

Sun Valley Lake Association

UPDATE:

SUN VALLEY RURAL IMPROVEMENT ZONE

The RIZ Board has gotten government approval and permits for 3 projects on farmland west of the lake to control erosion. We have started the bidding process for these projects. We hope to get started on one right away. The other two cannot be started until after October, as the government will not allow the cutting of trees that might contain a migrating protected bat species until then. We also are required to buy over \$200,000 in mitigation credits because of the necessary disturbing of wetlands and streams. It has been quite a process and very time-consuming to get the permits. We will also be cleaning out some silt ponds this year and have several other projects to do around the lake to stop or prevent erosion.

The Sun Valley Rural Improvement Zone was made possible by State of Iowa Legislative Action. The purpose is to bring economic growth and increased property taxes to rural counties with private lake developments. The Legislation has certainly worked for Ringgold County, as Sun Valley Lake properties are now paying about 40% of the total county property taxes. RIZ receives a percentage of the increased property taxes paid by Sun Valley property owners. The amount is now nearly one million dollars a year. RIZ receiving this money does not affect your property taxes. If RIZ was not in existence your property taxes would be the same. The funds RIZ now receives would go to other county expenses. It is similar to buying a washing machine with a rebate. If you don't apply for the rebate the washing machine company keeps the offered rebate money. RIZ money can only be spent on Sun Valley Lake water quality issues. Iowa law only allows full time Sun Valley residents registered to vote in Ringgold County to serve on the RIZ Board and vote in RIZ elections.

RIZ has an email address which is RIZdredging@gmail.com Feel free to email us your questions and comments. You can also contact our Project Manager Jon Vennink at 712.249.3333 or call Mike Cheese at 641.772.4218.

RIZ BOARD MEMBERS: Mike Cheese, Ron Rainey, Judy Green, Bob Weeks, and Mike Chapman. Mike Cheese, RIZ President

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Sun Valley Lake Association



One mile walk and 5k run benefitting the Sun Valley Lake Beautification Committee. Presented by Scott Dean.



🗦 10 YEARS OF FUN

Fish and Water Quality Report

The committee continues to work on Water Quality, Fishing Quality and Safety for all. Monthly water quality assessments will be performed by Aquatic Controls for the months of May through September. Monthly samples will be taken 10-14 days prior to the major holidays and reported back to us. The water quality at Sun Valley Lake is consistently at the highest level compared to other bodies of water in the region. Payment for these services is provided by the RIZ board and greatly appreciated.

Professionally recommended fish stocking continues; we added 10,000 RedEar Sunfish in April. These are important for balance in our lake, helping decrease the snail population and "swimmers itch," also an important way to use the snails for the lake food chain making for healthier larger fish. Walleye and RedEars will be added in the fall.

The committee and volunteers completed more habitat work in mid-May, redeveloping 6 areas on the lake with both manmade and natural habitat products. Areas chosen are in no wake areas, guided by our lake consultants. These sites are marked on the map in this issue and on the website. The sites are also marked on the lake with blue colored buoys for safety and clarity. All products in these areas are designed to be at least 4 feet below the surface for safety of boating and water sports. This assumes that the lake stays at normal pool depth and no unforeseen changes occur to the structures once placed (such as wind, wake, and wave energy on them). Please be careful if recreating/swimming in these areas.

The Kids Fishing Tournament will take place on Saturday, June 29. Darla Turner and her team have again organized this event for a great family/lake association day. Nick Kuhn has again agreed to fry the fish harvested and lunch will be served after the morning of fishing. Medals and prizes will be awarded to the best catches of each species. Rules and registration information are on the website and in the clubhouse.

The Spring Bass Tournament, held April 26, was well attended with 23 boats registered. The fishermen worked their magic under challenging conditions. Severe weather the 24 hours before did not help their efforts and the day ended a bit early due to another rain event moving in. The good part of that is that the lake is finally up to normal pool. The obvious sad part of this is the damage that occurred to people, homes, and businesses in the area. A sincere thanks to Mark Evenrud for all his work on the committee and tournaments over the years---he is stepping down from these roles and we wish him well.

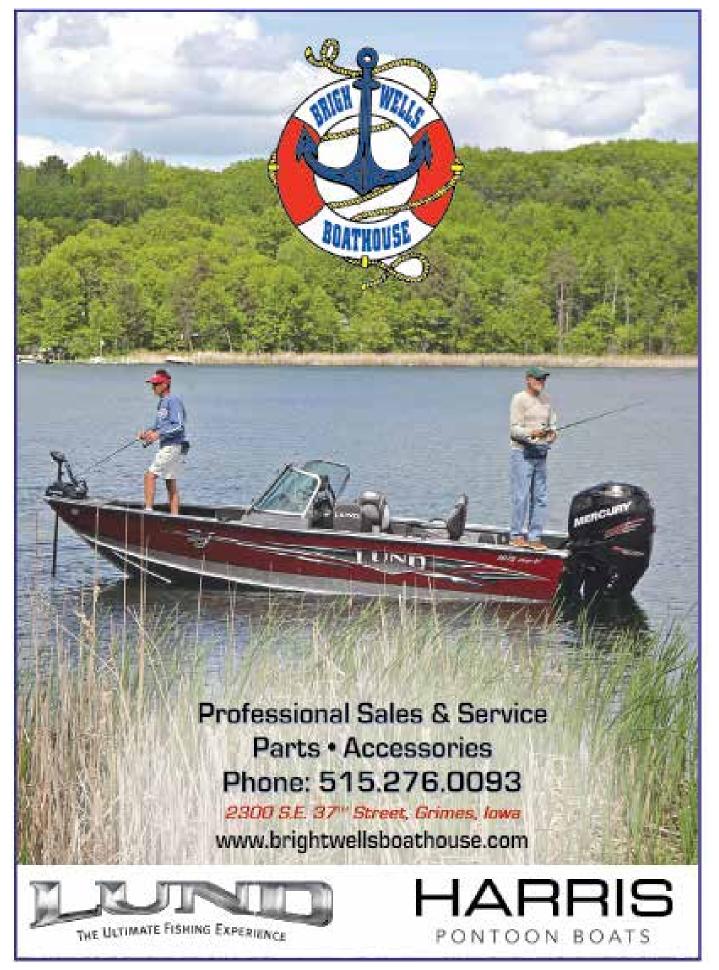
Team winners: 1st place: Dan Huisman, David Meier, 2nd place: Scott Steinkritz, Bob Campbell, 3rd place: Jordan Duckett, Ben Glass, 4th place: Isaiah Seymore, Joe Johnson. The Big Bass winners: 1st place: Isaiah Seymore, Joe Johnson, 2nd place: Dan Huisman, David Meier. Congratulations to them and all participants.

Please consult the Spring Views/News for info on lake mats to control vegetation around dock/swim areas. We will also use limited chemical applications at the two ramps and the beach area for vegetation control.

Members of the committee will be going out on the Lake Patrol boats with the primary goal of observing the use of the lake and seeing how member expectations are met. We will also be checking live wells and stringers to see what's being harvested. This monitoring will greatly advise our future efforts. We will try to do this with minimal interruption of your lake enjoyment. Please note the minor changes to the fishing rules which are on the website and on the large blue signs at the boat-ramps.

We hope you have a great, safe, and enjoyable summer on the lake.

Sincerely, Doug Massop on behalf of the F&WQ Committee. Contact:: <u>fishcmte@sunvalleylake.com</u>



Sun Valley Lake Association

Lake Patrol Update

The SVILA community is thrilled to welcome our new lake patrol officers as we gear up for the 2024 lake season. This year marks a significant step forward in our commitment to safety and enjoyment for all who visit or use our beautiful lake. The start of their journey began on May 4, 2024, with comprehensive training designed to equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary for their critical role. This phase was conducted in a classroom setting, emphasizing the importance of understanding the rules and safety protocols specific to our lake environment.



Our training ensures that our officers are well-versed in the various scenarios they may encounter while on duty. From effectively managing water traffic and ensuring that all lake users adhere to safety regulations, the curriculum is structured to cover a broad spectrum of essential topics. This preparatory stage is crucial, as it lays the groundwork for the practical, hands-on training that follows.

Ensuring the safety of our lake is paramount, our approach is unique; we enforce not just with the authority to ensure rules compliance but with a strong emphasis on education. This dual approach is designed to foster a deeper understanding and respect for lake safety rules among the community. It not only addresses immediate safety concerns, but also builds a foundation for lasting change.

Our commitment to safety extends beyond the water in the development of our training programs. Our hands-on training is comprehensive, covering both routine patrols, enforcement strategies, and specialized emergency response techniques. This ensures that each member of our team is fully equipped to handle a wide range of situations that may arise on the lake. Our patrol members are prepared to respond swiftly and effectively, ensuring the well-being of all lake users.

To ensure that everyone at Sun Valley Lake enjoys a safe and pleasant experience, it's crucial to familiarize yourselves with the safety rules governing our community. Your willingness to go over these rules with your guests is greatly appreciated and underscores the communal spirit that makes our lake a wonderful place to visit and live. If you want assistance with this, scheduling a session with Lead Lake Patrol Brenna Young is the next step.

Lake Patrol plays an instrumental role in maintaining safety and order around the lake. My expertise not only covers the enforcement of rules but also encompasses educating visitors and residents alike on how to stay safe while enjoying the lake's amenities. By coordinating with me, you ensure that the information provided to guests is both accurate and comprehensive.

To set up a safety briefing session, you should reach out to Brenna Young via email at lakepatrol@sunvalleylake.com. In your email, it's helpful to suggest a few dates and times that work for you, to give flexibility to accommodate your request. Also, briefly mention the number of guests and their general familiarity with the lake, if any, so the session can be tailored appropriately. This will not only demonstrate your commitment to safety but also enhance the overall experience for everyone involved.

Let's have a wonderful 2024 boating season!

USCG Captain Brenna Young, Lead Lake Patrol

2024 Lake Patrol Staff

Lake Staff underwent a thorough training in May in preparation for the 2024 summer lake season. Look for any of the six pictured out on the lake working to keep you and your family safe this season. Left to right: Bo Green, Gene Smith (Lake Manager), Brenna Young (Lead Patrol), Jason Eckhoff (Assistant Lake Manager), Steve Schmidt. Missing for the photo is Grant Morse.



2024 Spring Bass Tournament Winners



Left to right: Jordan Duckett, Ben Glass, Isaiah Seymore, Joe Johnson, Scott Steinkritz, Bob Campbell, David Meier, Dan Huisman



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MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

Mike and Mary Mahoney- Celebrating 10 Years at Sun Valley Lake

We had always dreamed of having a cottage on a lake where we could fish, relax, and enjoy nature in a peaceful setting. We heard about Sun Valley Lake from friends. When the opportunity arose to purchase a lake home, we made an appointment to tour, and you could say it was love at first sight! We quickly realized that the people are friendly and fun, the water is amazingly clear, and the nights offer dark skies filled with stars. Both of us enjoy hitting a little white ball and recognized the golf course was an extra bonus. Another nice feature important to us is we found a wonderful Catholic faith community close at St. Patrick's Church in Grand River.

After 5 years of driving back and forth from a second home in Des Moines, we decided to make Sun Valley Lake our primary residence. Our first lake house on the same lot was sold and subsequently moved to a farm close to the lake. A larger house was built with large windows to enjoy the scenery and more living space and bedrooms to accommodate our family and friends.

We truly enjoy Sun Valley as our home. The lake is so clear; we love waking up to the sunrise and sparkling waters and seeing the magnificent sunsets while floating in our pontoon in the west cove. Pontoon cruising and floating is the best! We enjoy playing pickleball on our newly surfaced courts and look forward to trying out the shuffleboard court this summer. We have many good friends here who share our love of the private lake and the golf course. It's fun meeting new people originally from this area, as well as all the people who come from various backgrounds to enjoy the lake.

We feel it is important to give back to our community, therefore we like to be involved. Mike currently volunteers on the Sanitary District Board and is a trustee at our church. He works part-time at the Wagon Wheel in Tingley. Mary is on the SVILA Appeals Committee, volunteers as secretary the Sun Valley Country Club, and lectors at church. Together, we organize a Senior Golf Tournament at SVCC. We are both members of the ParrotHead Club of which Mike was a Past President.

A fun fact about us is that we really enjoy music concerts in unique locations. We've driven to Alabama,

Colorado, and Ohio for concerts in the past few years. And now we get to enjoy **Key MidWest**, a unique concert venue a couple miles from our home! We also love to travel to Duluth and Chicago to visit our sons and grandchildren. Iowa winters have become a little too cold and icy for us, so we venture to Apache Junction, AZ, during the winter months.

When asked if there are changes or improvements we could make to the Sun Valley area, we would say that we wish there were bike trails. We do miss bike trails like we had in the Des Moines area. And...if there was anything we could do about decreasing the population of the Canada geese...enough said!

It always amazes us that Quentin Anderson had the idea to create a lake here. We appreciate his vision and now with the leadership and work of our excellent SVILA board and volunteers, the area continues to grow into a vibrant community.



Mahoneys love pontoon rides with the family!



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Meet Carrie Boswell, SVILA Office Administrator



Hello! My name is Carrie Boswell. If you've been to the Association Office in the last couple of months, you may have met me. I'm an Office Administrator in the Sun Valley Iowa Lake Association office.

I have 16 years of Office Management and Customer Service experience which has made transitioning into this new role a smooth one. Understanding the importance of great customer service and the role it plays in successfully running a business has been the foundation on which I have built trust with my colleagues and customers. Learning new skills and being open to change, including using technology to help improve overall spending and increase revenue, were both crucial in my past Operations and General Management roles. I love being around and meeting new people. I am excited to be part of the SVILA team!



I live in Lamoni with my boyfriend Travis. I have three adult sons, and he has two adult daughters, and between us we have six grandchildren. We all have dogs which are part of our families. We love to grill out and spend time with our families any chance we get.

In my spare time I enjoy bow hunting, hiking, exercising, camping, fishing, kayaking, antiquing, and cooking.

We recently remodeled a home with four acres in Lamoni, Iowa. We enjoy watching the deer and other wildlife from the comfort of our home. Our goal is to get the outside of the home remodeled and to continue upgrading the property.

Our summer vacation will be spent in the "Upper Peninsula" in Michigan where Travis grew up. Getting the pontoon and camper out for a few more local weekend trips is also on our agenda.

I look forward to meeting you and assisting you. Be sure to stop by the office and introduce yourself!



Sun Valley Parrot Head Club

P.O. Box 7

Ellston, IA 50074

Email: <u>SunValleyPHC@gmail.com</u> Facebook: Sun Valley Parrot Head Club Website: <u>www.SunValleyParrotHeadClub.com</u>

Welcome fellow Parrot Heads! The Sun Valley Parrot Head Club is a member club of Parrot Heads in Paradise, Inc. (a non-profit corporation) – the official international network of Parrot Head Clubs.

The purpose of all Parrot Head Clubs is to promote friendships and organize social activities for people with similar interests including enjoyment of the tropical spirit of Jimmy Buffett's music. In the process of making new friends and having fun, we believe in leaving something positive behind. The Sun Valley Parrot Head Club is open to anyone with the tropical spirit and a desire to contribute to the betterment of their communities. Sun Valley Parrot Head Club activities will include numerous social activities throughout the year as well as a variety of charitable events in the local community supporting local, regional and national social and environmental causes.

MEMBERSHIP FORM: (Check One) O New Member

O Renewal

Annual Membership: (Check One) O Single \$50

O Family \$100 (2 adults & minor children)

NAME (1)	_CELL PH# (1)	_EMAIL (1)				
NAME (2)	_CELL PH# (2)	_EMAIL (2)				
PARAKEETS (minor children under 21) Names & Ages						
HOME ADDRESS						
HOME ADDRESS						
HOME PHONE #						

May w	e include	your information	in a SVPHC directo	ry?	O Yes	O No
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The Obligatory Fine Print:

LAKE ADDRESS (if applicable) _____

Each member of Sun Valley Parrot Head Club is responsible for his or her own actions and behavior and shall treat fellow members, guests and hosts and their personal property, with respect. Members agree to abide by all local, state, and federal laws. Members agree to abide by all the By-Laws of the Sun Valley Parrot Head Club. Membership in the club does not give the member permission to use Jimmy Buffett's name, song titles, lyrics, names of businesses or other trademarked, copyrighted or reserved material owned by Jimmy Buffett; nor can any member use the logos of Sun Valley Parrot Head Club or Parrot Heads In Paradise, Inc. Since Parrot Heads are known to enjoy a cold one, we support **using a designated driver**. The Sun Valley Parrot Head Club is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Membership in, and contributions to, the SVPHC are **tax deductible**.

Signature(s):		Dat	:e:	
Revised March 2014	FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:			
	Dues:	T-shirt(s):	Master List:	

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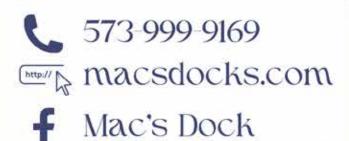
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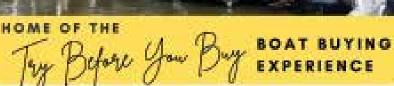


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Manitou



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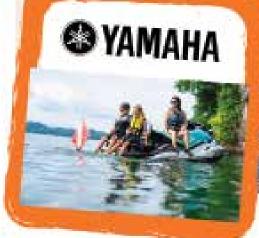
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Kandy Jague

and all the crew at Lake Viking Marine





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