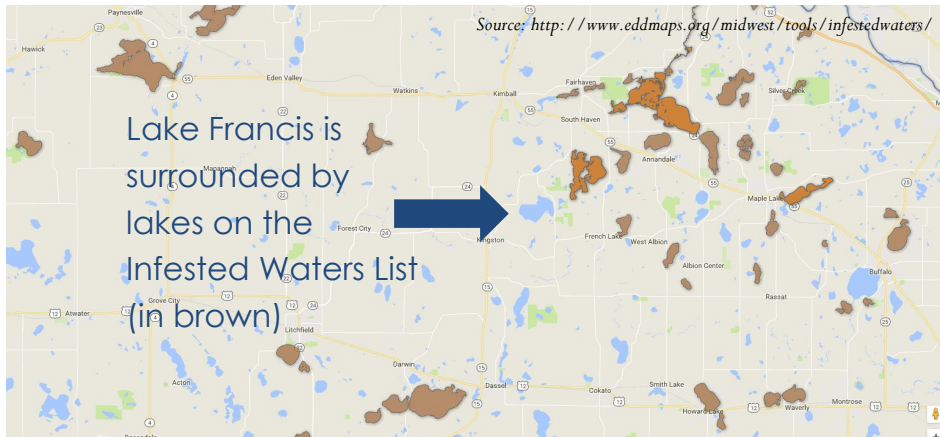


# Lake Francis News

Lake Francis Area Recreation & Conservation Club | LakeFrancisMN.org

Spring 2018



*The Lake Francis Area Recreation & Conservation Club focuses its efforts on aquatic invasive species prevention, recreation and wildlife issues, water quality and social events on behalf of its members. As the threat of AIS infests area lakes, we hope you'll join us in our efforts!*

## Minnesota lake associations give millions in money and volunteer hours, study finds

By John Reinan, Star Tribune, Oct. 2, 2017

Minnesota's private lake associations contribute more than \$6.2 million and 1.2 million volunteer hours each year to preserving the quality of the state's signature natural resource, according to a study released Monday.

Concordia College in Moorhead conducted the study over the summer on behalf of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates. The authors said they believe it's the first study to measure the preservation efforts of the more than 500 private lake associations in the state.

Lake association members "are there at the lake, every day, all year long," said co-author Michelle Marko, a Concordia biology professor and co-director of the college's environmental studies program. "They have a lot of knowledge and they're providing a great resource, both in their financial contributions and their volunteer work.

"There are over 12,000 lakes in Minnesota. Managing them is a very

complex task," Marko said. "We have many agencies working on that — local governments as well as state organizations and even federal. To manage each of those 12,000 lakes is a lot of work and no one person or organization can be everywhere at one time."

The study was based on a survey of members from 186 lake associations, along with interviews and field visits. The most common concerns cited by members were aquatic invasive species, overall water control and runoff policy. Respondents also expressed a desire to work more closely with the state Department of Natural Resources and expressed concern over the aging population of lake property owners.

The report concludes that "Minnesota's lake associations play a crucial role in protecting and managing Minnesota's lakes." It recommends "more communication and collaboration between policy-makers and lake associations."

## NEW IN 2018: Online Membership Form & Payment Options Available

Lake residents and area businesses have a new option to join the LFARCC or renew their membership in 2018. Late last year, the Association launched an online membership application and the option to pay online.

### Steps to Join or Renew Online:

1. Go to LakeFrancisMN.org and click on "Membership Info."
2. Select the "Click here for the ONLINE Individual/Family Membership Form" link.
3. Fill out the Membership Form, then click "Submit." Your membership info will be e-mailed to the LFARCC.
4. Choose to submit your dues payment via check or click on the PayPal button to charge to use PayPal, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or American Express.

**The 2018 printed Membership Form is included in this newsletter.** Please use the option that works best for you! Suggestions and comments are welcome via email to lakefrancisnews@gmail.com.



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Mike Furst ..... 320-398-5010

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Don Hauptert ..... 952-431-3180  
John Ruth ..... 612-396-7645

**Sunset Terrace**  
Stacy Devitt ..... 952-334-7548  
John Stokes ..... 952-237-0910

**Wildwood Terrace**  
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Roger Berggren ..... 320-583-6177  
Jennifer Severson ..... 651-724-2067

**East Shore**  
Lisa Christofferson ..... 612-270-7063  
Jim Olsen ..... 320-236-7949

**Holiday Beach**  
Bob Fleming ..... 952-451-2538

**Pirate's Cove**  
Craig Panning ..... 952-449-1286

**Rustic Ridge**  
Chuck Tacl ..... 952-200-0893

**Hidden Forest**  
Mike Oesterreich ..... 320-398-3231  
Tim Pivec ..... 320-398-6383

**Outlots**  
Janice Smith ..... 320-980-3487

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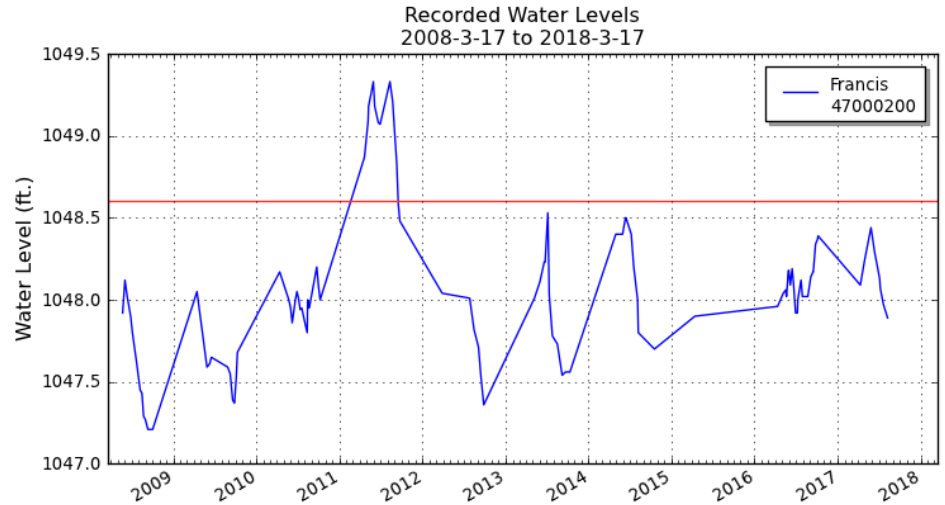
President ..... Jan Anderson  
Vice President ..... John Ruth  
Secretary ..... Lisa Christofferson  
Treasurer ..... Mike Oesterreich

## COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

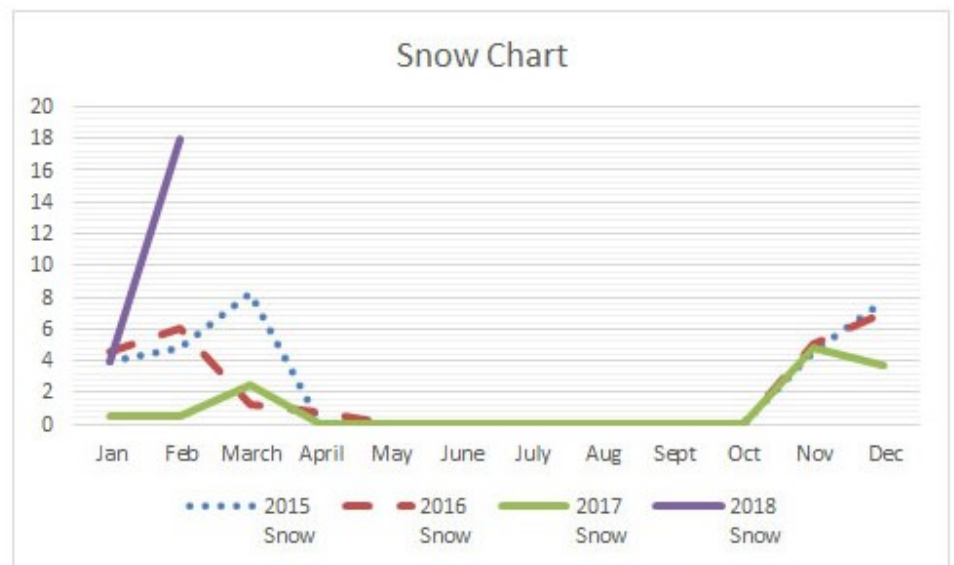
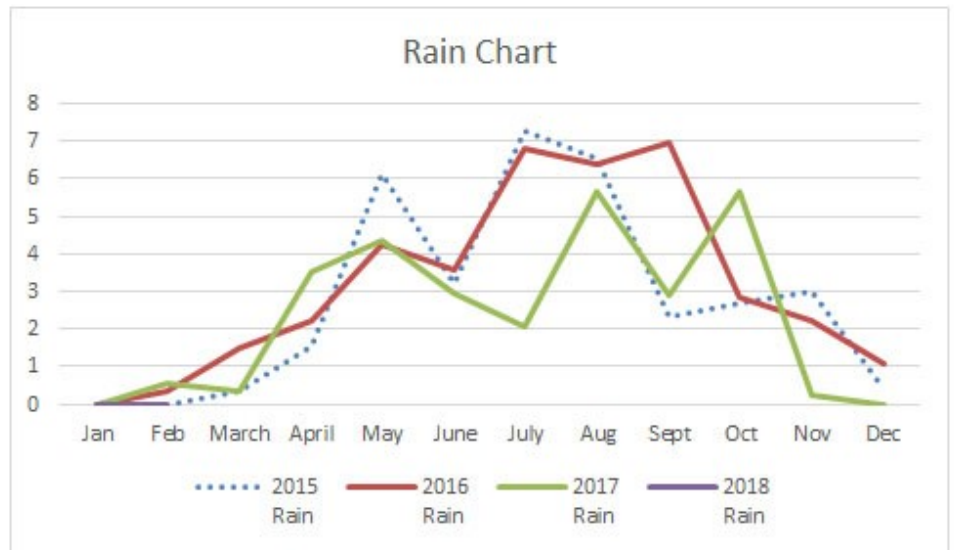
AIS Watch ..... Holly Edwards & Brian Knox  
Business Memberships ..... Nancy Friesen  
Ray Hirte & Janice Smith  
Communications ..... Jennifer Severson  
DNR Rep & Eagle Creek ..... Jim Olsen  
Membership ..... Mary Lou Pivec  
New Resident Packet ..... John Stokes  
Precipitation Data ..... Wally Erickson  
Sign Maintenance ..... Craig Panning  
Special Projects ..... Roger Berggren  
Water Testing ..... Brian Knox  
Web Site ..... Jennifer Severson



## Water Levels & Precipitation



10-Year History: Courtesy of the Minnesota DNR, [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)



Rain and Snow Data Courtesy of Wally Erickson, Lake Francis resident.

# Greetings from Lake Association President Jan Anderson



*Hello, everyone,  
I hope you are all  
having a good “off  
season” so far.  
With the winter  
weather nearly  
behind us, I hope  
you all had a*

chance to get outside and enjoy some of our winter activities like snowshoeing, skiing, snowmobiling and ice fishing!

## AQUATIC INVADERS SUMMIT

On February 28 and March 1, Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates hosted the Aquatic Invaders Summit. Lake Association volunteer **Brian Knox** and Board member **Roger Berggren** attended the summit to gather information and learn how we can become better-equipped to identify and fight AIS in and around the Lake.

## LEADERSHIP CHANGES

There will be a changing of the guard on the LFARCC Board beginning in June 2018. I will continue on the Board as an Area Rep for Wildwood Terrace, but will step down as President due to growing work commitments. We are very fortunate that **Craig Panning**, who represents Pirates Cove, has volunteered to be our next President, pending his re-election to the Board and the outcome of the officer election in June. Craig brings with him many new ideas and an enthusiastic perspective which will be very valuable to us as we move forward.

LFARCC Vice President **John Ruth** will continue as area representative for Melody Lane, but does not plan to continue in his Vice President role in 2018-19. *Thank you to John for serving as our VP the past two years!*

Officers are elected (or re-elected) from among the seated Board members for that year. The Board will elect officers immediately following the Annual Meeting in June.

Visit our website at  
[LakeFrancisMN.org](http://LakeFrancisMN.org)!

## AREA REP & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

I cannot express how important it is to have membership involvement in the LFARCC—either as volunteers, Area Rep/Board members or Board officers. All members are welcome to submit a nomination to the Board. We’re specifically looking for members to represent the following:

- Pirates Cove
- Rustic Ridge
- Outlots

Other opportunities to volunteer include:

- AIS & Water Quality monitors
- Golf Outing committee members
- Email/website/social media writers and editors\*

*\*In addition to adult volunteers, high school and college students with writing, web or graphic design experience are welcome to volunteer in an effort to build their portfolios. Email [lakefrancisnews@gmail.com](mailto:lakefrancisnews@gmail.com) for more information.*

We can use all the community help and support you can give us! Plus, it’s really FUN to meet more lake neighbors and work on social events and the causes important to us all!

## THANK YOU!

Thank you for your membership, time and support. I feel the LFARCC is incredibly valuable to Lake Francis residents and offers many benefits to our Lake and the surrounding communities. Our advocacy and commitment to keeping the lake clean and AIS free is a benefit I believe many of us take for granted. Just imagine how devastated we would all feel if our lake is ever found to have AIS. We need all hands on deck to help keep the lake clean.

Here’s to an amazing 2018 and a wonderful summer at the lake. Reach out to us at [lakefrancisnews@gmail.com](mailto:lakefrancisnews@gmail.com) for more information or with any comments or ideas you may have!



## BOARD SPOTLIGHT

Nancy Friesen,  
Ranta Lane

**When did you become a Board Member?** I have been on the Board since 1994. There was no representative from Ranta Lane at that time.

**What is the Lake Association doing that you’re most proud of?** I’m proud of the commitment of our volunteers. Many volunteer hours are spent measuring water quality, cleaning Eagle Creek and applying for grants—just to name a few ways volunteers help Lake Francis. The newsletter have given valuable education to our members, too.

**What is your Lake Francis story?** We purchased the cabin in 1993 from my step-daughter’s uncle. He, his wife and in-laws built the cabin originally. As they had moved to California, they were no longer able to enjoy using the cabin.

**What do you enjoy most about Lake Francis?** My children and grandchildren have enjoyed the fishing over the years. Although we take the boat out, most fishing seems to be done from the dock now. When they were younger, there was more tubing, etc.

**Tell us more about yourself...** I retired from the hospital in Monticello in 2015 after working there 45 years in the business and finance end of the organization. Currently, I am treasurer of our township and also serve on the executive board of our church. I have two sons, their wives and five granddaughters. Our cabin is a seasonal getaway. Although parking is minimal, we do enjoy family gatherings on the lake!





## BOARD SPOTLIGHT

### Bob Flemming, Holiday Beach

#### What is your Lake Francis Story?

Fifty years ago my parents bought the cabin we now own. I was 5 at the time. About 15 years ago, Judy and I purchased the cabin from Mom and Dad.

#### When did you become an LFARCC Board Member?

Tim Pivec approached me about 15 years ago to become a Board member. Who can say no to Tim? Not me! It's been a great experience and one I would recommend to anyone on the lake considering joining the Board.

#### What is the Association doing that you're most proud of?

The Lake Association has accomplished many good things over the years. The one I'm most proud of is our effort to protect and improve the quality of the lake. I believe the Association has made a very large impact in this effort.

#### What do you enjoy most about Lake Francis?

I've always enjoyed the good people around the lake. Many are life-long friends. It's also been a place where new friends have become a part of the Lake Francis family. I also love the fact that you can come up to the lake in the middle of the week and it feels like you are the only one on the lake.

#### Tell us more about yourself...

Judy and I (mostly Judy) have raised three children at the lake. She is in charge of the family while I go out on a vacation each week—her words, not mine. I'm a retired Air Force officer, and now, a pilot for Delta airlines.

# EVENTS BRING FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS TOGETHER IN 2017

## LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Members gathered in June 2017 for the Annual Membership Meeting. Outgoing Board members Joann Meyer from Sunset Terrace and Jiselle Graves from Rustic Ridge were recognized for their time and dedication to the LFARCC. Joann (below, right) gifted the Lake Association with a beautiful quilt table runner to be used as a fundraiser at the annual Lake Francis Picnic. Jennifer Severson (below,

left) was presented with the Volunteer of the Year Award and a gift certificate from Lantto's Store for her work on the Association's communications and website.

In other business, the membership elected the slate of Board candidates, heard the financial report, approved by-law changes and heard and update from Mike Housman, Meeker County Commissioner. The next annual meeting will be held June 30, 2018.



2017 Annual Meeting



Jennifer Severson,  
Volunteer of the Year



Joann Meyer,  
Retired Board Member



**LFARCC Annual Membership Meeting**  
Saturday, June 30, Kingston Community Center  
**Lake Francis Picnic - Everyone welcome!**  
Saturday, August 4, Hosted by Wildwood Terrace  
**3rd Annual Golf Outing - Open to the Public!**  
Sunday, August 5, Kimball Golf Course



## 2017 Lake Francis Picnic



## LAKE FRANCIS PICNIC

Over 100 Lake Francis area residents gathered to celebrate the lake that we love! The quilt table runner, donated by former Board member Joann Meyer was auctioned as a fundraiser to support LFARCC programs. Craig and Patricia Panning were the proud winners! A special thank you to Craig and Patricia and the Ranta Lane and Pirates Cove neighborhoods for hosting.

## 2ND ANNUAL LFARCC GOLF OUTING

Over 30 golfers enjoyed a great day on the course at the Kimball Golf Club. The event raised nearly \$1,000 to help fund the Association's efforts to fight AIS and improve water quality and recreation. A big THANK YOU to the golfers, volunteers, Kimball Golf Course and 2017 sponsors: 3 Moms & A Mop Cleaning Service, American Family Insurance/Annandale, Bishop Lakeshore Solutions, Edina Realty/Janice Smith, Fox Tracks Marketing Services, Kimball Golf Course, Lantto's Store, Modern Roots, Heart of the Lakes Travel, JB Liquor, Oak Realty, Paumen Electric, Pride & Joy Landscaping, Stadium Bar & Grill and Spilled Grain Brewery.



## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

The time and dedication of our volunteers was celebrated with dinner and social time at the Triple R Grill & Bar. President Jan Anderson thanked the nearly 40 people in attendance for being the backbone of our organization. A special thank you to Eric and Martha Berg, who generously funded the event.


## 2nd Annual LFARCC Golf Outing






# 2018 LFARCC BUSINESS MEMBERS

Locally owned businesses are the backbone of our area communities! Please look to LFARCC Business Members *first* when shopping and dining, or when you're in need of professional services. If you'd like to learn more about the benefits of business membership, visit lakefrancismn.org or contact Janice Smith at 320-980-3487, Nancy Friesen at 763-295-2332, or Ray Hirte at 651-238-3887.



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# Lake Francis News

Area Recreation & Conservation Club, Inc.  
PO Box 81  
South Haven, MN 55382

Interested in Volunteering? The LFARCC has opportunities for you and your family to give back, ensuring that Lake Francis thrives for years to come!

## 2018 MEMBERSHIP INFO ENCLOSED

For only \$45/year, you'll enjoy up-to-date lake information, special events, a printed lake directory, water level monitoring, lake stewardship, and access to the DNR, Wright & Meeker County, area watershed and other representatives and expertise. **Memberships are due May 15, 2018.**



## 2018 Calendar of Lake Events & Area Happenings

April 7..... Kimball Area Business & Community Expo

**April 21 .....LFARCC Board Meeting**

May 12-13 ..... Take a Mom Fishing Weekend

May 12 ..... Fishing Opener

**May 15.....LFARCC Membership Deadline**

June 8-10 ..... Take a Kid Fishing Weekend

**June 30 .....LFARCC Board Meeting & Annual Member Meeting**

July 18-22 ..... Wright County Fair, Howard Lake

August 2-5 ..... Meeker County Fair, Litchfield

**August 4 .....Lake Francis Annual Picnic**

**Hosted by Wildwood Terrace**

**August 5 .....LFARCC Golf Outing, Kimball Golf Club**

August 10-12..... Kimball Days

**September 15 .....LFARCC Board Meeting**

January 19-21 ..... Take a Kid Ice Fishing Weekend

Watch the LFARCC Facebook page for updates!

Contact your Area Representative with concerns, comments or questions you'd like the Lake Francis ARCC Board of Directors to address.