



Winter 2017

# The Mel-Sal

## President's Message by Mike Becraft

### Board of Directors Current-June 2017

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Vice President . . . . . Susan Roberts  
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Septic/Water Quality Lead . . . . Clayton Jensen  
AIS . . . . . Ken Olson  
Home Tour . . . . . Judy Hatlie  
Database . . . . . Hans Tronnes

**Annual Meeting: Saturday, June 17th**  
**Social 9:30am • Meeting 10:00 am •**  
**Shoreham Chapel**

**Spring Beach Captain's Meeting:**  
**June 10<sup>th</sup> • 9:30 am**

**The Lakes Melissa Sallie  
Improvement Association was  
started in 1936. As a non-profit  
organization, we exist to  
safeguard our shoreline, water  
front, and the recreational  
advantages of Lakes Melissa  
and Sallie.**

Friends,

Well 2016 is about to run down, I think it was a great Summer and I hope you did too. We look forward to the 2017 Summer season with great expectation.

This Association could not survive without the contributions of our volunteers to promote a sense of community at the lakes. To all of you thank you very much. The 4th of July Parade was a great success and provided fun for all who participated on the boats or enjoying it from their docks. The Home Tour may possibly have been our best yet and we can look forward to the next one in 2018. Thanks to our Beach Captains, Head Beach Captains, and Jill Cleveland the Labor Day Food Pantry Drive was absolutely the best, collecting 2853 pounds of food and over \$245.00 in donations. In 2015 we collected 1480 pounds and \$95.00 in donations. Thanks also go to those of you who sat the Office. You sold more clothing this past summer than we have ever done in a season.

I want to especially recognize Jim Dixon, a long time member and former President, who suggested we start a lending library at the Office. Jim contributed numerous books from his library, bought and installed the shelving, had the space foam insulated and installed new lighting. In late Summer the space was dedicated the Jim Dixon Library. Please consider donating your own books this Summer.

Looking to 2017 we need to stay focused on Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). Even though both of our lakes have Zebra Mussels there are worse invasive species out there such as Starry Stonewort that will clog our lakes and effectively prevent boat movement, the Spiny Water Flea, and the flying Asian Carp. These are ever present threats and we will continue to work with Becker County, Lake View Township, and the Becker County Coalition of Lakes to fight them. I want to thank Lake View Township for their contribution to help fund Inspectors at our DNR Launch Sites, we do appreciate it! We will follow the funding issue for the Detroit Lakes Waste Water Treatment Plant. This plant is critical to the health of our lakes. We will monitor the progress of the Hwy's 59/22 Roundabout based on your concerns at the 2016 Annual Meeting.

This is also the time to remember our neighbors who passed away this year: Harry Salminen, Norma Finnie, Robert Carr, Tim Davies, Mary Magill, Paul Welu, Bruce Ovind, Helen Williams, Tom Kenney, and Judge Myron Bright, 97, the longest serving judge on the U.S. 8th Circuit Court of Appeals. We bid them farewell and send our condolences to their loved ones.

Finally, we need your updated Directory input and a check for your dues if you want to be included in our new 2017-2019 Directory to be published late Spring. Please don't miss out, fill out the attached application and mail it in with your dues!

I wish you all a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah. and a very Happy and Healthy New Year. See you at the lakes!

Warm Regards,  
Mike Becraft  
President

# LMSA News



*President Mike Becraft thanks long time member Jim Dixon—for his work on the library.*

## Melissa Sallie Activities

Once again the traditions of the Melissa Sallie Association were in full swing last summer. Our 2016 Home Tour was a great success with special thanks to Judy Hatlie, Home Tour Chair, to the generous neighbors who opened their homes for the tour, and to all the volunteers who made this happen. Our next Home Tour will be in 2018.

The Office, hereafter known as the “World Headquarters”, was a busy place this summer. We had all new merchandise and most all of it was sold. We will be getting new and different clothing items for this coming summer. Our lending library is finally a reality and well stocked. A special thank you to Jim Dixon for spearheading this project.

The Fourth of July Boat Parade was a great success on both lakes. Boats were well decorated as were homes on the shore. The Boat Parade judges had plenty from which to judge and a good time was had by all.

Lastly, I want to again thank all those who volunteered in these efforts. Because of their participation the summer of 2016 was one of the best ever!

Carolyn Becraft  
Activities Chair

## **New Membership Contest!**

\$100 Gift Certificate to the Hotel Shoreham was a gift from two anonymous donors.

### **RULES:**

1. Dues submission must be postmarked no later than March 1st.
2. All members are eligible EXCEPT the Association President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
3. Drawing of the names submitted will be at the Annual Meeting in June.



## **Best Decorated Watercraft on Sallie**

*Charlie Brown Float-Michaelson's*

## **Winners of the Best Decorated Shore/Beaches/Homes are:**

### **SALLIE**

First place: Mahoney Float Your Fourth –  
Beach: Fairhaven

Second place: Riedesel's Nostalgic – Beach:  
Fairhaven

Honorable Mention: Jack Winsor's Alpine  
Horn Serenade – Beach:  
Kenney/Beaton

### **MELISSA**

Leikas family - A Shore Thing  
Runner up-Feders Let freedom Ring



## Best Decorated Watercraft on Melissa

*Fourth and Goal Float-Swenson's*

Miss the Boat Parade? Want to see what our other lake did? LMSA Home Tour?

**Check out the pictures on Facebook!**

## BEACH CAPTAIN NEWS

As I write this in early December, it is cold and sunny in Annapolis, Maryland. However, it is nothing compared to Minnesota and the Dakotas. We are expecting some flakes of snow in the next week or so. Being so close to the Chesapeake Bay, we seldom get a white Christmas. Darn.

The purpose of this letter is to have a "presence" in the MelSal Annual Newsletter, but, really, I am writing to thank all of you who serve as Beach Captains for the hard work and dedication you devoted to the program last summer. Under the leadership of our Melissa and Sallie Head Beach Captains, Paul and Carol Schornack and Rick and Kathy Michaelson, respectively; we accomplished what we set out to do. We recruited some new Beach Captains, who jumped right in and made us proud! We were able to canvas most neighborhoods, introduce ourselves to old and new residents, collect dues, and make new friends. Some Beach Captains even pounded the pavement, selling ads for the new and improved upcoming MelSal Directory-due out this summer! Finally, our group helped with the Labor Day Food Pantry Drive, collecting donations from our residents. As usual, the drive was a big success.

For all this hard work, our Beach Captains now have their very own blue and yellow signs on their mail boxes or posts identifying them as "Beach Captains"! ☺ So, a big thank you to everyone.

We will have our annual Beach Captain meeting June 10 (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday) at 9:30. Location not confirmed yet, but it will probably be at the hotel. We look forward to seeing everyone. If you know of anyone who would like to be a Beach Captain, please let me know.

Have a wonderful, joyous holiday season.  
Best wishes, Susan



## Coming Soon!

A website will go up soon with info on the roundabout at 59/22, including construction progress when that starts. The web site is <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d4/projects/hwy59roundabout/>

For questions, contact: Brian Bausman, 218-846-7944, <[brian.bausman@state.mn.us](mailto:brian.bausman@state.mn.us)>

New Year's greeting from Paul and Carole Schornack, representing Lake Melissa Beach captains.

We are summer and Christmas residents on Lake Melissa and are currently spending the holidays in our Dakotah Beach home on the south east shore of the very cold, solidly frozen, lake. It is as beautiful in the winter as it is in the summer!!

We would like to extend a welcome to a new area recently established on the southwest side of the lake. The properties at Sandy Beach Estates have developed 25 lots on the bluff between Mill Pond Rd and South Melissa Drive. At this time, there are five homes completed and more expected next summer. They have a very nice looking building on the lakeshore property for storage of lake toys. Property Management Company in Fargo is handling the development if anyone is interested in more information. We will be calling on these new residents and encouraging them to join our association. I am sure many of you have visited this area as it is a very favorite swimming spot on the lake.

Thanks to all Lake Melissa beach captains for their hard work this past summer. Dues collection is at an all-time high, many updates will be made to the new directory and the food drive was a HUGE success. Thanks for calling on new owners, making them feel welcome and encouraging them to be part of our association. Being a successful beach captain takes work and you all did so much. Please know you are all very much appreciated.

# AIS NEWS

At Monday's AIS Summit Moriya Rufer of RMB Labs, in reference to recent newly announced infestations of zebra mussels in Lakes Sallie and Detroit, answered the question many local residents have asked: What can we Expect? Moriya has been involved with studying lake biology for more than 12 years, and is currently an Aquatic Ecologist for RMB Environmental Laboratories here in Detroit lakes. Since 2006 she has also been the Lake Coordinator for the Pelican Group of Lakes Improvement District (PGOLID) which works closely with the Pelican Lake Property Owners Association. In these roles she has been directly involved in the detection of zebra mussels and measurement of their impacts in Pelican Lake and others in the area.

Zebra mussels were found in Pelican Lake in 2009; Moriya believes that they were likely present in the lake one to two years prior to discovery. Two more seasons passed after the initial infestation before zebra mussels became widely noticeable in Pelican. Since that time the populations have grown, and as they have done so, there have been noticeable changes in the lake's clarity and biology. She also has had the opportunity to study the impacts of infestations in other nearby lakes. In Monday's session, attended by about 45, she offered several ideas of what Lake Detroiters and other users of newly infested lakes might anticipate over the next few years.

- It is unlikely that there will be noticeable populations in 2017; in 2018, and especially 2019 the infestations will become obvious. After about five years population increases will level off.
- Because zebra mussels remove algae from the water, it seems likely that Big Detroit will see a significant increase in clarity, especially after several years. Clarity is not so likely to increase in Little Detroit because it is a shallow lake (also clarity is already somewhat higher in Little Detroit).
- Aquatic plants may be found in somewhat deeper waters because increased clarity allows more sunlight penetration.

- Increased clarity may also make game fish more skittish – some have switched to night fishing. Game fish may be slower growing because the plankton they eat will have to compete with zebra mussels for food.
- Along sandy shores, zebra mussels will impose less of a nuisance because they tend to attach to hard surfaces. In sandy beaches, they are sometimes found in “clumps” – attached to each other. They can be removed with a rake in the same way as mystery snails and clam shells.
- On more rocky shorelines, probably including the Sandbar between Little and Big Detroit, zebra mussel populations may prosper; swimmers/waders may need foot protection.
- Boaters will want to remove their boats and lower units of engines completely from the water to protect them from damage – e.g. raise the lifts.
- PVC Irrigation intakes do not seem to be so attractive to zebra mussels – wipe every 2-3 weeks.

There are signs (in Pelican and elsewhere) that after some years of heavy infestation, there is a partial die-off of zebra mussels. This is because they have removed so much of the algae from the water there is not enough to sustain high populations. However, as algae levels rebound as a result of the die-off, so will zebra mussel populations; so it is expected that upon reaching the limits of a lake's zebra mussel carrying capacity, that mussel populations will fluctuate year to year. Also, die-offs may aggravate maintenance issues as dead shells wash ashore.

It is important to keep in mind, according to Moriya, that each lake responds to zebra mussel infestations differently. Also, there are lake-to-lake genetic differences among zebra mussel populations.

Dick Hecock 10/25/26

# Lakes Melissa Sallie Improvement Association 2017 Contact Information



Please review this form **completely** to help assure we have your necessary information.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

*If you did NOT pay dues last year, your contact information could be outdated. Please provide the following **ONLY** if your contact data has changed!!! Otherwise leave blank!!*

**EMAIL:** If you received periodic email communications from MelSal last year, we have your email address – **no need to give it to us again!** Multiple email addresses are accepted. Most communications sent via email!

**PRINT** EMAIL ADDRESSES CLEARLY: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*We will list one lake phone (if any) for each address, plus up to two cells, plus one winter phone. We need to know names for each cell, so please tell us. These phone numbers will be published in our 2017 Directory!! Don't list phone numbers if you sent them to us in 2015-16, unless they changed again since then.!!*

LAKES LAND LINE – "X" if none: **218** - \_\_\_\_\_ Home/Winter phone: \_\_\_\_\_

First name & cell: \_\_\_\_\_ First name & cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Home/Winter Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Unless you indicate otherwise, the **Annual** Newsletter will be mailed to winter address; most other communications will be sent via email; membership card, if any, will be sent to summer address.*

☐ **OPTIONAL:** List names of others **frequently** staying in your Lake Home – will be printed in directory.

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have **NEW** lakes neighbors, or did you sell?? Please give us the info:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**See Reverse Side**

# INVOICE



## 2017 Membership Fees

Property Owner Names: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2017

Lake Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Detroit Lakes MN 56501

**Complete this section! *Submit before April 10, 2017, to assure directory listing!***

☐ Enclosed: 2017 Membership Fee \$ 35.00 includes one  
Directory\*

Extra Directories @ \$10 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution: MelSal Foundation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution: Environmental Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Directories available at Annual Meeting and in MelSal office Saturdays/Sundays, 10:00 - 1:00; we cannot mail directories.

**Send your completed form and check to:**

**MelSal Association PO Box 1003 Detroit Lakes MN 56502**

**Thanks.**

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**See Reverse Side**



*Bob Hatlestad, seasonal Melissa resident and former DL resident in his youth, again writes about some little-known events from in and around Shoreham. With help from Rick Lynch, lifetime Shoreham resident, and Hans Borstad, "legal advisor", Bob compiled the following bit of Shoreham history.*

## **Axel Olson vs. George Pettibone** **- A Shoreham Legal Classic**

As Shoreham residents get younger and the rest of us get older, more and more people ask about the history of the Pettibone Lodge, what it was, where it was exactly, and so on.

Along with the Hotel Shoreham, the Mel Sal club, the Village Store, Olson's Resort and other popular destinations of the time, the Pettibone Lodge was a resort and playground for many vacationers from Fargo and surrounding states.

It was a summer hot spot and the centerpiece of Shoreham in the 20s and 30s...a rip roarin' place to go on a Saturday night. The Lodge had rooms to rent, a bar, a dance hall and all the usual amenities and in all likelihood an occasional fight in the parking lot featuring the locals against the Fargo guys. There was a row of cabins between the back of the lodge and the channel from the Shoreham bridge all the way to Melissa. And, the beach on Melissa was a playground for the Lodge's many guests and featured a big water slide, diving rafts, boats for rent and many other water toys of the time. The Lodge and its cabins and parking lot occupied most of the land between the Shoreham Chapel and the Pelican River commonly referred to locally as "the channel".

In the 20's, a real estate dispute developed between Axel Olson (father of Lois Lynch and grandfather of Tom and Rick Lynch who are known to most Shoreham residents) and George Pettibone. Olson's Resort abutted the Pettibone Lodge property and they were competitors and apparently not on good terms with each other. At some point in the mid 20's Olson, probably tired of battling with Pettibone, decided to sell his resort. Pettibone had been interested in the Olson property for several years but because of the feud between the two of them, Olson would not sell to Pettibone.

Olson hired a Fargo Realtor to sell his resort and the Realtor produced a buyer who, unknown to Olson, had arranged (with help from said Realtor) to transfer his interest to Pettibone. It was clear at the time that Olson would not have sold his resort to Pettibone. Olson found out about the sale to what is known as a "straw buyer" and sued to have his sale to the straw buyer rescinded and to take his resort back.

The Becker County District Court ruled in favor of Olson, and Pettibone appealed to the Minnesota Supreme Court. On October 1, 1926, the Court affirmed the District Court's ruling in favor of Olson. The Court, in essence, held that this was a case of "double agency" and that Olson "did not know" that the Realtor was also working behind his back for Pettibone and that a person "cannot serve two masters, having opposing interests in a transaction."

We can assume that the Realtor had to give back Olson's commission and that Pettibone, the straw buyer, and the Realtor all had to live with the loss while they went off to lick their wounds.

So there you have it. It is said among the old timers in Shoreham that Pettibone's ghost still plies the Pelican River between the bridge and Melissa bemoaning his defeat in the Minnesota Supreme Court.

*If you have any stories (or suggestions for stories) about Shoreham and its history and would like to share them with us, simply contact Bob Hatlestad.*



This story was originally shared with our members via email in early December. If you didn't get the email, we don't have your current contact information!

# MULTIPLE OWNER PROPERTIES, MULTIPLE OCCUPANTS

## and MULTIPLE PROPERTY OWNERS

Some lake properties are OWNED by multiple people - **MULTIPLE OWNER PROPERTIES.**

Some own multiple properties - **MULTIPLE PROPERTY OWNERS.**

Many properties are owned by one family but frequently have others staying in the property, at least some of the time - **MULTIPLE OCCUPANTS.**

In the MelSal Data Base, we ask that single-owner cabins list names of “others” who frequently stay their (e.g., children, relatives) as “Other Contacts in Cabin”.

***For properties with MULTIPLE OWNERS, there is a choice:***

- (1) List property under ONE owner with related data (e.g., cell phones, winter address) for that one owner. If desired, additional owner names can be listed under the name of one owner . . . or
- (2) Each of the property owners is listed separately, with related data (e.g., cell phones, winter address) listed separately for that owner. In that case, *EACH owner must submit a completed **Contact Information Sheet*** (copy included in this newsletter). Therefore, each owner’s Contact Info (for example, cell phones and winter addresses) can be listed in our directory.

***ONLY one dues payment is necessary for each property.*** Therefore, cabins with multiple owners need pay only ONE membership annually.

If a person owns **Multiple Properties**, then that person must pay annual dues for **EACH** property.

Regardless of your listing preference, you can include multiple email addresses on your Contact Information Sheet.

**Please check your emails frequently. If your emails bounce back to us twice for any reason, your email listing will be removed from our distribution list. Check to be sure our emails are not directed to your “JUNK” mailboxes and that your email box is not “FULL”.**



# Facts about 2017 All-New MelSal Directory

*2017 will be especially important for MelSal members. Much new and improved Directory contact information will be available for the first time.*

- ◀ First MelSal Directory in three years
- ◀ 660+ names/properties listed; many new
- ◀ 730+ cell phone numbers never before included
- ◀ 1,450+ email address for 490 properties; many email addresses still missing
- ◀ dozens of deleted land lines
- ◀ many local vendor and personal ads
- ◀ and much, much more

Volunteers are working diligently to assure the most complete and helpful Directory ever published.

## *We need your input/data to assure accuracy*

- ◀ Timing will be critical:
  - Directory goes to printer April 30, 2017
  - To assure current data, we need yours by April 10 – ***Updates received after April 10 will not appear in 2017 directory***
  - 2017 Directories will be available at the Annual Meeting, for all who have paid; one Directory per paid membership; extra directories @ \$10.

***Sufficient numbers of Directories will be printed for those who have paid dues. Sorry, we cannot mail directories.***

Scores of property owners have historically waited until the Annual Meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in June) or later to pay dues. In these cases, your directory may not reflect your most current data.

**Simply – we will have better information available to all who pay their dues before April 10, 2017!!**

