



The Mel-Sal

President's Message by Mike Becraft

Friends,

Well another year has come and gone and many of us who Winter away are already thinking of our return to the lakes. This past weekend Carolyn and I ran into Judge Dick Goldberg (Lake Melissa) in Tyson's Corner, VA, and the three of us talked about when we would be returning to the lakes. Just a few more months and the annual trek will begin.

What are we thinking about as an Association for the coming year? First we want to build on our efforts of staying vigilant in the fight against the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). We must continue to support stopping the spread of Zebra Mussels and be ever more vigilant in protecting our lakes from other even worse species like the Starry Stonewort. You can read more about this invasive species in this newsletter. We are lucky to have the support of Lakeview Township Supervisors Ken Shroyer and Bill Jordan who helped with our annual request for \$1500 to help pay for AIS Inspectors at the DNR Launch Sites. The Township Annual Election and Budget Meeting will be 13 March this year, Election from 5 to 8PM, and Annual Budget Meeting at 8:15PM. I hope those who are year-round residents can attend this meeting to again show support for this AIS effort. We will also be following the progress of Detroit Lake's Waste Water Treatment Plant and the Airport Expansion. The Treatment Plant is of special concern given its criticality to the quality of the water that enters our lakes. On the Activities side, this year sees the return of the Home Tour which takes place every two years. You can read more about this and the other Summer activities in this newsletter.

I want to take this opportunity to recognize the outstanding efforts of our Beach Captains led by Sallie Head Beach Captain's Rick and Kathy Michaelson, and Melissa Head Beach Captain's Paul and Carole Schornack. As you can imagine not much would be possible without the dedication and commitment of the BC's whose job it is to make things happen. I also want to thank the Officers and Board of the Association for all their team work and superb efforts, and I want to especially thank VP Susan Roberts for leading the effort to publish the new Directory last Summer, this was no small effort. Lastly I want to give a shout out to Commissioner John Okeson for his continuing support of the Association, he is a solid Member for sure.

I would be remiss in closing without mentioning the names of our friends and neighbors who passed on in 2017-2018: Fred "John" Williams, Byrne R. Hildebrand, Dr. Robert P. "Bob" Jordheim, Boyden "Bud" Carlson, Cynthia R. "Cyndi" Anderson, Frank Winsor and Tom Conmy. They will all be missed.

So another Summer approaches, a time of family gatherings and family fun with children, grandchildren, and I suspect some great grand children. Fun times at the lake creating wonderful memories for all involved especially the children. On behalf of the Lakes Melissa and Sallie Association I wish you all a wonderful Summer in 2018. I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting on 16 June.

Warm Regards,
Mike Becraft
President, LMSA

Board of Directors Current-June 2018

President Mike Becraft
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Committee Chairs

Government Liaison Mary Ann Bond
Activities Chairman Carolyn Becraft
Membership Chairman Vicky Williams
Publicity Chairman Marsha Johansen

Ad Hoc Committees

Newsletter/ Sandy Alinder
Office Manager Open
Property Manager Open
Archivist/Historian Bob Hatlestad
Septic/Water Quality Lead Clayton Jensen
AIS Ken Olson
Home Tour Judy Hatlie
Database Wanda Roden

Annual Meeting: Saturday, June 16th
Social 9:30am • Meeting 10:00 am •
Shoreham Chapel

Home Tour: Saturday, June 23rd

Spring Beach Captain's Meeting:
June 9th

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.

LMSA News

2018 MELISSA/SALLIE ACTIVITIES

Summer is just around the corner and we look forward to many community activities including:

Melissa/Sallie Home Tour: Saturday June 23 from 10 AM - 2 PM. Judy Hatlie and her committee have lined up great homes for the tour. There is a need for volunteers for this event which includes an added bonus of an appreciation party for the volunteers at the conclusion of the Home Tour. If interested in assisting please contact Judy (HatlieJude@aol.com).

4th of July Boat Parade and Shore Competitions: **It's not too early to plan your boat or shore** design. We will need a head judge for each lake who will then select additional judges to assist them.

Mel/Sal Office: The office (hereafter known as the World Headquarters!) will be open on weekends from Memorial Day - Labor Day. Our clothing sales were once again very successful so we will be bringing in all new merchandise to help you keep your summer wardrobes up to date. Also be sure to check out the Lending Library for your summer reading pleasure. At this point we do not need more adult reading material. However, we would definitely welcome reading material for children and young adults. A call for volunteers to man the office will be sent out in May.

Food Drive: The Melissa Sallie Association will once again participate in the end of season food drive Labor Day Weekend to benefit the Becker County Food Pantry. This is a great way to clean out your pantry prior to closing for the season. Last year the Association contributed over 3000 pounds of food to this worthy charity.

I want to give a special thanks to all of you who volunteered for our various activities last summer. Our volunteers are the strength of our Association. Looking forward to seeing you all this summer.

Carolyn Becraft
Activities Chair

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

Check out the pictures on Facebook



Lake Sallie Winner 2017- The Riedessel's

OVERVIEW OF MelSal's ON-LINE DATA BASE and EMAIL SYSTEM

Beginning in 2018, your Lakes Melissa and Sallie Association will have converted its manual Data Base and Fee/Contribution system to an on-line process, greatly facilitating the processes. ***But wait!*** – we know that many of you – at least initially – may not be interested in *computers/web sites/paperless processing*. So we will still offer the option of doing things the way we always have. We are working with **MemberPlanet**, an organization specializing in data management for groups like MelSal.

Basically, property owners will be able to go to the MelSal web site and enter/modify any their data: names, phone numbers, email addresses, winter addresses, etc. This critically important feature will assure that your information is always current. And MelSal volunteer staff will no longer have to spend hundreds of hours doing it manually. For those who choose to do this manually, that process is unchanged.

You will also have the option of paying annual **membership fees** (and **contributions** to our Foundation and Environmental funds) on-line.

Over the next few months Lake Sallie property owner, Wanda Roden (Data Base Chair) will lead our efforts to set-up this significant undertaking. Once completed, those interested in “going paperless” will simply go to the MemberPlanet website, use your own **Log In** and **Password**, and update/verify your Contact Information. You will then choose to pay association Fees/Contributions by credit card (or PayPal?), or you can do it manually by mailing check to MelSal. Regardless of how you proceed, you will be able to update critical Contact Information 24/7 so you can remain connected for our emails (Newsletters), phone or conventional mail.

There are many parts of this process still being developed. When ready, we will be back in touch with more information. Until then, we simply want you to become aware of the changes and are ready to help us serve you better.

The first change will be for each of you to identify who, in your household, will be the primary contact for MelSal-related information. The MemberPlanet system need for such a person to be identified, facilitating our communications and billing. Don't worry, ***you will all continue to receive*** important MelSal information and communications, but the PRIMARY CONTACT will be responsible as the **primary contact** person. You can choose any person in your household. Nothing to do now, but get ready for designating such a person when we ask.

Best Wishes for a happy and memorable New Year.

Lake Association Activities

- Winter Patrol
- Fourth of July Boat Parades and trophy presentation
- Home Tour
- Lakes Melissa Sallie Foundation
- Swimming Lessons
- MinnAqua DNR Kids Program
- Adopt-a-Road Clean-up
- Tennis Court access free for members
- Buoys
- Lake Sallie Tramway
- Shoreham: Life at the Lakes
- Website www.melissasallie.com
- Melissa-Sallie area Directory
- Representation in Becker County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA)
- Shoreham Community Garden
- Annual Meeting
- Mosquito Control through Larvicide
- Beach Signage



Starry Stonewort, Minnesota's Newest Invasive Species, Featured at the Aquatic Invaders Summit 2018

In 2015 a new invasive alga, Starry Stonewort, was discovered around the DNR public access on Lake Koronis. This highly destructive invasive species has been called the most destructive invasive species in Michigan by one resource manager. Starry stonewort can overtake spawning beds, make boat navigation almost impossible and is so aggressive it can even crowd out Eurasian watermilfoil.

When the first case was reported in Wisconsin in 2014, the local lake association president called it “the start of the death of a lake,” [according to FOX 6](#). The next year, 2015, starry stonewort was discovered in Silver Lake, Washington County, Wisconsin. [Washington County officials closed the lake to all boat traffic](#) in an effort to contain the spread and try different treatment options.

When starry stonewort was discovered in Lake Koronis many, including a resort owner, the Lake Koronis lake association and local units of government called for the temporary closure of the lake while a strategy to prevent spread was developed.

Minnesota DNR took a less aggressive approach in an effort to protect public access. The MN DNR tried a late fall chemical treatment (ineffective) and increased inspection hours at the public boat ramp. The [Lake Koronis Association](#) formed a partnership with the MN DNR, Stearns County resource managers and the Minnesota

Aquatic Invasive Species Center with advice from Dr. John Rogers at Clemson University. Since 2016 they have been attempting to treat and contain the invasive alga. All accesses to the lake remain open. Funds for this effort were raised by the lake association with grants from both the Minnesota Legislature and the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council through the Initiative Foundation made available.

[Learn More About Lake Koronis Efforts to Contain Starry Stonewort](#)

Starry Stonewort has been discovered in nine other Minnesota lakes. At the 2018 Aquatic Invaders Summit members of the Lake Koronis Association, MAISRC and Dr. Rogers will share their experience, the results of their efforts, lessons learned and important next steps. If you are concerned about this invasive alga getting into lake and river systems in your community, this is a presentation that you must not miss.

This year we have to cap registrations at 450 due to space constraints. So register today.

Check out the website for more information:

<http://aisummit3.mnlakesanddrivers.org/>



INVOICE

2018 Homeowner Fees

Property Owner Name(s): _____ Date: _____, 2018
Lake Address: _____ Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Please complete this section and submit before **Monday, April 2nd!**

2018 Homeowner Fees **\$ 35.00**

The Association needs your continued support to finance various issues surrounding our mission to promote healthy lake environments for us to enjoy. Please consider donating to the Foundation and the

Environmental funds \$ _____
Contribution: MelSal Foundation \$ _____
Contribution: Environmental Fund \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Send your completed form and check to:
MelSal Association PO Box 1003 Detroit Lakes MN 56502

As you have read, on a previous page in this Newsletter, we are in the process of converting all membership to a database through MemberPlanet. There is still much work to be done! As you can imagine, trying to represent over 650 Melissa and Sallie lake properties, we need an electronic system to enhance communications with you! As we proceed, you will be sent emails to help us further refine and update your personal information within the database.

Thank you.

Please See Reverse Side for additional information needed to update current Mel/Sal information.



Melissa & Sallie Lakes Association 2018 Contact Information

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

NAME: _____

Please provide the following ONLY if your contact data has changed!!! Otherwise PLEASE leave blank!

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 are sent via email!

EMAIL ADDRESSES: PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:

PHONE INFORMATION: We will list one lake phone for each address, plus up to two cells, plus one winter phone. If you sent phone numbers to us in **2015 – 2016**, we have these listed. Please **DO NOT** send again, unless they have changed. We also need to know the names for each cell.

LAKES LAND LINE - "X" if none: 218 - _____

Home/Winter phone (if changed): _____

First name & cell (if changed): _____

First name & cell (if changed): _____

Home/Winter Address (if changed):

Unless you indicate otherwise, the Annual Newsletter will be mailed to winter address. However, other communications will be sent via email.

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

January 2018 Becker County Coalition of Lakes (BCCOLA)

Update: *Respectfully submitted by Wanda Roden*

As some of you may know, I represent the Melissa & Sallie Lakes Association at the Becker County COLA monthly meetings. Through this representation, I have gained considerable information regarding the quality and threats to our 11,000 MN lakes. BCCOLA maintains the following objectives:

Objective 1. *The Becker County Coalition of Lake Associations, hereafter referred to as Becker County COLA is organized for the purpose of facilitating cooperation among member Lake Associations to protect and enhance the quality of lakes and their shore areas.*

Objective 2. *Becker County COLA will sponsor a water quality monitoring program, assist in the identification of environmental impacts to lakes, communicate information to association members and the public regarding the preservation of lakes as an important natural resource, develop and present recommendations related to shore land development, coordinate and cooperate with County and State agencies in maintaining and improving water quality.*

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) continue to haunt the quality of our lakes. Although we are limited to what we can do regarding the Zebra Mussel infestation in our two lakes, we need to protect our lakes from another species named Starry Stonewort. The plant was first confirmed in Minnesota in Lake Koronis, near Paynesville in Stearns County in late August of 2015. Plant fragments were probably brought into the state on a trailered watercraft from infested waters in another state. In August of 2016, starry stonewort was confirmed in several north-central MN lakes in Beltrami, Itasca, and Cass counties. Starry stonewort can be distinguished from other grass-like algae, common to MN, by the presence of star-shaped bulbils.

It is believed that most AIS are transported to other lakes by docks, lifts, and boats. We must continue to be diligent about cleaning and checking boats and trailers for weeds and zebra mussels. Please follow recommended guidelines regarding moving used lifts and docks into any other lake, as these are a HUGE reason for AIS entering a lake.

We are grateful for work done by the Becker County Soil and Water Conservation District which supports the inspectors that are located at the watercraft accesses on our lakes. During 2017, 1150 watercraft inspections were completed on Lake Melissa and 1675 watercraft inspections were done on Lake Sallie. If interested, additional information regarding these inspections is available.

I strongly encourage you to get involved in our lake association and join our BCCOLA educational meetings this next year. Although we do not have topics finalized, please add the following 2018 meeting dates to your calendar. We would love to see you there!

Thursday, May 17	5:30 PM Lake
Sharing Detroit Lakes	Holiday Inn
Thursday June 21	5:30 PM Lake
Sharing Detroit Lakes	Holiday Inn
Thursday, August 16	5:30 PM Lake
Sharing Detroit Lakes	Holiday Inn
Thursday, September 20	5:30 PM Lake
Sharing Detroit Lakes	Holiday Inn
Thursday, October 18	5:30 PM Lake
Sharing Detroit Lakes	Holiday Inn

A July date is still to be determined.



PO Box 1003
Detroit Lakes, MN 56502

