



Upper Hay Lake Association

P.O. Box 769
Pequot Lakes, Minnesota 56472

Fall Newsletter

October 2021

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GREETINGS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

What an amazing fall it has been this year. I have managed to get “one last” kayak in to enjoy the glass-like water and beautiful colors. It is a bittersweet time of the year as everyone is busy bringing in their boats and docks. We had a hot yet a beautiful summer to create many memories on Upper Hay Lake. I am always sad to see summer come to an end but am thankful I can share the lake with you.

Keith Hughes passed away on September 21, 2021, in St. Cloud. Keith was the “godfather” of Hay Lake Lodge and our voice of reason. He was a resident of Upper Hay Lake for over twenty years and committed to building community within our association. Keith also had a keen interest in the inlet and outlet on Upper Hay Lake along with the quality of water in our lake. His twenty-three grandchildren built many fond memories tubing, boating and fishing on Upper Hay Lake.

Our Upper Hay Lake Association met at the Jenkins VFW on August 5th in the evening. It was an enjoyable meeting as we all had a chance to introduce ourselves and visit with each other. We decided to have Beach Captains who will share updates related to UHLA happenings/issues with their neighbors. So far, our Beach Captain volunteers are Cindy Rieck, Neil Beaverson, Mike DuBay, Greg Murphy, and Jack Woodruff. Please let one of the board members know if you are interested in helping out. It is an easy way to make connections with your neighbors and to enhance our lake living.

Recently, Cindy Rieck had some shoreline restoration completed using willow waddles. WAPOA members helped her out with this project, and it looks great! I encourage you to consider making plans for some shoreline restoration for next spring. Even a small part of your beach restored would be an asset for keeping the phosphorus levels down. As I kayak around the lake, I have observed a marked difference in the shorelines which have some natural vegetation. The shorelines with plants and vegetation or restoration efforts appear to be much more substantial and stable.

Mark Saturday, May 21, 2022, on your calendar for the annual membership meeting. If you have any ideas you

would like to contribute, be sure to contact one of the UHLA board members. Remember that Upper Hay Lake Association will only be successful if we have a strong and interested membership. Thank you for your commitment to keeping our lake clean and beautiful. Enjoy the fall colors and the change of seasons!

—Claire Steen

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NEXTDOOR

Here is great way to connect with others on the lake, whether it is the app for your phone, or the website for your computer. Signing up for Nextdoor is easy. Someone might post that they found the lost life jacket your two-year-old threw over the boat unbeknown to you. Perhaps you just want to find the best lawn care person, or you no longer can handle the dock and lift anymore, and you want to find someone you can hire. Lost dog, want to sell something.... it all can be done on Nextdoor.

—Judy Murphy

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NEW UPPER HAY LAKE ASSOCIATION WEBSITE IS LIVE

A new Hay Lake Association website has been developed since our current website will no longer be supported by Conservation Minnesota. Jack Wheeler from Blue Hat Design has converted it to a new format. Brad Schultz will be adding updates soon. The site is located at <http://uhla.mnlakesanddrivers.org/>

—Brad Schultz

ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT THE VFW

On August 5, 2021, the Annual Upper Hay Lake meeting was held at the Jenkins VFW Club. There was a total of 33 in attendance. The speaker for the evening was Nicolle Erickson, Environmental Service Specialist. She gave a presentation regarding the lakes in Crow Wing County—especially all the aquatic invasive species invading our waters: zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil and starchy stonewort. Information about Crow Wing County AIS prevention efforts, including interactive maps to search for the status of area lakes, can be found at www.crowwing.us/ais. The president presented an open forum for lake residents to voice their concerns. Issues raised included the depths of the water and having the DNR install markers, turning off bright

lights around the lake at night, discussion about bears, and traffic on the lake. Brad Schultz provided entertainment—minnow races. The winner was Susan Dubay.

—Brad Schultz

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BEACH CAPTAINS NOW AVAILABLE

To address various concerns, the idea of beach captains was suggested by Claire Steen at the annual meeting. The following members volunteered: Cindy Rieck —south side; Neil Beaverson —west side; Mike Dubay —east side; and Jack Woodruff – north side.

—Brad Schultz

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Here's a great opportunity to become an active member of the Upper Hay Lake Community

The Upper Hay Lake Association is looking for volunteers to be Beach Captains, as a Beach Captain you will be the Go-To person, who welcomes new neighbors, conveys concerns to the Board, and notifies their neighbors of pertinent information regarding the lake. We need several volunteers for each side of the lake.

Please contact if you are interested:
Neil Beaverson 651-429-2023
Jack Woodruff 612-802-2024

—Judy Murphy

CONNECTING STUDENTS TO CONSERVATION

This fall, Conservation Minnesota is proud to launch Conservation Crew, a student leadership program for Minnesota middle schoolers designed to empower youth through conservation projects. As a youth-led after school program, the Crew will research, select, and complete a conservation project that benefits its school or the surrounding community. Each Crew will be supported by a teacher and Conservation Minnesota staff. The new program will engage students from across the state and reach communities who might not otherwise have an opportunity to learn about conservation.

Individual schools will share their work with one another, enabling collaboration with students from different backgrounds. Opportunities to meet with local policymakers and conservation professionals will build students' leadership and communication skills. In the spring, three outstanding projects will be awarded prizes to fund future activities. By investing in students, we hope to foster a lifetime connection to conservation and the Great Outdoors and equip young leaders with the skills they need to protect our environment. As students begin their projects, we will provide updates on our website at: conservationminnesota.org/crew

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THE LEGACY AMENDMENT IN ACTION

For over 10 years, the Clean Water, Land, & Legacy Amendment has played an important role in preserving our state's natural resources. Conservation Minnesota continues to watch this funding source closely to ensure the money is used as voters intended. One way Legacy Amendment dollars are spent is in educating the next generation of Minnesotans. Funding in this year's Legacy Bill, passed in June by the state Legislature, included several projects that will provide opportunities for kids to get involved in the Great Outdoors. Learn how all Legacy Amendment funds are spent at: legacy.leg.mn Here are a few projects:

- Minnesota Green Schoolyards, The Trust for Public Land This pilot project will assess, promote, and demonstrate how schoolyards can improve water, air, and habitat quality. It will foster the next generation of stewards, while improving health, education, and community outcomes.
- Minnesota Freshwater Quest: Environmental Education on State Waterways, Wilderness Inquiry 30,000 underserved Minnesota youth (grades 6–12) will explore and improve their local waterways using freshwater species as the hook for place-based, hands-on environmental education.
- The Voyageurs Classroom Initiative, Voyageurs National Park Association. The Voyageurs Classroom will connect 6,000 Minnesota youth to Voyageurs National Park over three years to learn about its waters, wildlife, forests and skies, and engage in its preservation.

—Conservation Minnesota Fall 2021 Newsletter

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LIGHT POLLUTION

At the last Annual Board Meeting, we had an open discussion with Association members, one of the main concerns is the light pollution around the lake, the light that extends past its usage,

and interferes with non-owners of that light. In the past I have had many people complain to me about their neighbor's garage or cabin outside lights that shine all night and light up their home, so they don't even need to use a nightlight. They find this very invasive, and it can manifest into problems with their neighbors. There also have been many complaints about lights from across the lake shining into bedroom windows, or just shining at them as they are sitting on their dock trying to enjoy the serenity and magnitude of the night sky. Light pollution impacts everyone, including animals and the environment they depend on to survive. It was not that long ago, that we all could walk outside, whether it was on the dock or

just on your land, look up and gaze in amazement at the beauty of night sky. Now it is like living in the city!

Good Outdoor Lighting Should:

Optimize visibility at night for what we want lit

Minimize energy consumption

Minimize impact on the environment and ourselves

Minimize glare

Minimize light trespass

Please be kind and either use motion sensor lights or lights on a timer.

--Judy Murphy

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-2022

Beaverson, Neil	33904 N. Oak Dr. 651-429-6672	nmbeaverson@comcast.net	Term Ends: 2023
	417 Bear Ave. S. Vadnais Heights, MN 55127		
Braun, Bob	4875 Popple Trail 651-452-2872	rbbraun@comcast.net	Term Ends: 2022
	1262 Wilderness Curve 651-587-5596 – Cell Eagan, MN 55123		
Engel, Lori Secretary	4305 Acorn Lane	engel.lori1@gmail.com	Term Ends: 2023
Larson, Whitey	33061 W Shady Beach Ln 218-568-5831	whiteylar@me.com	Term Ends: 2022
Meyer, Ken Treasurer	4345 Acorn Ln 218-568-5414	kenmeyer@tds.net	Term Ends: 2021
	218-820-7683 – Cell		
Murphy, Judy Vice-President	33424 S. Oak Drive 218-330-1890 – Cell	jamurphy61.jm@gmail.com	Term Ends: 2023
Perwien, Mickey	33546 N. Oak Drive 612-386-4858 – Cell	mperwien@gmail.com	Term Ends: 2022
Schultz, Brad	33143 Osprey Circle 952-393-1758	bvschultz55@gmail.com	Term Ends: 2023
Steen, Claire President	33161 Osprey Circle 218-829-3757	Claire.steen@charter.net	Term Ends: 2021
	29 Kingwood Street 218-330-7059 – Cell Brainerd, MN 56401		
Woodruff, Jack, Honorary Board Member	4861 Popple Drive 612.802.3832	woodruffgarden17@yahoo.com	

