

CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2023

A NOTE FROM NEW PRESIDENT, JANET KOHLSTEDT

Hello friends & neighbors, welcome to 2023. I'd like to introduce myself, I am Janet Kohlstedt your new "illustrious leader" or "President" (which ever title you prefer) of the Clear Lake Association. September of 2022 you elected a great group of people to serve the Association. We also have a great team of dedicated committee members that have been working hard to monitor the lake and keep important things going.

We have earmarked several goals for in 2023:

1. Increase membership numbers
2. Create an online dues payment option
3. Improve communication
4. Update the Association bylaws
5. Spruce up the public landing
6. Create a directory of Clear Lake residents
7. Join the DNR "Get the Lead Out" campaign

As always, your input is needed and wanted. Please be in touch. I look forward to a great year ahead for the Clear Lake Association. -- Janet

2023 Board of Directors

Janet Kohlstedt, President

jankohlstedt@yahoo.com

Marie Pedigo, Vice President

marie_pedigo@yahoo.com

Kenny Horns, Treasurer

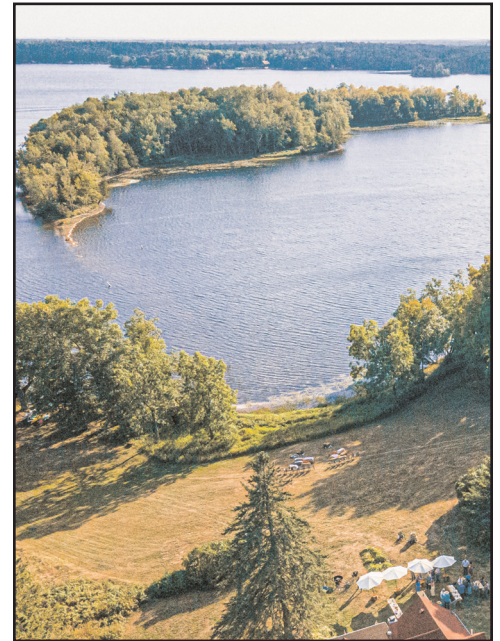
lkhorns@gmail.com

Kelley Rajala, Secretary

clearlakegardens@gmail.com

Lesly Gamez, Member at Large

lesly.roxana@gmail.com



CLEAR LAKE STATS as of 9/22

Water clarity: 18-20 feet

Lake level: 1,296.94 June 2022

Historical average: 1,297.4'

Gauge reading: 1.74 9/3/22

Ice In: ???

Ice out 2022: May 1

Ice out 2021: April 2

WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS 2022

Black wolf, swans, baby loons, eagles, loons learning to fly, fawns swimming, deer on island, coyote, turkey, bear, red fox, hummingbirds, cougar, raccoon, beaver, muskrat, fireflies, squirrels, chipmunks, voles and turtles.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lake Assoc. Spring Meeting

Saturday, May 27, 2023. 9am
Mille Lacs Snowmobile Club, 31844
235th Ln. off Hwy 47 btwn Glen &
Malmo. Bring your neighbors!

French Hillbillies Lake Concert

Saturday, May 27, 2023, Time: 6:30
South side of Clear Lake

Fika at Clear Lake Gardens

Enjoy a social coffee break w/ friends
and neighbors. Coffee, tea and
pastries. Last Sunday each month
10am-noon. 31213 292nd St.

Independence Day Walk/Run

8am, Tuesday, July 4, 2023, Glen Store

4th of July Parade

10am, Tuesday, July 4, 2023

4th of July Boat Parade

Likely Sunday, July 2, 2023, time is TBD

Aitkin Summer Farm Festival

Sunday, 8/6/23 11am-3pm at Clear
Lake Gardens/North Glen Farm.
Celebrating local farms, crafts, music
by the French Hillbillies, tours & more!



STAY IN TOUCH

Stay up to date with Clear Lake and
Glen news:

EMAIL

clearlakeassociationglenmn@gmail.com

WEBSITE

clearlake.mnlakesandrivers.org

FACEBOOK PAGE

Clear Lake Glen, MN

INSTAGRAM

Clear Lake Glen MN



Ice clearing out on Clear Lake, Spring '22



COMMITTEES

Get involved! Sign up to be an integral part of the Clear Lake Community.

- Events & Socials**
Are you a social butterfly and love to host fun events? Join the event committee to help with events throughout the summer.
- Welcome & Membership**
Do you enjoy outreach and meeting new friends? Then please sign up for this committee to welcome new residents and recruit new members
- Lake Investments**
Do you have ideas on how to improve the Clear Lake area? This committee will work on projects to do just that.
- Clean & Clear**
This committee will work on DNR programs such as Score your Shore, Keep the Lead Out and Clean Lakes.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION & BENEFITS

Our association's membership numbers have been declining and we want to turn that around. There are currently 141 lake lots (some developed, others not). This is our recent membership history:

YEAR	MEMBERS
2018	60
2019	36
2020	COVID
2021	35
2022	29
2023	GOAL: 75



There are many reasons to support your Clear Lake Association through your annual \$20 membership.

The Association...

1. Works to keep the lake clean, clear and beautiful with regular water testing.
2. Collaborates with the Aitkin County Sheriff to keep our lake safe for all.
3. Works with the DNR and Aitkin County in efforts to improve our fishery.
4. Combats invasive species with inspections and monitoring efforts.
5. Represents you and your interests in organizations that are concerned with the quality of our lake and watershed such as ACLARA and Minnesota Waters.
6. Listens to your concerns and to address them as appropriate. Contact us if you have an issue you believe should be addressed.

FINANCIAL HEALTH

Our bank balance at the fall 2022 meeting was \$7,346.09. We would like your ideas on how these funds can be used to continue improving the quality of life here on Clear Lake. Please share ideas with President, Janet Kohlstedt.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please consider joining or rejoining your lakeshore association to help keep Clear Lake a very special place in the state. Dues are \$20 for 2023.

NAME: _____

CLEAR LAKE ADDRESS: _____

OTHER ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

PAYMENT METHOD: CASH CHECK

Please mail your membership information to:
CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION
c/o Janet Kohlstedt
28489 315th Ave. Aitkin, MN 56431

THANK YOU!

Clear Lake Association Spring 2023 Additional Information Bits

- Aitkin Sr. High School student Hannah Slette has adopted Clear Lakes Public access for her Sr. Government Class Project, she will do some clean up in the area. Thank you Hannah!
- Zack Leitenger has built a bench for our swim beach for his project. Thank you Zach!
- We would welcome another member to our board of Directors as an at-large representative.
- Membership Dues are requested to be paid in the spring. \$20.00.
- Keep a eye out for Light blue hearts displayed at Board of Directors properties to let you know where to find us,
- Swing-a-way mailbox posts and there support posts are available to any Aitkin County resident from the highway department for \$45.00. They are recommended because they protect the snow plows and your mail box.
- Blue E-911 signs are available from the Aitkin County Highway department for \$45.00. Application are available on the county website. These are invaluable in an Emergency.
- The Aitkin County sheriff encourages everyone to contact the sheriffs office about any and all concerns regarding safety; especially on the water. Sheriffs Department # 218-927-7435 or 911.
- Check with Aitkin County Soil and water before doing any shoreline reconstruction/repairs.
- “Score your Shore” is a tool to help assess your habitat and stewardship of land adjacent to aquatic areas. A quick guide is available from the DNR website.
- Shoreline Erosion help/advice is available thru Aitkin county soil and water conservation.
- MN DOT will be doing major roadwork on Hwy. 47 from Isle to north of Glen starting mid August.
- Rabbit Lake Cemetery is available to all Glen Township property owners at a very reasonable cost.
- The Glen Township Supervisors meets the second Wednesday of every month @7:00pm.
- Follow South Aitkin First Responders on Facebook.
- Wild & Free is a Wildlife rescue and rehabilitation center located in Garrison. 27264 MN-18, 320-692-4180. They are always looking for donations & volunteers.
- TRIAD is senior citizens and law enforcement working together to enhance senior safety. They meet ever 3rd Tuesday.
- The Glen Community Church hold regular services at 9:00 May1-October 30.
- Wealthwood Rod and Gun Club has many leagues. See website or Bill Feye for information.
- Aitkin Farmers Market is open at 9:00 Saturdays downtown.
- Rivers and Lakes Expo will be on Saturday June 17th @ Long Lake Conservation Center.
- Aitkin County fair will be held at the Fair Grounds July 5th -8th 2023.
- Aitkin River Boat days August 5th, 2023.

Clear Lake Association Volunteer Leadership 2023

Board of Directors

President	Janet Kohlstedt
Vice-President	Marie Pedigo
Secretary	Kelley Rajala
Treasurer	Ken Horns
Member at large	Lesly Gamez

Committee Heads

Welcome Committee:	*Volunteer needed
ACLARA:	Janet Kohlstedt - *Alternate needed
Road clean up:	Dave Kohanek
Website:	Kelley Rajala
Facebook:	Reyna Rousseau and Mary McNevin
T Shirts:	Jennifer Perkins with Madeline Peterson *action needed
4th of July Parade:	Bill Foyo, Keith & Dawn Lilljenquist, Kellens, Sheriff Guida, Chris Hagman
5K run:	April and Chris Hagman
Boat Parade:	Rick Hults with Greg Szypulski
Loon watch/restoration:	Rick McNevin
Boat access monitoring:	Bill Foyo and Dave Akin
Invasive species monitoring:	Bill Foyo *help needed
Veliger Testing:	Bill Foyo with Bruce Brown
Secchi Disk Reading/Clarity:	Gary Messer
Water Quality testing:	Ken Horns and Bill Foyo
Water Level/Depth:	Dave Kohanek
Hospitality Committee:	Pat Foyo and Fran Kohanek

Clear Lake Association Fall 2022 Meeting Minutes

September 3, 2022 at the Snowmobile Club

22 members in attendance

Bill Feyo called the meeting to order at 9:07am, Pledge of allegiance
Spring 2022 meeting minutes approved
Motion to approve by Gretchen Paulson, Seconded by Nick Michaelson

Election of new Officers

President - Janet Kohlstedt (Reyna Rousseau outgoing)
Vice President - Marie Pedigo (Bill Feyo outgoing)
Treasurer - Kenny Horns (Jim Olsen outgoing)
Secretary - Kelley Rajala (Bob Standaert outgoing)
At Large - Leslie Games
Motion to approve by Glen Douglas, second by Tony Crea

Dues for 2023 will be \$20

Motion to approve by Tony Crea, second by Kevin Pierce

Treasury Report by Jim Olson

Balance at spring meeting was \$7,005.94
\$480 came in, \$139.85 in expenses
Current balance is \$7,346.09
There are currently 29 paying members out of 141 lake lots
Planned expenses are \$100 for snowmobile club and (maybe \$141) for water testing
Membership history: 60 paid members in 2018, 36 paid members in 2019, No dues collected in 2020 due to covid, 35 paid members in 2021
Motion to approve Treasurer's Report by Dave Paulson, second by Fran Kohanek

Bylaws History by Bill Feyo

1991 First set of bylaws
1995 bylaw revision when Clear Lake split off from Sugar Lake Association
2006 updated for accounting practices
Meeting requirements are 20% of membership and 4 officers/directors must be present
Last update 9-3-16 was to allow for electronic communications (email)

Water Report by Fran Kohanek

Water level historical average is 1297.4' (above sea level)
May 17, 2022 was 1,296.58, taken by Kurt Woodridge, DNR
June was 1,296.94
Gauge reading was 1.70 in May, 1.74 today 9/3/22
Ice out this year was May 1. Last year (2021) was April 2.

Clear Lake Association Fall 2022 Meeting Minutes (cont.) September 3, 2022

Lake Report by Bill Feyo

Kenny took 3 water samples at Feyo's, swim beach and north side. Nitrates were below concern, phosphates were 0.02, 0.18 and 0.12 respectively

Bill will talk to Bruce Brown for a Bellinger Test - 15' deep for zebra mussel

Water clarity is 18-20'. Clear Lake is the second clearest lake in the county behind Lone Lake 24-26'. Our lake is clear because it is spring fed and there are no water inlets (rivers or streams). There is an outlet in the SW and a culvert on the north side. We have the highest water elevation in Aitkin County.

ACLARA report by Janet Kohlstedt

Representatives from lake associations for the betterment of the lakes. There is 1 meeting/mo May-October, 2nd Saturday at library, run by Pat Murphy. Typically there is a guest speaker.

New buoys at swim beach. Sheriff's office responsible for lake buoys.

If a tree falls into the lake, leave it, as it is good for the fish and wildlife habitat

Other Business

Leslie suggested an indigenous land acknowledgement and public education at next meeting
Janet suggested a Clear Lake historical yearbook

Kelley asked for a wildlife viewing report - blackwolf, swans, 2 baby loons with 2 adults, eagles, loons learning to fly, fawns swimming, deer on island, coyote, turkey, bear, red fox
Boat Parade organized by Rick Hults. Street parade committee is Bill Feyo, Chris@ Glen Store, Don Liljenquist and the sheriff

Communications - Facebook page is Clearlakeglen,mn Website needs to be updated, mass email would be good

Should we have a Welcome Committee for new homeowners?

Bill suggested having the Board review the bylaws and report back at the May meeting

Should there be prizes for the 4th of July street parade? To be decided at spring meeting

Rumor that Clear Lake had zebra mussels was Clear Lake in Crow Wing County. Check DNR website for lakes with infestations

Lake inspections: Bill is on the committee for inspectors and this is why we have never had to pay for inspectors. Aitkin Co. also got a grant for \$270,000 for inspectors. We asked for 25 and got 15 for 2022. The inspector was at Clear Lake 9/2/22 most recently

Boat cleaning stations: there are 2 in the region 1 at Spirit Lake and 1 near Big Sandy

Meeting adjourned at 10:15am. Motion by Dave Paulson, second by Rick Michaelson

The Spring Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 27th 9am at the Snowmobile Club