

Spring
2014
Newsletter

Long Lake Link

Long Lake Property Owners Association

www.minnesotawaters.org/LLPOA

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Long Lake Link
PO Box 292
Longville, MN 56655
Lake ID: 11-0142-00



UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

May 3	Run/Walk/Ride Around Woman (8:30am)
May 10	Minnesota fishing opener!
May 22	Wine & Cheese Reception/Open House @ Longville Arts Center (4-6pm)
May 24	Poppy Fund Drive; Bake sale @ Senior Club (9-2pm); Book sale @ the Library (9-2pm); McLions Hamburger Day (11-2:30pm)
May 26	Memorial Day service @ the Fire Hall (9:30am)
May 31-June 1	Leech Lake Walleye Tournament, Walker
June 4	First Turtle Races of the season! (1:00pm)
June 6	Priority 55 Golf Tournament
June 11	Turtle races (1:00pm)
June 18	Turtle races (1:00pm); Smorgasbord @ Salem Lutheran Church (5pm)
June 19	Bake sale @ Longville Community Church (9am)
June 20-21	Moondance Jammin' Country Fest, Walker
June 21	Classic Car Show (9-3pm), Arts/Crafts/Outdoor Music (10-2pm), Mary Etta's pie sale (11-12pm) - all downtown; BBQ sandwiches @ the Fire Hall (11am); Bingo @ the Senior Club (7-9pm)
June 25	Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation - Back to the 60s Dinner & Dance @ Northern Lights Events Center, Walker
June 28	Turtle Races (1:00pm)
June 28	Turtle Town Art Fair - Salem Lutheran Church grounds (9-4pm); Book & Bake Sale @ the library (9-2pm)

LLPOA MISSION

The purpose of this association shall be to maintain and improve lake water quality and lake bed health, maintain and continue fish propagation and protect wildlife and its habitat.

It shall also provide education about many issues affecting lake property owners and users through the dissemination of information to Long Lake property owners and their families.

Greetings from your LLPOA President!

What can we say about the winter of 2013-14 that hasn't already been said? Those of us who either live on the lake, or come up most winter weekends to fish, snowmobile, ski, play ice hockey, ATV or just read a good book by the fireplace, found outdoor activities to be difficult, at best, due to the blistering cold weather we had. In between polar vortexes, we were able to get in some hockey with the grandkids, went on a three-day snowmobile trip up to Marcel and Bigfork (even managed to lose the trail in Bigfork, and that isn't easy), and do some short-run snowmobiling to some area restaurants. But other than that, it was just too cold to be outside. In talking with some of the local fisherman who always fish in the winter, I could not find a single person that spent any decent amount of time looking down an ice hole. How strange is that?

With summer right around the corner however, there is much to get excited about. Once the ice is clear, we will be working on getting the buoys back out on the lake to keep us boating safely. The red and green buoys represent boating channels that are clear of obstructions. Just remember: "Red and green, stay between." The white buoys mark areas where rocks are close to the surface of the water. Last summer, we installed a new sign at the Narrows marking a "No Wake Zone." Many boaters stop at the Narrows to play on the nice sandy shoreline, which makes it an area where we all need to exercise caution and be aware of children and adults swimming in the water (and pets too). We were pleased to see that most boaters were very respectful of the area, slowing down and carefully navigating between the buoys. We thank everyone for your support and awareness of boating safety.

The LLPOA Board will hold its first meeting of 2014 on Saturday, May 10th. We will be discussing the various activities we will be focused on this summer. Two actions will be at the top of our list right away: 1) Protecting our lake against aquatic invasive species (AIS), and 2) Working on getting everyone involved in the Association by expanding our membership. As we all know, protecting our lake from aquatic invasive species requires everyone's involvement if we are to be successful. It takes only one careless person accidentally introducing milfoil, zebra mussels or some other invasive species into our beautiful lake for the species to take hold. Once that happens, among other things, an infected lake's water quality drops, fishing is adversely affected and there's even a dramatic, negative impact on property values. We need your help in encouraging your friends and neighbors, who may not be members of our Association, to join the LLPOA. We're all vested in maintaining our lake's pristine waters not only for us, but also for future generations.

If you have specific things you would like the LLPOA Board to address at our upcoming meeting, please feel free to e-mail me at wayne@msireresults.com. The Board is here to represent your interests.

Thank you for your continued support!

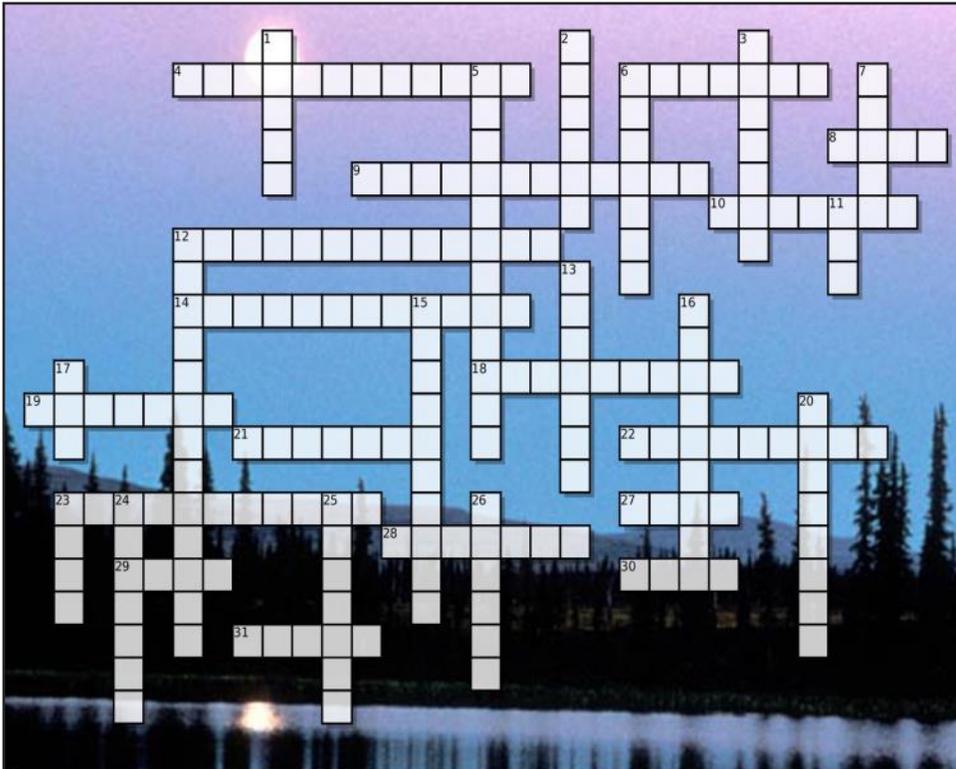
Wayne Voigtschild

Ranger Rick's 2013-14 Winter Fishing Report

To sum it up...fishing on Long Lake was pretty discouraging this past winter. The winter began with really cold weather, which was encouraging in terms of developing good ice. Then the snow came early and that created a layer of slush beneath the snow that prevented good ice from forming for several weeks thereafter. This condition continued right up to New Year's weekend. Eventually the ice did thicken, although the slush under the snow continued to be a factor all winter long. But the cold weather was the real story last winter. January's average high temperature was -12 degrees F; the low temperature on January 2nd actually hit -36 degrees F! February was no better, with 24 consecutive days colder than average. In fact, between January 17th and February 18th, there were 33 consecutive days with temperatures below freezing.

Those of us who did auger a hole in the ice found that it took all of the auger shaft just to reach the water since there was over three feet of ice on the lake. The only real fishing activity this last winter was on the north end of the lake with a few catches of crappies and walleye reported. All in all, Long Lake had very little fishing pressure over the winter. Let's all hope for much better fishing this spring!

Just how well do you think you know Longville and Long Lake?
Test yourself by trying the crossword puzzle below.



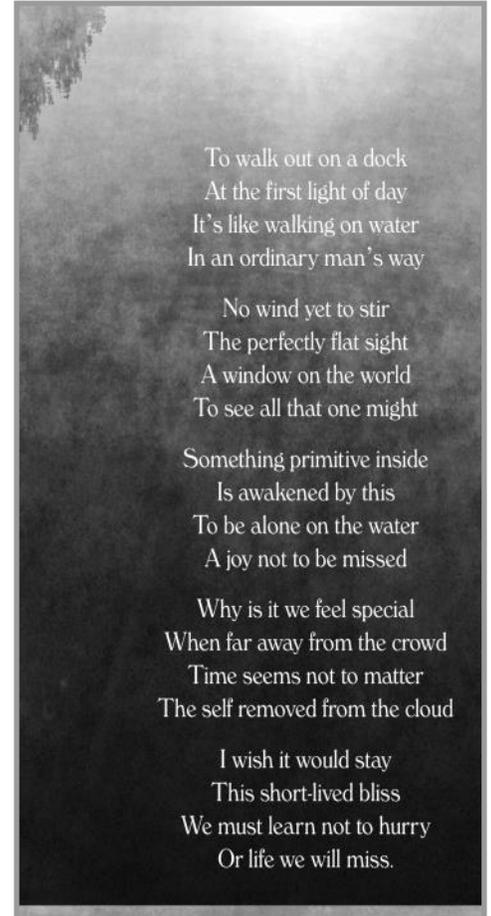
ACROSS

- 4 Most unwanted aquatic invasive species
- 6 Longville's economy relies on this
- 8 Month when Turtle Town Art Fair is held
- 9 What you don't want to freeze in the winter
- 10 Best place for gas and bait
- 12 Resort on south end of Long Lake
- 14 Where you go to "rock out"
- 18 Closest town to Long Lake
- 19 Longville is named after _____
- 21 Longville has one of these things that most small towns don't
- 22 Long Lake is part of this watershed
- 23 Favorite avian summer visitors
- 27 Long Lake is in _____ township
- 28 Most common type of boat seen on the lake
- 29 The lake we all call "home"
- 30 Nighttime worry on the roads
- 31 Organization that needs your support

DOWN

- 1 What locals call the two islands in the middle of the lake
- 2 Where kids of all ages go for a summer treat
- 3 Year round lake activity
- 5 Local celebrity known for crazy stunts
- 6 Famous local racing reptiles
- 7 Longville's canine "mascot"
- 11 Crappie limit per person per day in Minnesota
- 12 Best place for a cup of "jo"
- 13 Longville's first "industry"
- 15 Main drag through town
- 16 National bird that makes our state bird nervous
- 17 Long Lake is _____ miles long
- 20 Fish that Long Lake doesn't have enough of
- 23 County where Long Lake is located
- 24 Unwanted invasive aquatic weed
- 25 Where the boat parade starts
- 26 Nearby famous state park

(Answers can be found on page 4.)



To walk out on a dock
At the first light of day
It's like walking on water
In an ordinary man's way

No wind yet to stir
The perfectly flat sight
A window on the world
To see all that one might

Something primitive inside
Is awakened by this
To be alone on the water
A joy not to be missed

Why is it we feel special
When far away from the crowd
Time seems not to matter
The self removed from the cloud

I wish it would stay
This short-lived bliss
We must learn not to hurry
Or life we will miss.

Poem by Tom Sorensen

(One of the many reasons
we can't wait for the ice to
go out every spring.)

After the winter we've had,
let's hope this isn't where we're headed....



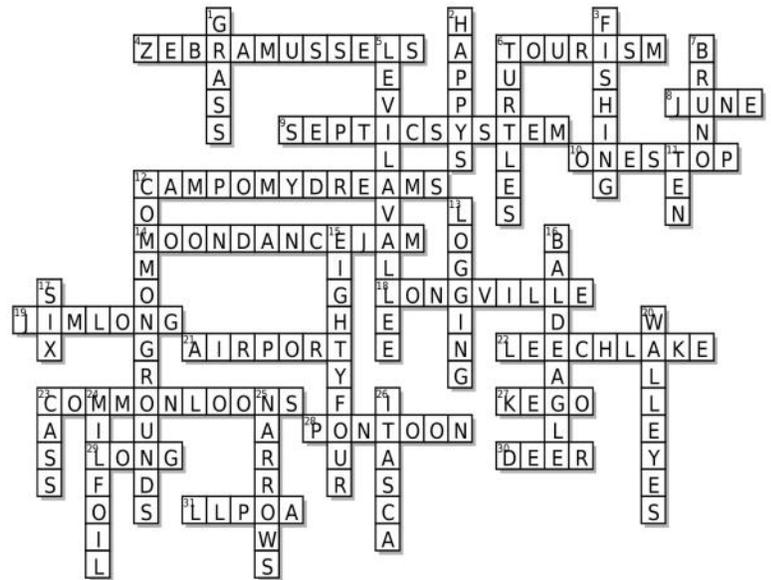
Low Interest Loans Available for Septic System and Well Upgrades

Low interest (3%) loans for up to five years are available to landowners in Region Five (Cass & Crow Wing counties included) to repair their existing failing or non-conforming septic systems. New construction does not qualify. Seasonal and year-round landowners are encouraged to apply.

The North Central Economic Development Association (NCEDA), a subsidiary of the Region Five Development Commission (R5DC) in Staples, has loan funds available to lend to area landowners to replace, refurbish or service an individual household water well system.

For more information or forms/applications on either loan program, visit www.regionfive.org/departmen; or call Dawn Berg in Cass County (218-547-7291) or Tom Esperson in Crow Wing County (218-824-1134).

Answers to the puzzle on page 3:



Did you know...

...that Minnesota has 4,534 managed lakes? Of those lakes, 698 lakes are located in North Central Minnesota. Cass County has 229 lakes, Crow Wing 217 lakes, Hubbard 120 lakes, and Aitkin County 132 lakes. Sixteen percent (16%) of the state's managed lakes are in North Central Minnesota; these are also many of Minnesota's highest quality recreation lakes. Of the ten largest lakes in Minnesota, Cass County has Leech Lake, the third largest lake, and Winnie. Mille Lacs Lake, the state's second largest lake, spans three counties, including Crow Wing and Aitkin counties. *(Information provided by MN DNR)*

Interesting statistics, but do you know what defines a "managed" lake? I didn't, so I looked it up. (Isn't Google great?!) Here's what I found out.

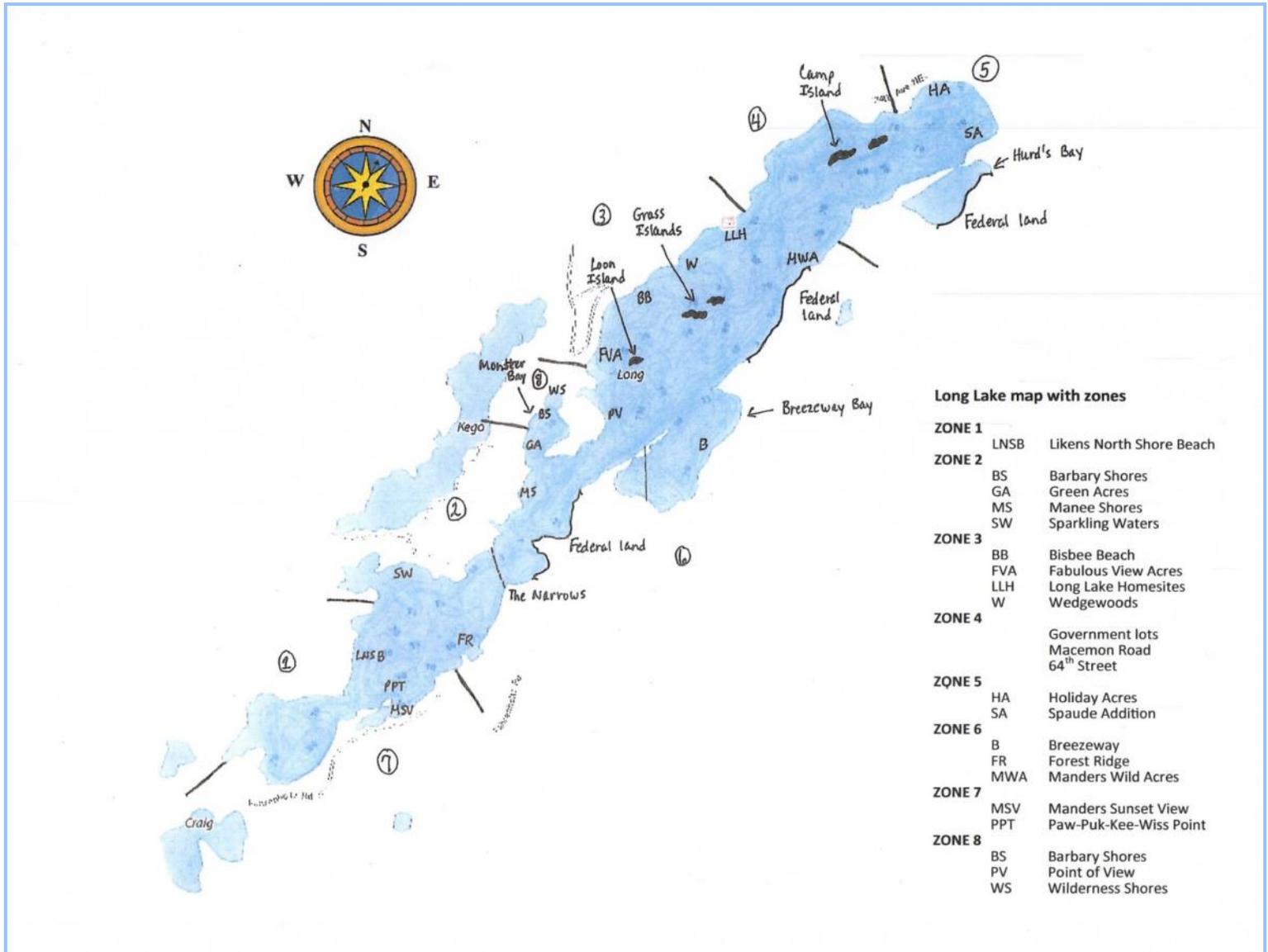
"With ever increasing recreational use and growing populations residing near and along waterways, lakes can suffer from small and large cumulative impacts and cannot manage themselves. We affect our lake by our actions within the lake, along its shorelines and well up into the lake's watershed or drainage basin. Even distant areas can be connected to the lake by the downstream flow of waters which, in turn, carry pollutants, sediments and nutrients into the lake over time. We all are part of the problem, but we all can do something, no matter how apparently insignificant (i.e. recycling of household materials), to help our lakes. Lakes need to be systematically and purposefully managed over time if we are to sustain their long-term health and viability."

"Lake management plans help protect natural resource systems, including the water quality of the lake and the associated fish, vegetative and wildlife communities. A lake management plan: 1) Encourages partnerships between concerned citizens, including lakeshore owners, watershed residents, resource management agencies and special interest groups; 2) Identifies the concerns that the people feel are important to address; 3) Sets realistic goals, objectives and actions, and 4) Identifies needed funds and personnel." *(Excerpted from "Developing a Lake Management Plan" - prepared by the Interagency Lakes Coordinating Committee)*

This might be more than you ever wanted to know about managed lakes, but if you would like to learn even more, you can find it at www.shorelandmanagement.org/depth/plan.pdf.

And yes, Long Lake is a managed lake.

Some of you have asked for a map that shows the names of the bays and islands on Long Lake. From what we learned, none of the names are official, but have just been used for years by property owners and locals. The editor is no artist, but here is a map of the lake with as much information as we could find, along with the LLPOA zones and their approximate locations.



We, the members of the Lake Country Nordic Ski Club, are sending this letter to let everyone know that we are a new club looking for members. The club was formed about three years ago when Cass County decided, due to finances, not to groom and maintain the four Grant-in-Aid cross-country ski trails in the county: Hiram, Goose Lake, Cut Lake and Lake Washburn. Cass County has been very supportive of our club and has made it possible for us to do the grooming and maintain the trails. We go out in the fall and clean the trails of branches, trees, etc. to get ready for the skiing season. When the first snows

come, the club's dedicated groomers are out setting the track. We then groom the trails all winter as needed. We are always looking for help in these areas. Please consider joining us so we can keep the Cass County ski trails maintained and groomed. As with any organization, the more people that are involved, the more we can accomplish.

Membership is \$25.00 per person, or \$50.00 per family. You can send checks to Linda McNamara, 478 Wren Trail NW, Backus, MN 56435. If you have any questions, please e-mail lakecountrynordic@gmail.com. All of our trails are Grant-in-Aid, so a Minnesota Ski Pass is required.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Wayne Voigtschild	wayne@msireresults.com
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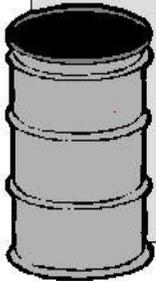
2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Saturday, May 10th @ 10:00 am
 Saturday, June 14th @ 10:00 am
 Saturday, July 12th @ 10:00 am
 Saturday, August 9th @ 9:30 am **
 Saturday, September 13th @ 10:00 am

** Annual meeting begins at 9:30 am; doors open at 9:00 am

All meetings are held at Salem Lutheran Church in Longville. Members and property owners are always welcome to attend.

Burning Garbage is Illegal in Cass County



However, for some reason many burn barrels remain. If you are aware of someone burning garbage, contact Paul Fairbanks, Solid Waste Administrator for Cass County, at 218-547-7287 paul.fairbanks@co.cass.mn.us.

In Remembrance...

James Graven, age 87, of Longville, passed away on October 4, 2013 of natural causes. Jim was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Joan. He worked as a teacher, coach and athletic director in the Wayzata School District for over 30 years. He loved his family, fishing and his cabin on Mirabella Trail.

Funeral services were held October 17th at Vision of Glory Church, Plymouth, MN; interment was at Fort Snelling Cemetery.

2014 LLPOA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

We will be running a "Join the LLPOA" membership campaign throughout 2014. We want to reach property owners that haven't joined the Association yet, or those who may not even know the LLPOA exists. We are hoping that we can enlist the help of our current LLPOA members in this campaign by asking them to talk to their neighbors and find out if they are members already or not. Share with them what we are doing to keep aquatic invasive species out of the lake, how we are managing the lake's water quality and how we are working to protect local wildlife and its habitat - and then encourage them to join. We need everyone's help!

In order to reach as many owners as we can this year, we will continue to send out paper copies of the Link to those people who are not on our e-mail list, whether they are members or not.

It saves the Association a lot of printing and postage cost when we send the Link by e-mail, so please consider adding yourselves to our newsletter e-mail list; plus you'll receive the added bonus of getting the Link in color! We never use your e-mail for anything other than Association news.

If you would like to receive the Link by e-mail, please send your e-mail address to Meg Voigtschild at meg@msireresults.com or call 612-805-5995.

REMINDER:

The membership/dues form - for new members or member renewals - is included in this newsletter.

Send the form, along with your 2014 annual dues (\$15.00 per year), to LLPOA, PO Box 292, Longville, MN 56655.

Feel free to contact Meg to check on the status of your dues. Call 612-805-5995 or e-mail meg@msireresults.com.