

# **WICOLA Annual Meeting - President's Report**

**August 6, 2020**



# **WICOLA PRIORITIES 2020**



**Water Monitoring**

**ALS (Aquatic Invasive Species)**

**Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS)**

**Copper-Nickel Mining Position Statement and Action Plan**

**Shoreland Management**

**Education/Outreach/Partnerships**



# **David Lee – Vice President - Garden Lake**

**Fills in for the President**

**Volunteers for many projects like the Water Quality Report**

**Last year due to other commitments**



## **Sue Duffy – Secretary – White Iron**

**Sue captures minutes in detail given the length of our meetings and number of topics covered.**





# **Bill Bailey – Treasurer – White Iron**

**Bill is completing his first full year as treasurer after taking over for Dolores Delaney's many years of work.**

**He has added some very meaningful presentations and has been instrumental in moving our dues to electronic payment.**



## **Jeff Hanson – Membership Officer – Birch Lake**

**Jeff is our newest board member filling both the Membership Officer and Birch Lake Rep positions.**

**His Membership Report for this annual meeting:**

**This year, we have 173 members and five new memberships.**

**Jeff is helping to expand our membership on Birch Lake.**



**Robin Vora – E. White Iron Rep**

**Sarah Kingston – Garden Lake Rep**

**Sarah and Robin jointly manage our AIS Program**

**Normally, this would include our Blueberry and Harvest Moon Festivals doing education outreach (1,600 visitors reached last year).**

**Crayfish trapping - providing traps and tracking results**

**Work with both county Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) on boat ramp inspections. Total 216 inspection hours on the 4-lake chain (through July 5) and others on feeder lakes (i.e. One Pine)**



# **Rob Erickson – Director at Large – White Iron**

**Rob tracks our volunteer hours. Through June, we have 333 volunteer hours and 506 in mileage worth \$8,800 in donations. Helps support grants.**

**Volunteers for other assignments such as the WICOLA financial audit and current nominating committee**

**Our most experienced board member**





# John Rossi – Director at Large – White Iron

**Maintains our WICOLA Website working with the host provider. Edits and posts ongoing posts.**

**Coordinates posts with Linda Ganister who does a great job managing WICOLA's Facebook presence.**



White Iron Chain of Lakes Association - Wicola

July 24 at 11:25 AM · 🌐

Volunteers from across Minnesota are needed on Saturday, August 15, 2020 to participate in a statewide search for starry stonewort, one of Minnesota's newest aquatic invasive species. This year, volunteers are needed for WHITE IRON LAKE!

To register, go to [starrytrek.org](https://starrytrek.org).

Lake County SWCD

<https://www.wicola.org/news/starry-trek-2020-volunteers-needed-to-protect-white-iron-lake-minnesota-waters.html>

# Consie Powell – Newsletter Editor – Farm Lake

**Crafts our newsletters.**

**Always looking for new  
articles and ideas.**

**Send her your pictures  
from your time on the lake.**

**Provides her wonderful art.**

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Summer 2020

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clouds light as meringue  
sky a deep delicious blue  
Ravens sample both

To create the  
BEST POSSIBLE  
RHUBARB SAUCE:

Chop up rhubarb and  
put it in a sauce pan.  
Add a pinch of salt,  
and sugar (1/4 cup for  
each cup of diced rhubarb).  
Stir it, and leave it to juice up for at least 1/2 hour, but an  
hour or two is fine, too. Make sure the sugar dissolves, and  
bring it to a boil. Turn down the heat, simmer for 5-6  
minutes - no longer is needed. Oh, Soooo Good!



Forget about pie  
Go straight from leafy red stalks  
To sweet rosy sauce

Please remember to use proper boat practices to reduce or eliminate any  
possibility of introducing Aquatic Invasive Species to any lakes or  
waterways. If you see a cleaning station for your boat, take advantage of it!

Remember those three magic words:

CLEAN



DRAIN



DRY



## **Dave Setterholm – Farm Lake Rep**

**In addition to being the Farm Lake Rep, Dave handles our water monitoring program. Due to the COVID 19 virus, he and his wife, Mary (former board member), have been doing all the work instead of a team on Farm, Garden, and White Iron. May's trip it was 24 degrees starting out!**



# **WICOLA's Water Monitoring**

**Completed 5 times May through September at 9 sites.**

**Fall Lake is sampled by Dan Hernesmaa and Birch Lake is completed by Darren Lilja and Dave Johnson.**

**Heavy metals testing done 2019 by Darren Lilja.**

**May still have sediment testing done this year, virus issues.**



# Microplastic Study

## Anglers Needed on White Iron Lake

Microplastics are very small plastic particles, less than 5 millimeters (or 1/20th of an inch) in size. They come from common items such as degraded plastic bags, synthetic clothes and textiles, some hygiene products, and cigarette filters. Research is currently being done to learn how much and what kinds of microplastics are found in four Minnesota [sentinel lakes](#): Peltier, Elk, **White Iron**, and Ten Mile. *So far, plastics have been found in the waters and on the bottom of the lake in the sediment of all four study lakes.*

In the fall of 2020, researchers will begin dissecting two types of fish to see if there are any plastics in their guts: 1) filter feeders (cisco) and 2) visual feeders (bluegill and perch). Anglers can submit fish stomachs throughout the year for research staff to dissect and analyze for any microplastic consumption.

**Sentinel Lakes Program with an intensive long-term lake ecosystem monitoring program created to detect and understand the physical, chemical, and biological changes occurring in these MN 25 Lakes. The program is administered by the DNR.**

# **We Need You!**

**We have several vacancies.**

**There are many moving parts to WICOLA; it takes a lot of people and different skills to make it work.**

**Our volunteers really have fun, ask any of them and let us know when you want to join the team!**