

UPPER SOUTH LONG LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

April 2013

PO Box 201 Brainerd, MN 56401



Special Points of Interest

- Letter from Association President
- LID Article
- Fishing Report
- AIS Report
- Financial report
- Spring Meeting
- Membership Insert

Board members:

Ron Trosvig, President, Vice Pres, OPEN, John Pietruszewski, Secretary, Bruce Dybvig, Don Crust, Sandy English, Jeff Gans, Ron Kossila, Beth Larson, Dan Martonik, Joe Nemo, Reiny Opp, Joe Patton, Mary Jane Reetz, Jeff Wollerman, Chuck Yancey

A NOTE FROM THE LAKE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Greetings to the Upper South Long Lake community! Winter is waning and many of us are starting to think about fun family times ahead at our lake. Once again, we enter 2013 with an engaged community and a rich history of lake stewardship. I am always amazed at how many USLL families are on their second, third and even fourth generations at the lake. It is a very special place for several generations.

The USLLIA BOD continues to partner closely with Bruce Dybvig and the USLL LID BOD in planning and funding lake improvement activities. We will be sharing 2013 plans at the Annual Spring Meeting. We are also combining this USLLIA and LID Newsletter to save mailing costs and expand coverage.

Last summer was a challenge with the high and then low water levels. We were just a few inches short of the record set on June 18, 2001. Thanks to everyone for being good neighbors and minimizing the impact on shorelines during the high water.

Ron Trosvig

We're on the
web!!!
[http://usllia.org/
index.html](http://usllia.org/index.html)



Crow Wing County Lakes and Rivers Alliance

www.minnesotavoters.org/LARA

LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT REPORT

Bruce Dybvig, President

Greetings from the Upper South Long Lake Improvement District (LID),

Instead of publishing a separate newsletter for 2013, we have decided to include our “news” in the LID segment of the USLLIA newsletter. This decision was made with cost savings in mind, and as a way of reminding you, our membership, that the LID and the lake association (USLLIA) continue to work closely together for the betterment of our lake. (Another example of this working relationship has been demonstrated by the LID having a website page on the USLLIA website)

In 2012, at our annual membership meeting on July 21, the LID Board said “goodbye with thanks” to retiring member Joe Patton, and we welcomed Mike Simons to our board. Immediately after the membership meeting, the new board elected the following as your new officers:

Bruce Dybvig, President; Mary Reetz, Vice President; John Pietruszewski, Secretary; Gary Hopping, Treasurer; additional board members include Ruth Naber and Mike Simons

Highlights for 2012 include:

In 2012, we spent \$8,381.90 of our annual budget to treat 38 acres of pondweed infestation. Some good news here.....we applied for and receiving \$3250.50 as grant money for the treatment of invasives in 2012 (we offer our thanks to board member John Pietruszewski wrote this grant). This, along with the fact that our acreage of treatment was less in 2012 than the previous year allowed the LID to bring into 2013 a positive cash position that we may need in future years should our invasives problem escalate. (you will find our end of year cash position in the Treasurer’s Report that follows). It should be noted that grant monies will once again be available in 2013, and we have already begun the process of applying for these monies.

During 2012, the LID’s responsibility for water testing was primarily focused on two of the lake’s inlets....the creek near Rognaldson Road and Silver Bay Road, and the creek near Paradise Shores. USLLIA also remains active in performing and monitoring certain water related tests for the lake....please note Dan Martonik’s report in this newsletter. In 2013, the LID hopes to expand our testing to include all known inlets. Board member Ruth Naber has been taking a lead role with this initiative.....water testing results for 2012 will be posted on the LID’s section of the USLLIA website in the very near future, and we’ll also have these reports available at our LID membership meeting in July.

Our bylaws demand annual reporting to the Crow Wing County Commissioners on two fronts.....1) A lengthy annual report due November 1 of each year documenting all of our activities for the year, our income and expenses, proof of liability insurance, and our proposed budget and projects for the coming year 2) a report of “verification”, informing the county auditor’s office of our current membership....names and addresses. Board member Mary Reetz led this reporting process in 2012 with help from both LID and USLLIA board members.....it’s a BIG JOB, our thanks to all who were involved!

LID REPORT CONT...

Treasurer's Report:

Cash Balance as of 1/1/2012.....	\$15,406.45
Total Revenues in 2012 (membership assessments=\$16,792.60, grants=\$3250.50).....	\$19980.10
Total expenditures in 2012 (Insurance, Water Testing, Invasives, Postage, Misc.).....	\$11,146.39
Cash Balance as of 1/1/2013.....	\$24,240.16

2013 will be a busy year for the LID board, and as in the past, our primary focus will be monitoring our water quality and treating invasives. We again will work closely with USLLIA to ensure coordination of effort and open ongoing communication.

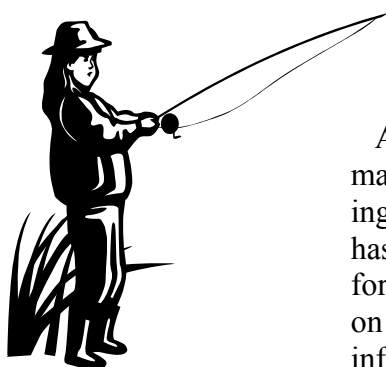
Our LID Membership meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, July 20, 2013**. Put this on your calendar now as we will appreciate your attendance and the opportunity to communicate our ongoing work on your behalf (logistics for time and place will be communicated as we get closer to this date).

Lastly, we will have three board members whose terms expire in 2013, so please contact me or any of our current board members if you have an interest in serving as a LID board member. Per our bylaws, we will be officially soliciting LID board nominees and electing new board members via regular mail starting late May, and we will be announcing new board members at the annual membership meeting on July 20.

Our LID board wishes to thank you for your annual \$75.00 contribution via assessment (this is noted on your property tax statement).....please know that we are committed to using these funds wisely for the benefit of Upper South Long Lake!

Sincerely,

Bruce



Fishing

As a property owner on Upper South Long Lake for the past 25 years, I have seen many improvements occur over time. Property owners have done a great job of being stewards of their lake frontage to improve water quality. Our lake association has provided a way of keeping up with new issues and has offered great leadership for all of us. The actions we have taken enable us to enjoy the beauty of being in or on the water. Fishing is of my specific interest. During this next year I will provide information about the Lake Fishery and ways we can enjoy great fishing in the future.

Terry Lahti

USLLIA BUILDS A MONEY RESERVE!



Discussion during our May Annual Meeting should include USLLIA finances. Income exceeds expenditures. We have a surplus! We're in very good shape-and that's a very good thing!

With the LID picking up the Curley-Leaf control costs, the USLLIA can consider making new investments for the benefit of our lake community. Having a healthy reserve fund is essential in case LID may need financial help to fight off new and unexpected threats to our lake. It is always a good idea to support and build our non-profit organization too. Other interesting new ideas are surfacing that our lake association might consider also. Your ideas are welcome!

A detailed financial report will be available at the May meeting. Be ready to talk about how best to earn and spend our association funds. It should be a lively discussion.

Don Crust

Treasurer, USLLIA



ARE YOU A KEEPER?

Mail a \$25 check to USLLIA today!

JOIN THE ASSOCIATION NOW

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Join the Upper South Long Lake Association now and get a FREE membership door decal at the spring meeting May 25!!

Dues are only \$25 this year. There is an envelope enclosed for your convenience.

Write a check to **USLLIA**, fill in the coupon and mail it **TODAY!**



Water Committee

By Dan Martonik

I hope that everyone has had a safe and warm winter. It's now time to look forward to the 2013 spring and summer seasons.

AIS management

One big change has been made in our efforts to treat curly leaf pondweed in our lake. We have contracted with Lake Restoration, Inc. (LRI), to perform the treatments for this year. Reasons for this change have to do with increasing costs. In an effort to bring the cost down, we teamed up with our friends on the lower lake to treat both of our lakes at the same time. This could only be done with both associations using the same vendor. We received bids from their vendor (LRI) and our previous vendor Professional Lakes Management (PLM). LRI had the lowest bid. Efforts to negotiate with PLM for a better price were not successful. Three or four years ago these two competitors (price-wise) were reversed.

The fact that the DNR had nothing but good things to say about LRI's performance in the treatment of curly leaf made it easy to go with them. Lake Restoration, Inc. has been in business since 1977 and is headquartered in Rogers, MN.

Water Clarity

A reminder to everyone: please keep your septic systems up to date, in working order and in accordance with county rules. Keep your beaches as clean as possible. Install rain gardens and buffers to impede rain-water runoff. Don't fertilize. Don't build your campfires on the beach or too close to the beach. These are common sense things that we can all do to make our lake water as clear and clean as possible.

See you on the lake!

Dan

Walleye catch & release From MN DNR Website

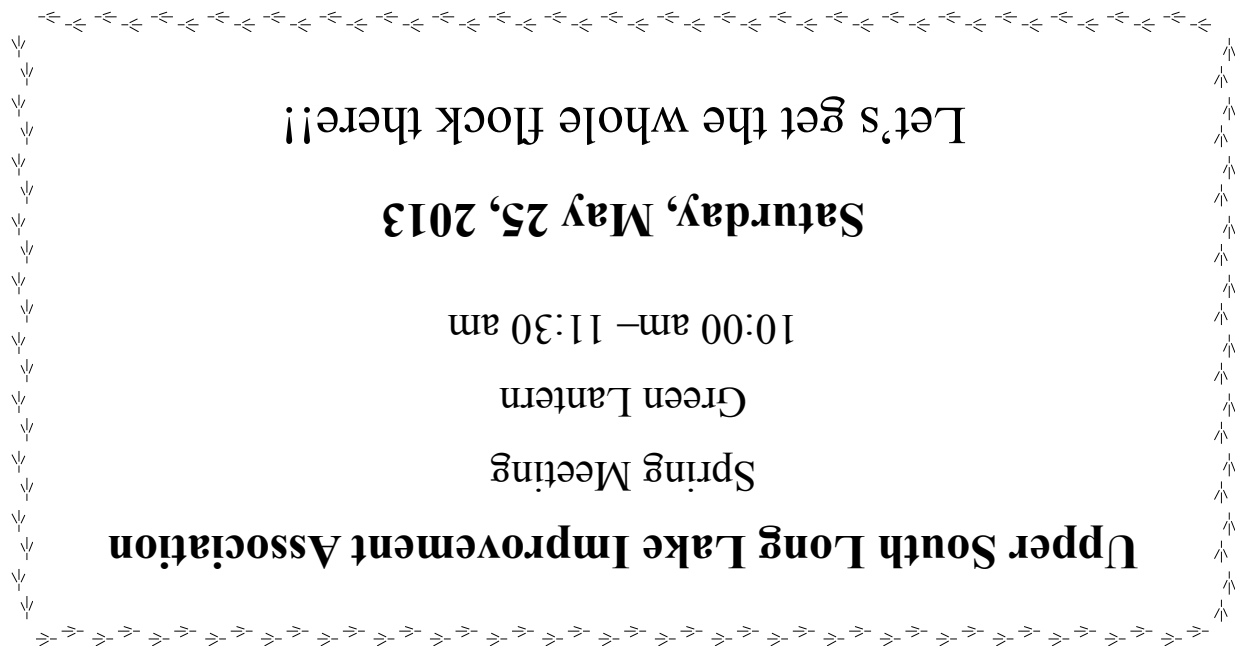
sub. By Terry Lahti

Live-bait rigs hook fish more deeply than artificial lures and thus kill more fish - whether badly hooked fish are put on a stringer or thrown back into the lake. A recent DNR study confirms that live bait kills more walleye. But it also suggests that hooking mortality with leeches is low enough to make catch-and-release angling worthwhile.

The 1985-86 study. None of the walleye caught on crankbaits later died. The hooking mortality for leeches was about 10 percent - significant, but still low enough that anglers could release fish and know they would live. Also important to the survival of fish is how they are handled. If you intend to release a fish, don't play it to exhaustion, do not hold it by the eyes, cut the line if the fish is deeply hooked, and return the fish to the water immediately.

By keeping less than their limit and releasing some fish - especially large fish - anglers improve the quality of their own fishing. Catch-and-release fishing - whether voluntary or required - will probably play an ever-larger role in fish management.

Upper South Long Lake Improvement
Association
PO Box 201
Brainerd, MN 546401



Upper South Long Lake Improvement Association
Spring Meeting
Green Lantern
10:00 am – 11:30 am
Saturday, May 25, 2013
Let's get the whole flock there!!