



# *Sylvan Lake*

# *Newsletter*

## **Sylvan Lake Association – December 2022**

Hello Sylvan Lake Association Members,

Well, it looks like 2022 is in the books. The boats are in storage and the docks have been pulled. It was another glorious year on the lake but there are some concerns.

Looking back over this year I think we made progress in raising AIS awareness. However, we are beginning to realize that we need a solution to the zebra mussel invasion before it gets out of hand. We did a sweep of the upper lake, the channel and the lower lake. The bad news is that we found them everywhere. Here is a hopeful article from the U of M regarding the problem and possible treatment: <https://maisrc.umn.edu/news/combat-mussels>.

Another source of consternation this year is the heightened use of wake boats on Sylvan. Unfortunately, policing them is outside the purview of the Association or the Board. As a reminder, here are the regulations that govern their usage: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/boatwater/own-your-wake.html>

On a happier note, for the first time, the Association is going to sponsor the annual 4th of July boat parade in 2023. If you would like to help with the parade planning committee please reach out by email and we will put you on the list. We will need some judges, digital co-ordination for submitted videos and photos as well as safety patrols and yes, even sponsors. (Association members will be given exclusive priority.) More information will be coming soon.

One of our goals in 2022 was to increase member engagement via our on-line presence and to that end we have established a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/SylvanLakeAssociation>) and an email address: [sylvanlakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:sylvanlakeassociation@gmail.com).

Our Annual Meeting will be held on July 9th at Confidence Learning Center (formerly Camp Confidence) at 9 am. Mark your calendars and please attend!

Our goal as an association is to protect our lake, wildlife, shores and properties, to become a closer community and build friendships, to work together to enhance and enjoy life on the lake. We also act as a sounding board for matters affecting the general well- being of Sylvan. We are always open to feedback as to how we can do a better job.

Looking forward to 2023,

Paul Carlyon  
President  
Sylvan Lake Association

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

## Sylvan Lake Association Annual Meeting – 2023

Who: You, your friends, family and neighbors

When: A meeting is scheduled for

**9 am**

**Saturday July 8th, 2023  
at Confidence Learning Center**

Family activities from 9 - noon

This year we plan to also host this event on Zoom  
Details to follow

<https://www.facebook.com/SylvanLakeAssociation/>

### AIS Update

On August 11, Dana Gutzmann, Cass County AIS Technician, two others from Gull Lake and I did an AIS survey at the boat launch and no invasives were found. I got reports from a few board members that found many more zebra mussels along their shoreline this fall as compared to last year. I also received a report of zebra mussels in Lower Sylvan close to where the lake flows into Little Red Sand Lake, so I kayaked over there in October, put on my waders, and checked among the rocks and logs but did not find any.

Starry stonewort was discovered in a couple more lakes in Cass County during 2022, which is concerning. Starry stonewort is native to Eurasia, from the west coast of Europe to Japan. The species was unintentionally introduced into the United States' Great Lakes through the discharge of contaminated cargo ship ballast water. Starry stonewort impacts:

- Dense mats at the water's surface inhibit water recreationists
- Overtakes habitat and outcompetes native aquatic plants, potentially lowering diversity
- Provides unsuitable shelter, food, and nesting habitat for native animals

Nancy Haugdahl, AIS Detector

### Minnesota Lakes and Rivers News

Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates protects Minnesota's lake and river heritage for current and future generations by forging powerful links among lakes, lake advocates, and policy makers. Here is their website:

<https://mnlakesandrivers.org>

MLR will be hosting a training webinar for Minnesota Loon Rescue Network volunteers in the spring of 2023. If you are interested in volunteering, contact [sheilafjohnston@me.com](mailto:sheilafjohnston@me.com).

If you encounter a sick or injured loon, call 612 226-6571 or 816 516-0759.

### Your Help Needed

Last call to pay your 2022 Association dues of \$25.00 and to give extra if you so choose to the Fish Fund, Aquatic Invasive Species Fund or Board Discretion Fund. You can mail a check to me at 12535 Lower Sylvan Rd. SW Pillager, MN 56473, donate using Facebook or call me at 651-592-4017 and leave your credit card information over the phone along with your phone number. As a FYI, it is my business phone. If you are unsure if you paid this year, just send me a text and I will look it up and get back to you.

Nancy Haugdahl, Sylvan Lake Association Treasurer

## Ring Out, Wild Bells

by Lord Alfred Tennyson (abridged)

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,  
The flying cloud, the frosty light:  
The year is dying in the night;  
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:  
The year is going, let him go;  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

## Seasonal Bad Jokes

*What do grapes sing this time of the year?  
'Tis the season to be jelly*

*What do you call an elephant on hockey skates?  
An ice breaker*

*Why did the snowman buy a bag of carrots?  
He was picking his nose*

# UPCOMING CONFIDENCE LEARNING CENTER EVENTS



**January 28th, 2023**

### Ice Fishing Extravaganza

The Brainerd Jaycees Ice Fishing Extravaganza is the largest charitable ice fishing contest on EARTH. Founded in 1991, the event has been held annually ten miles north of Brainerd, Minnesota. Camp has been lucky to be apart of this for over 30 years!



**February 24th-26th, 2023**  
**Frozen Fore Weekend**

The Gull Lake Frozen Fore Winter Weekend takes place in the Brainerd Lakes Area each February. This three-day celebration of all things winter, brings together a weekend of activities and fun for adults. From snow golfing to dancing on a frozen lake, this winter weekend is unlike any other.



**February 26th, 2023**

### Mesa Golf Tournament

Each year friends gather on the beautiful Desert Sands Golf Course for a day of golf and commadore with one goal in mind – to raise funds for Confidence Learning Center – while having fun in the process! This 4-Person Golf Scramble was started thanks to the Fraternal Order of the Eagles!



**February 24th, 2023**

### Frozen Flop

Join the Confidence Learning Center 'Flop' Team & raise money for our Programs and Campers. Accept the challenge and jump in the frozen waters of Gull Lake with us!



**March 6th, 2023**

### Clear Vision with Confidence

The 4th Annual Clear Vision with Confidence Women's Live Speaker event will be held March 6th, 2023 at Grand view Lodge featuring a New York Times best-selling author and TEDx talks phenomenon **Dr. Tasha Eurich!**



**April, 2023**

### Diamond in the Rough

Are you a teacher looking for a volunteer project for your Students? or a small business looking to be involved with your community? Join us for the 22nd Annual 'Diamond in the Rough' Camp Clean Up Event in April! Help us make Camp SHINE for our Summer Campers by volunteering this Spring!

For more information and tickets, visit [www.ConfidenceLearningCenter.org](http://www.ConfidenceLearningCenter.org)

## Sylvan Lake Association Membership Renewal

Serving the needs and concerns of Lake Sylvan area property owners.

We are very concerned about AIS on the lake and we would like you to consider donating extra to the AIS fund (tax deductible).

You can also drop off a check at the address below if you do not have time to mail a check.

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ First name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please help us save on mailing costs by providing your email address. We occasionally email notices and developments as they arise. Thank you!

### 2023 Membership Year Dues:

Membership dues (not tax deductible): \$ 25.00

Additional contribution\*\* : \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*We are a 501(c)(3) organization. Your additional contribution may be tax deductible.

My additional contribution should be applied as follows:

Aquatic Invasive Species Fund \_\_\_\_\_ %

Fish Fund \_\_\_\_\_ %

Board Discretion \_\_\_\_\_ %

Please make your check payable to the Sylvan Lake Association and mail to:

Sylvan Lake Association Treasurer, Nancy Haugdahl, 12535 Lower Sylvan Road, Pillager, MN. 56473

Or pay on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/SylvanLakeAssociation/>