

KLA Newsletter

Kabekona Lake Association September, 2022

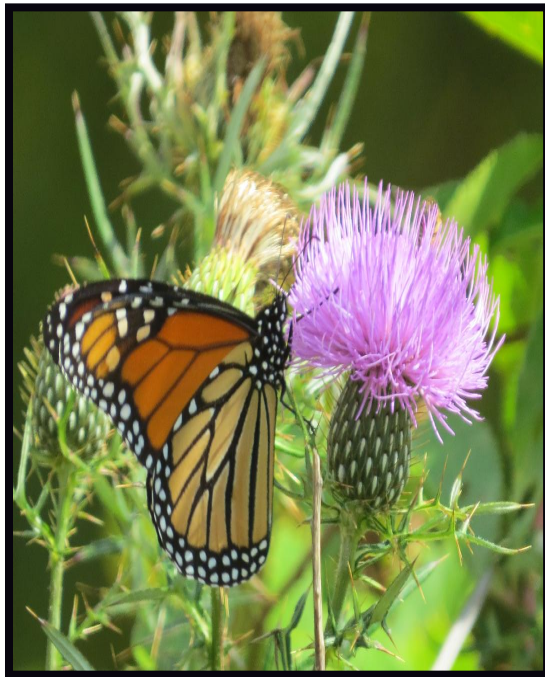


Photo by Susan Roberts

Minnesota's Beloved Monarch Butterfly is Endangered.

So, what can we do?

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature added the migrating monarch butterfly for the first time as "endangered" — two steps from extinct. So, what can KLAers do about it?

1. Plant only native milkweed by consulting [MilkweedInfoSheet.pdf](#). There are invasive milkweed plants that will harm monarchs.

2. Landowners may be

treating their property with insecticides. If you do use them, please check to make sure its use is not harmful to monarchs.

3. Plant more nectar producing native plants that bloom from early spring through fall in your yard. Monarchs need more than just milkweed to thrive!

4. Keep monarchs wild and outside. Tiny protozoan parasites can infect monarchs inside the home, harming them and causing future generations to die.

(Source: JESSICA DAMIANO
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS)

KLA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

KLA 2022 BY THE NUMBERS

1100 inspector hours at the public access

336 KLA members

239 dollars donated to the KLA in the 50/50 game at the picnic

238 dollars won by Rosy Albers in the 50/50 game at the picnic

117 members attended the annual picnic. (Continued on page 3)

Committed to preserve and protect Kabekona Lake

2022

KLA BOARD

President: Ingrid Bey

President-Elect: Nick Rogge

Treasurer: Lee Weinmann

Secretary: Stef Westphal

Board Members:

Maddy Lawrence

Paul Ulring

Sarah Carlson

Mike Dudley

KLA Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 8 Laporte, MN 56461

KLA website:

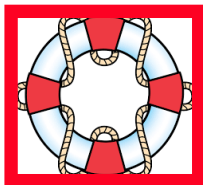
www.kabekonalake.org

Questions? Email:

kla56461@gmail.com

KLA..NEWSLETTER..STAFF

Stef Westphal, David Wee, Ingrid Bey



VOLUNTEERS

NEEDED

*Looking to Volunteer?
What are your interests/abilities?*

Open KLA volunteer positions:

BOARD MEMBERS:

KLA Board generally has 2-3 yearly vacancies

KLF Board generally has 1-2 yearly vacancies

PICNIC YEARLY NEEDS:

membership welcome table assistants

food organizers

vendors/crafters

game assistants

set up

clean up

ANNUAL MEETING YEARLY NEEDS:

membership welcome table assistants

speakers

food organizers

set-up

clean-up

OTHER VOLUNTEER NEEDS:

***Lake Management Team members**

***Grant writers for various lake projects**

***KLA Coffee sponsors (3-4 per summer)**

***Newsletters (edit spring & fall newsletters)**

***AIS interest—August statewide training on identifying AIS includes being sent out to various Hubbard County lakes to look for invasive plant species. This program is called Starry Trek (maisrc.umn.edu/starrytrek).**

There are many more volunteers needed. Please contact any board member (via your KLA directory information) or kla56461@gmail.com if you are willing to help or have ideas not listed.

Suggestions are helpful, but VOLUNTEERS MAKE OUR KLA WORK ITS BEST!

KLA BOARD extends special THANKS to....

***LEE WEINMANN** for his long and extensive dedication to supervising our KLA Treasury and more!

***MIKE DUDLEY** for his leadership, guidance and time, serving as our past KLA President

***TONY FIACCHINO** for his stewardship through serving on the KLA Board and initiating our first 50-50 game at the KLA Picnic.

***ERIC HERMANSON, KRIS BATEMAN, CINDY GROSS, KIMBERLEY AND KATIE MATTSON** for donating money from their awesome Kabekona wares to the KLA and KLF

KLA Interim Board Members

At the September 12, 2022 KLA board meeting an immediate decision needed to be made by the seven current board members due to a situation not covered by the KLA bylaws. Two board members had resigned their board positions after the KLA annual meeting in August: one decided not to pursue a second term, and the other resigned mid-term due to the sale of his Kabekona home. In order to meet quorum requirements set by the KLA bylaws, a solution was needed.

Several possibilities were discussed. Ultimately a decision was unanimously approved by the board. Two KLA committee chairs who are not part of the voting board but attend board meetings to give committee reports offered to become temporary voting members of the board until the next annual meeting in 2023, when two KLA members will be elected to serve on the board. The two committee chairs who will now serve as interim board members are Sam Holmgren and Kathy Brown. The KLA board extends a big thank you to Sam and Kathy for offering to serve.

We encourage any KLA member who would like to consider serving on the KLA board to contact any board member for further information. Thank you.

(KLA President's Message continued from page 1)

72 members attended the annual meeting

9 new members

9 pounds of lead tackle collected

8 well water tests run at the annual meeting

8 septic rebates issued

1 BIG GIANT THANK YOU TO ALL KLA MEMBERS FOR...

0 DETECTED AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) IN KABEKONA LAKE!

Way to go Kabekona! Keep up the good work!

By: Ingrid Bey, KLA President



Kabekona Kurlers: (left to right)

Tom Lawrence, Rosy Albers, Don Evans, Rolf Smeby

CURLING, ANYONE?

By Rosy Albers

Sweep, sweep hard! That's the yelling you would hear at a typical curling match and yes, sweeping makes a real difference in the speed and direction of the "stone" by causing slight melting on the ice. Those of you who watched curling at the Olympics saw the very finest curlers in the world.

The *Kabekona Kurlers* (Rolf Smeby, Don Evans, Tom Lawrence, and Rosy Albers) are still novices by comparison — even after curling for 15 years at the WAC (Walker Activity Center), which welcomed curlers after its opening.

The four of us were all new "rounders" to Kabekona and new to curling. We had to learn the correct terms for the game itself, such as "sheet" (the corridor of ice), "house" (where the scoring occurs), "hog line" (the boundaries), the "hack" (a foot stop frozen into the ice), and the "button" (the bullseye in the house).

Curling has been called "Chess on Ice" and is much more complicated than it appears. You have to start at one "end" of your "sheet" and "throw" the 40 pound "rock" to the other end, which is 146 feet away. A throw is really a sliding of the rock. The trick is getting the correct "weight" so your rock goes into the house and also curls (curves) the direction you want it to go. Tom is the only one of our team who actually gets down on his knees to throw the rock. The other three of us use an "assist" so we can stay upright and not have to embarrass ourselves by not being able to stand up after throwing the rock! The assist allows curling to be done by a person of any age.

Each team member throws 2 rocks each end. The best curler of the group is called the "skip" and he/she throws last. The rest of the time the skip stands in the opposite house and points his/her broom at the target. It's usually an advantage to have the "hammer" and throw the last rock so that your team can knock the other one out of the house. If we actually hit the opponent's rock, it is called a "take-out". If we succeed in throwing a rock around the opponent's to reach the button, it's called a "draw". The rocks that are closest to the button get a point. I'm not going to even try to explain how the scoreboard works!

The best part of curling is the people. It is a very polite game (other than the yelling to sweep hard). We shake hands at the beginning and end of each match and say "good curling". If our opponent throws a great rock, we compliment them. We have enjoyed getting to know many curlers from Walker, as well as some from as far away as Longville. Many have curled several years and they feel like old friends.

If you are interested in this sport, you can see us at the WAC either Sunday or Wednesday evening, 7pm.. The season begins in November and goes through February. We are always looking for subs, and there is no experience needed! Maybe you will fall in love with curling too!

KLF President's Message

It has been a pleasure to become involved in our lake association as a KLF Board Member, and current chair of the Foundation. It's a great way to become better acquainted with neighbors around the lake.

We have a great Board – Darlene Hibbs, Catherine Holmgren, Margot Andress, Kimberly Mattson, Tim Werner, Tom Jacobson, Mark Spaniol and Pete Fullerton. Thanks to all of you for contributions to the KLF. Special thanks to Tim Werner who has served as Treasurer.

The KLF has two funds that are managed through the St. Paul and Minnesota Foundation. The *Granting Fund* distributed more than \$17,000 to lake projects last year, including contributions to the Kabekona River Project, the AIS Inspection service at the public landing, and an aquatic vegetation survey.

The *Perpetual Fund* is funded by memorials and designated gifts. Investment income from this fund was used to pay approximately \$6,000 to Kabekona property owners who participated in the septic refund program. The Board is always looking for good projects to fund – please send any project ideas you have to any KLF Board member.

The Board's focus for the coming year will be on reviewing our Bylaws, making plans for responding in the event an aquatic invasive species were found in the lake (we are all thankful none are currently present), and looking for other ways to continue protecting our cherished lake.

Thanks to all who have made financial contributions to the Foundation. We hope you consider making contributions again this year, and in the future.

By: Dan Rasmus, KLF President

KABEKONA IS: A HIGH PRIORITY LAKE

By: Jake Shaughnessy,
Hubbard County Soil & Water

Kabekona Lake is identified as a high priority system for protection within the Leech Lake Watershed. Kabekona's watershed provides important habitat, recreation, supports rural economies, and its outlet is one of

the larger tributaries to Leech Lake.

The first phase of the One Watershed, One Plan (which includes the Leech Lake Watershed, among others), largely covered storm water issues and some agricultural projects. This includes the cattle farm gate and fencing project on the Kabekona River, which should be completed this year.

Hubbard County Soil & Water is looking for projects within our lake community to find shoreline, bluff and storm water erosion issues, particularly along roads. If you know of such an issue that could harm our lake water quality, HC S&W has funds to reduce costs. Please contact Jake Shaughnessy (jake.hcswcd@gmail.com) for more information.



Our Kabekona T-shirt Teen Twosome

By: David Wee

If you have a Kabekona Lake t-shirt of recent vintage, you are likely indebted to the creative and technological energies of Kimberly and Katie Mattson, who have been summering on our lake with their parents and their brother Kyle since 2001, when their parents (Erik and Chris) purchased a lake home on Mallard Drive. Even though the family now lives in Naperville, Illinois, a 600-mile, 10-hour drive from here, they have been happily coming every year to enjoy our beautiful lake.

The Mattson parents began making Kabekona t-shirts every summer for the family, for neighbors, and then for lake friends, so around 2009 they arranged to have an Illinois spirit-wear company make the shirts. In 2020, as the shirt sales continued to grow, the two sisters took over the business, and went on-line, as well as selling shirts at KLA picnics and other events.

Kimberly (now 19) is a sophomore at Boston College and Katie (18) will enroll at the University of Denver this fall. They both will be pursuing Psychology and other studies. They intend to continue their shirt-making enterprise long-distance (perhaps with the help of Kyle, age 15).

The Mattson parents have for years instilled in their children family values, especially volunteerism and donating to worthwhile charities. Both sisters have been aware of the KLF focus against aquatic invasive species, and of KLA contributions to the lake and to its membership. So here is what they have done during these recent years:

2020	100 shirts sold	\$200 donated to the KLF
2021	200 shirts sold	\$400 donated to the KLF
2022	190 shirts sold	\$200 donated to the KLF, and \$200 to KLA

To accomplish all this, Kimberley and Katie begin planning each Spring. They select a design from those suggested by family, neighbors, friends, and KLA members. They choose colors that appeal to a variety of people and ages. They announce ordering information before Memorial Day, due date by June 20, and delivery date just before July 4. Look for such information on two websites: on Facebook: kabekonatees, and on Instagram: kabekona.tees.

Lest you think that these young women are all business, you may find them water-skiing, tubing, hiking our trails, dancing, laughing, or otherwise enjoying our wonderful waters and woods.

STAY ACTIVE! STAY STRONG!

KLA's primary purpose is to protect and preserve Kabekona Lake, its watershed, shores, and environs, including water quality, aquatic productivity, flora and fauna, its aesthetic quality, and our social and cultural climate. Other purposes are to inform us about governmental agencies, lake and environmental associations, and to provide forums on relevant issues. One of the original collections of cabins was called "Friendship Springs," and friendship you will find with our association. Throughout the year we offer opportunities to meet friends, new and old, through monthly book clubs, men's breakfasts, ladies' lunches, and KLA coffees, plus the annual picnic and annual meeting.

All of this thrives through your annual KLA dues and donations to KLF. If you haven't paid your dues for 2022 yet, it's not too late! We now offer the opportunity to easily pay your dues from home through our website at <https://www.kabekonalake.org/membership-dues>. The current rate is \$25/year. Beginning January 1, 2023, our rate will go up to \$30/year, in line with other lake associations, or \$50 for two years. Please let's continue KLA's reputation as one of the **strongest** associations in the area by remaining **active** members!

If you have any questions or need to update your contact information, please reach out to me at kla46461@gmail.com.

Catherine Holmgren, KLA Membership Chair



GETTING IT DONE

The Kabekona Lake Management Team works all year to safeguard our lake. From Dave Loch keeping his eye on dissolved oxygen levels to Rolf Smeby reporting water clarity readings to the MN Pollution Control Agency, dedicated KLA members quietly go about their business looking for clues that could set off alarm bells for all of us invested in the future of our lake. Your neighbors, Tim Werner, Don Evans, and Gary Roberts, install the ILIDS camera that keeps an electronic eye on the public landing. They also remove it in the fall and store it safely for the winter. While many folks are aware that Luther Nervig has been instrumental in many initiatives that have protected properties in the Kabekona watershed over the years, they probably don't realize that he and Rolf have a summer ritual to drag the lake for zebra mussel evidence.

Ingrid Bey, as an AIS Detector and Shoreland Advisor, is our "go-to" resource regarding AIS, loons, and shoreland development, and stays current on all the latest AIS initiatives. Members of the team routinely keep in touch with the DNR, Hubbard County, KLF, COLA, MPCA, and other agencies to stay current with issues and to report concerns. Your Lake Management Team also coordinates with Hubbard County to submit funding and to request inspection hours for our public launch.

Thanks to all involved for getting things done throughout the year!

Sam Holmgren, Chair
Lake Management Team