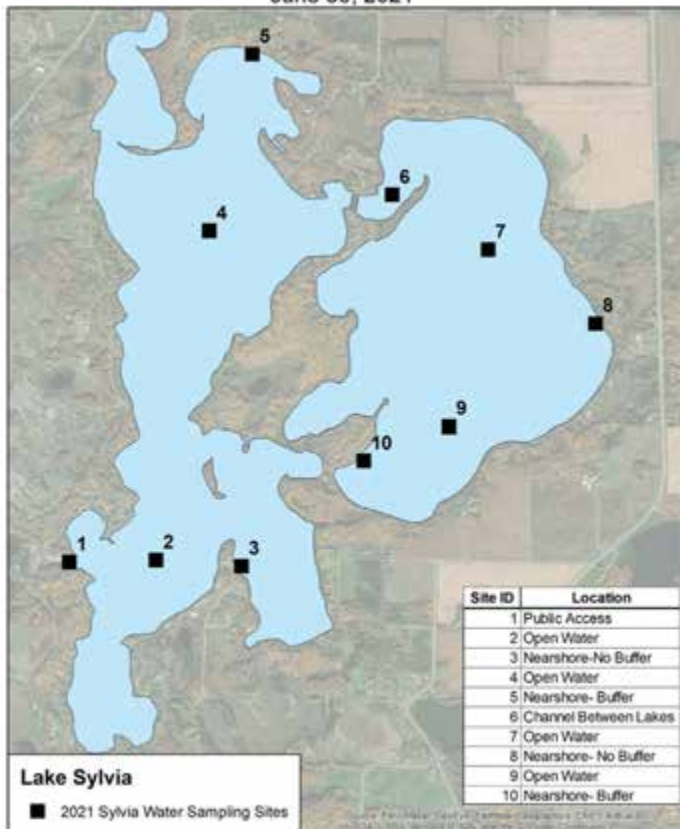
Golf Tournament

By Russ Fortner

July 10th was a great day for golf. Cloudy skies and a breeze, not too hot, but warm enough with little humidity. The tournament had 116 registered golfers and 17 hole sponsors. Attendance was down slightly from 2018. The tournament started at 10 a.m. We might have stumbled over the perfect number of players to allow smooth play. The winners of the 2021 tournament:

- 1st place – Gerry Bach team
 - 2nd place – Mike Tripp team
 - 3rd place –Erv Wright team.
- One stroke separated each of the winning teams.
- The putting green and “Bullseye” was a great success with all golfers participating. A great time was had by all. Thank you all for working and attending GLSA's greatest fund raiser for AIS.

Lake Sylvia Water Sampling Locations
June 30, 2021



Data Collected June 30, 2021
Map Made July 2, 2021

UTM NAD 1983
Blue Water Science



Stranded Boat Assistance

By Russ Fortner

Again, this year, GLSA volunteers are available and willing to assist stranded boaters. Enter these names/ numbers into your cell phone con-

tacts in case you need their services. This information is also available on the GLSA website at lakesylvia.org.

Our thanks to these volunteers.
If you'd like to add your name, contact Russ Fortner.



NAME	PHONE
Chris Hector	952-239-8103
Keith Schaunaman	612-916-0546
Mark Struble	952-220-9209
Chase Bullock	763-486-5558

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PHONE: _____

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To Protect and Improve Lake Sylvia

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