

Letter from the President

Greetings Shore Owners!

Many shore owners spend winter or parts of winter in a warmer climate. As the snow melts, there's a yearning for a change of what surrounds us. We all look forward to heading north this time of year, to enjoy different scenery, and beautiful days on the lake. This year, I couldn't help but think how excited I was to head north for the first time in months. In addition, it's suddenly time to start thinking of the guests, friends, and family we'll be entertaining at the lake over the summer. It involves work and a lot of planning to pull off a great weekend as hosts. We want to make it a first-class experience for those up for the first time, or those up for the umpteenth time. As a community, we have so much to show off with our special spot up north. I'm sure there's not a time that goes by that we don't all hear from our guests, what a delightful time they had. Yes, you all were great hosts and deserve wonderful compliments from those that hope to get invited back. But the truth of the matter is that "Stone Lake" is really what put the bow on the weekend package. Much of our time each summer goes into sharing our beautiful gem. I hope that you can all enjoy and share what makes this experience so wonderful.

Stay safe, and pass on your joy, your peaceful time, and memorable experiences with others that you entertain.

John Ryan - President SOSLA
(Shore Owners of Stone Lake Association)

SOSLA Upcoming 2023 Meetings, Events, and Important Dates!

- **June 10, 10:00 AM**
Membership Meeting
Location: TBD
- **June 23**
Northern Wisconsin
Lakes Conference
- **July 3, 11:00 AM**
Boat Parade
(Rain date July 4)
- **August 19, 10:00 AM**
Membership Meeting
Location: TBD
Annual Picnic & Golf
Outing to follow.

Stone Lake Events

- **2nd Monday of
Month, 6:30-7:30 PM**
Stone Lake Township
meeting at Town Hall.
- **Monday & Thursday
9:00 AM – 12 PM**
Stone Lake Township
office hours.

SOSLA OFFICERS AND BOARD

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Regular Summer Dump Hours

June, July & August
Wednesday & Saturday Mornings:
9 AM to 1 PM
Accepted Plastic Recyclables:
#1, 2, 5

Stone Lake Yard / Garage Sale

Saturday, June 3, 2023 ▪ 9 AM to 3 PM

Town of Stone Lake Annual Clean Up Day

Saturday, June 10, 2023 ▪ 8 AM to 1 PM

The annual clean-up day for residents of the Town of Stone Lake will be held on Saturday, June 10, 2023 from 8 AM to 1 PM at the Stone Lake garbage and recycle facility located at N5960 Walter Road. At this time the town will accept free of charge:

Appliance, TV's, electronics,
computer equipment, satellite receivers,
fluorescent light bulbs, vehicle batteries, and a
limit of 6 free car and truck tires.
(More tires may be brought in for a fee.)
(Furniture may be brought for a fee.)

Items not accepted:

Paint, paint cans, stain, stain cans,
flammable liquids, leaves, brush, and
construction debris.

Regular garbage fees will apply on that day. If
you have questions about what items are
acceptable, please call Gary at 715-699-4702.

Note: A second clean-up day will be held in
September, date to be determined.

Soap, Shampoo & Stone Lake

Threats to our water quality exist in addition to Aquatic Invasive Species. Let's take a look at bathing in our lake – fun and harmless? Not when we examine impact on water quality.

My family began spending gorgeous lazy summer days on this lake in the late 1950s, bought land from Andy Schultz in 1960 and started building a cottage. One main reason for our decades-long passion for our lake is its water clarity and the joy we take in swimming here.

Microbeads in face and body washes are bits of plastic that easily absorb toxins. As illustrated on the penny, these tiny orbs look like fish eggs, get eaten and become part of the food web, eventually being consumed by other wildlife and humans.



Even if not used directly in the lake, beads flushed into sewers and drains enter our lakes and waterways. In general, it is good to avoid products with polyethylene or polypropylene – apricot pit or cocoa bean scrubs, for example, are environmentally better.

Triclosan is an anti-microbial ingredient used in soaps, toothpastes, and some over-the-counter drugs. Sunlight on contaminated waters releases toxic byproducts, including dioxins, known to be carcinogens. Synthetic fragrances have been found to reduce the ability of aquatic organisms to remove toxins and pollutants.

‘Water surface tension’ refers to a thin elastic film on the surface. This film supports small objects so that they stay on top of the water without sinking. Small insects and organisms depend on surface tension to keep them afloat. Soap disrupts surface tension by causing the thin film to split and fly apart. When broken surface tension cannot support the tiny food sources, again the food web we are all a part of will feel the impact.

Working together, we can keep Stone Lake water as clear and clean as possible. Read labels. Don't introduce *any* cleaning products directly into the water. Here's to many more generations of pleasure on our sparkling lake!

Sources include: research by Sherri Mason, associate professor of chemistry at the State University of New York, Fredonia; Stacy Detwiler of *American Rivers*; and the surface tension page of edtech.boisestate.edu.



We can make this a great *niibin* (summer) for recreation *and* conservation. Let's ensure that our lake supports the *Migiziwag* (bald eagles) and *Maangwag* (loons) for generations to come. (*Anishinaabemowin* is the Ojibwe language)



CJ Jacobson



The DNR has several activities scheduled for Stone Lake this season. Fyke netting and shocking took place the first week of May. Creel survey work began with the opening of fishing and will continue through all of the open water season and the ice fishing season until March.

Ron Mullins has generously offered his dock to host the survey crew to moor their boat and equipment. Thank you, Ron!

Please be respectful to the men and women conducting these surveys.

Stone Lake Fish Regulations per DNR:

Walleyes:	Ceded Territory. May 6 to March 3. 3 bag limit. 15" but less than 20". 1 fish may exceed 24".
Bass:	Northern Zone. May 6 to March 3. 5 bag limit. Largemouth 14" minimum. June 17 to March 3. Smallmouth or largemouth combined bag limit 5. 14" minimum.
Northern Pike:	May 6 to March 3. 5 bag limit. No size limit.



DNR Staff Fyke Netting – May 3, 2023. Photo: Susan Mattis Turnham

Best regards and have a great fishing season.

Bill Byrkit

Safe Operation of Towing Skiers and Tubers



The operator of a watercraft is required to face forward at all times and should give their full attention to what is ahead. DNR boater safety rules require the following:

- When a vessel is towing a person on water skis, a surfboard, or other device, the operator must have another competent person on board to act as an observer or the vessel must be equipped with a wide-angle rearview mirror.
- A PWC operator may not tow a person on water skis or other devices unless:
 - The PWC is designed and recommended by the manufacturer to accommodate at least three people, and...
 - A competent observer is on board and in a position to observe the person being towed or the PWC is equipped with a wide-angle rearview mirror.

Accidents can happen in a matter of seconds. Trying to do both activities (operating and observing) simultaneously by the operator can be dangerous. Please be safe and have fun.

The SOSLA Board

Purple Loosestrife



It has been a long and hard winter for many residents of the North Country; however, I doubt that it will have phased our Stone Lake invasive species, purple loose strife. If lake levels continue to recede, loose strife may appear farther out in the lake than usual. It can grow anywhere below the high-water mark, or in other words, on dry land as well as wetlands. I have noticed minor depredation of loose strife leaves around the north end of Big Stone, suggesting that loose strife-eating beetles introduced to Stone Lake years ago, may still have a minor presence, but not in sufficient numbers to decrease the need for shore owner vigilance.

Before flowering, the plants are most easily identified by their square stalk. After flowering, they will have one or more upper branches with multiple attractive purple flowers. The flowers should be removed, bagged and discarded. Ideally the entire plant would be removed including the roots. Once the flowers are removed, the stalks and leaves can be composted; they do not need to be bagged unless there are flowers or seeds attached.

Shore owner vigilance is extremely helpful in containing the infestation. Uncontained, shallow water ways (such as your beach) will be clogged with vegetation, making swimming and boating much less pleasurable. You do not need a DNR permit to remove loose strife anywhere on your property.

Stephen B. Erickson

Local Restaurants Change Owners



The bar/restaurant scene in Stone Lake is changing fast with several new owners and more to come. Tana and John DeYoung, the new owners at Trailways on 27 have made several changes and are planning more to come. There's a new, shorter menu on Fridays, new flooring in the restaurant and bar areas and some changes in décor behind the bar. Tana described the changes as a "refresh".

Meanwhile at Pine Ridge, new owners John Brown and his significant other Jack Stred have adopted an "if it's not broken, don't fix it" approach. John has been coming to the area since he was a child and has enjoyed Pine Ridge just the way it is, so he has no plans to change anything. John has never owned or run a restaurant before, but he has worked in the business. Jack has also worked at several restaurants. The previous owners will be staying on for a while to help with the transition.



Just down the road, John's parents, Dawn and Jim Brown, recently purchased Red Schoolhouse Wines. They too have no plans for changes in operations, but will be adding a roof over part of the outdoor seating areas. Dawn said the recent Kentucky Derby party was a success, and she plans to have several more events and music all summer into fall. The previous owners will stay around to help transition. Watch for a "Changing of the Guard" event announcement.

Finally, Marie's is now officially for sale, so will more changes will be on the way?

Gail Emerson

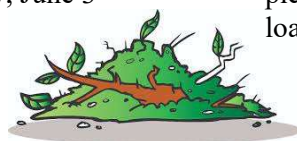
501(c)(3)

An initial discussion will be had at the June 10 SOSLA membership meeting on the advantages and disadvantages of obtaining 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. The purpose of the discussion is to determine if such status would be beneficial to the SOLSA organization.

The SOSLA Board

Tree Debris Collection June 3

The Town of Stone Lake, Washburn County will have a special clean-up day for brush at the Stone Lake garbage & recycling facility located at N5960 Walter Road on Saturday, June 3rd from 9:00 AM to 1:00 pm.



Leaves, brush and tree limbs no larger than 4" in diameter will be accepted. You must haul your brush to the dump yourself as there will be no pick-up service. A minimum fee of \$5.00 per load will apply.

Lake Levels

The water level of Stone Lake is always a topic of discussion because of our lake's classification as a seepage lake. It has no inlet or outlet so the level is primarily influenced by rain, groundwater and snow. Most of us can see the change from May to September when everyone is at the lake, but a lot can happen over the winter, and even between September and December before the lake freezes over.

This winter's fall to spring change was a rise of 5.8 Inches. With all the snow we received, you may think it should have increased more. The full impact due to snowfall is yet to be known. Typically, the ground freezes before the snow arrives and much of the spring snowmelt runs off before the ground thaws. This past fall, the

ground had not frozen before the snow covered it with enough insulation to keep it from freezing and much of this spring's snowmelt went directly into the soil to become ground water.

Groundwater takes a significant amount of time to travel to the lake so its influence on the level is hard to determine in inches and may simple be seen as an offset to a dry year.

As a comparison to this year's winter impact on the lake level, the fall to spring change the previous winter was a rise of 3.8 inches. However, the year to year change is still a declining water level with a spring 2022 to spring 2023 drop of 7 inches.

Gary Erickson

2024 Calendar

A brief overview of photo submittal requirements:

- The submittal deadline is August 13 but you are encouraged to submit early. Photos do not have to be submitted all at once.
- Please take photos in a **landscape** format (horizontal) with the highest resolution possible.
- If you choose to crop your photo, the cropped photo must be at least 500MB or larger. Please also send the original – too many cropped photos no longer have the clarity for enlargement.
- Pictures with people should be as generic, or non-identifiable, as possible.
- Submittals are limited to six photos per shore owner household.



Anyone living or staying at your cabin can enter; photo must be within 1 mile of the lake. Send your pictures by e-mail to garyjohnerickson@aol.com or by flash drive to Gary at W550 Walter Road.

The Calendar Committee

SOSLA & WCLRA Newsletters

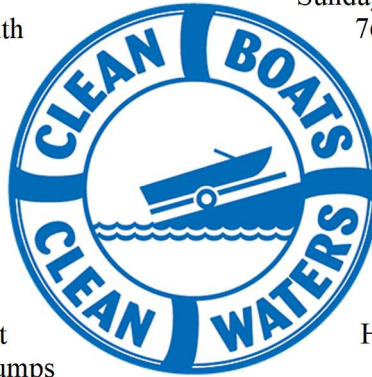
online at wclra.org

AIS Update

I'm happy to announce that Andy Slezar is returning for his third season as our boat launch monitor. Welcome back, Andy.

If you're wondering what you can do personally to help keep aquatic invasive species like zebra mussels and Eurasian milfoil out of Stone Lake, I have a few suggestions for you:

Contact your lake services people with questions about the policies and procedures they have in place to reduce the likelihood that they will transfer AIS between lakes. For example, does your lift services company clean and disinfect their barge before launching (as they are required to do by law). Does your boat and Jet Ski rental place disinfect their water craft and empty Jet Ski sumps



between rentals? Does your pontoon storage guy disinfect his trailer before picking up your boat? If your service provider doesn't share your concern with keeping our lake clean, consider changing to one that does.

Volunteer to be a landing monitor at a time when Andy is not on duty (Saturday and Sunday, 7:00-3:00). Text me at 763.213.7572 to volunteer.

Consider making a donation directly to SOSLA's AIS fund. Those contributions will enable us to extend Andy's presence at the boat landing beyond the time paid for by the DNR grant.

Here's to a good summer on the lake.

Don Bushek

Please consider making a 2023 AIS donation.

As you will see in the enclosed Financial Report, AIS donations were down last year by over \$200 from the previous year. The suggested donation is \$48 (4 hours volunteer time x \$12 per hour). Any size donation is welcome.

The SOSLA Board of Directors

Treasurer's Report

There were 82 paid memberships in 2022 which 8 less than the previous year. However, other income categories were up \$703 resulting in a \$546 increase in income from operations. Total expenditures were \$1,236 less than the previous year for a combined \$1,782 increase in cash flow from operations for the year. \$1,080 of the reduction in expenditures was less money paid to the Town of Stone Lake for AIS boat landing monitoring.

Doug Baker - Treasurer

SOSLA Financial Report

	SOSLA		
FINANCIAL REPORT			
		2021	2022
		ACTUAL	ACTUAL
Beginning checking account balance		4,101.71	11,099.54
Beginning savings account balance		7,453.11	7,460.57
Begining Cash Balance		11,554.82	18,560.11
INCOME			
Membership dues		1,800.00	1,640.00
Calendar contributions		1,159.88	1,280.34
AIS contributions		840.00	1,317.88
Donations		15.00	120.00
Legal fund (rezoning issue)		7,315.00	(1,060.00)
Interest		7.46	10.28
Total Income		11,137.34	3,308.50
EXPENDITURES			
AIS Expenses		1,501.04	296.88
Calendar printing/mailling		1,410.67	1,356.73
Dues/fees		352.50	387.50
Meetings/picnic		228.69	138.53
Newsletters publication/mailling		575.15	548.65
Office suplies/postage		-	98.00
Post office box		64.00	70.00
Total Expenditures		4,132.05	2,896.29
Increase in cash		7,005.29	412.21
Cash Balance		18,560.11	18,972.32
Ending checking account balance		11,099.54	11,501.47
Ending savings account balance		7,460.57	7,470.85
		18,560.11	18,972.32
Unspent AIS funds included in the above balance		5,577.71	6,547.96
Unspent legal funds included in the above balance		7,315.00	6,255.00

SHOREOWNERS OF STONE LAKE ASSOCIATION (SOSLA)

