



FILIA, P.O. Box 135, Aitkin, MN 56431 • FILIALake@gmail.com • FarmIslandLake.org

### 209 paid members so far!

#### Membership Update

Thank you to those who have already paid this year's dues!



**It's not too late! We need only 3 more paid members to meet last year's total of 212 members! We need 29 paid members to meet the all-time high of 238 members in 2021.** If you can't access the application, drop the \$25 check in the mail and email your contact information to [FILIALake@gmail.com](mailto:FILIALake@gmail.com).

Current and past member lists are on the website. If you're not sure if you've paid your membership, please email me or check the current list on the website or check the list at the end of this newsletter.

**An application is at the end of this newsletter and is on the website.**

You can also pay dues online at [FarmIslandLake.org](http://FarmIslandLake.org). A member is someone who has paid their dues, payable yearly. FILIA is a non-profit organization!

If you have not been a FILIA member in the past, please consider joining this year. If you are already a member, thank you, and we hope you will continue to support the stewardship that FILIA provides.

**Your yearly membership does make a difference!** A large lake association membership provides a strong influence when it comes to the affairs involving lakeshore ownership, including grant applications, government, county, and local agency activities.

**Be sure we have your email to ensure receipt of newsletters sent throughout the year.**

The newsletters are emailed to the 509 email addresses in FILIA's contact list. Even if you are not a paid member, you still receive the newsletters.



#### MN DNR Creel Survey Update



The DNR creel survey results will be published this spring once we receive them from the DNR.

The up-to-date membership list will now be included in all the newsletters. Not sure if you paid your dues? Check the list at the end of this newsletter.

## Annual Meeting

FILIA would like to thank the following local businesses that donated door prizes for the annual meeting.

- Beartooth Ace Hardware
- FIRM
- Hyytinen Hardware Hank

- There were 56 attendees at the annual meeting.
- The annual meeting minutes are on your website on the Administrative page.

<https://www.farmislandlake.org/meeting-minutes>

- There were about 30 parade participants - not bad considering the rain threat on that day.
- Bill Haroldson passed out about 80 AIS Welcome bags to boat parade participants. Some pontoons had multiple families.



### AIS Welcome Bag

The bag contains a fly swatter, a can koozie, various articles and literature about stopping aquatic hitchhikers. This bag was paid for as part of an Aitkin County AIS Education Grant.



### FILIA Membership Facts

- 368 property owners as of March 2024
- Newsletters are emailed to 509 recipients
- 223 members is the average membership over the last 5 years
- 33% of members pay additional money toward the AIS Fund, amounting to \$2,362 annual average over the past 5 years
- 33% pay their member dues online at FarmIslandLake.org
- FILIA is a non-profit organization
- You are a member when you pay dues, which are due each year

## Are You a Lake Steward?

Does your shoreline protect water quality? Take the quiz to find out. Click on the image or [here](#).



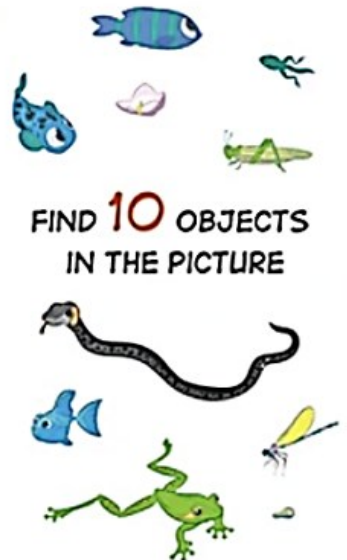
[Click here to check out](#) the **2024 Lake Steward Webinar** on the Minnesota Lakes and Rivers (MLR) website. This recording is a resource for anyone interested in preserving Minnesota's beautiful shorelines and lake ecosystems.

### Lake facts as of October 27

- Water clarity is similar to last year, at 14 feet.
- Water level is about a foot lower from the spring reading taken on May 4, which was at 1,255.3 feet

Interesting fact...It takes over 50 million gallons of water loss for Farm Island Lake to drop 1" in depth.

### Find the lake dwellers





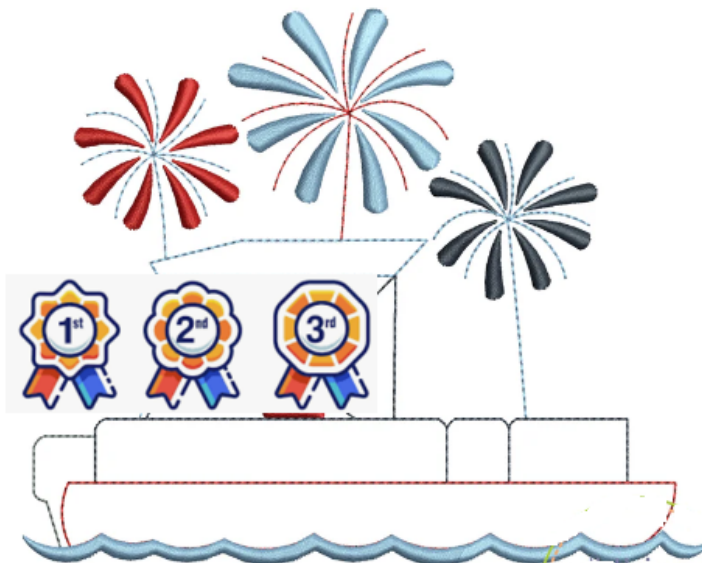
## Lawns to Legumes pollinator 2025 habitat grants available – apply by Nov. 30, 2024

*Aitkin Independent Age, June 12, 2024*

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is accepting applications for spring 2025 Lawns to Legumes pollinator habitat grants.

The program aims to increase habitat for at-risk pollinators in residential settings across the state by providing people with reimbursement-based funding, workshops, coaching and gardening resources.

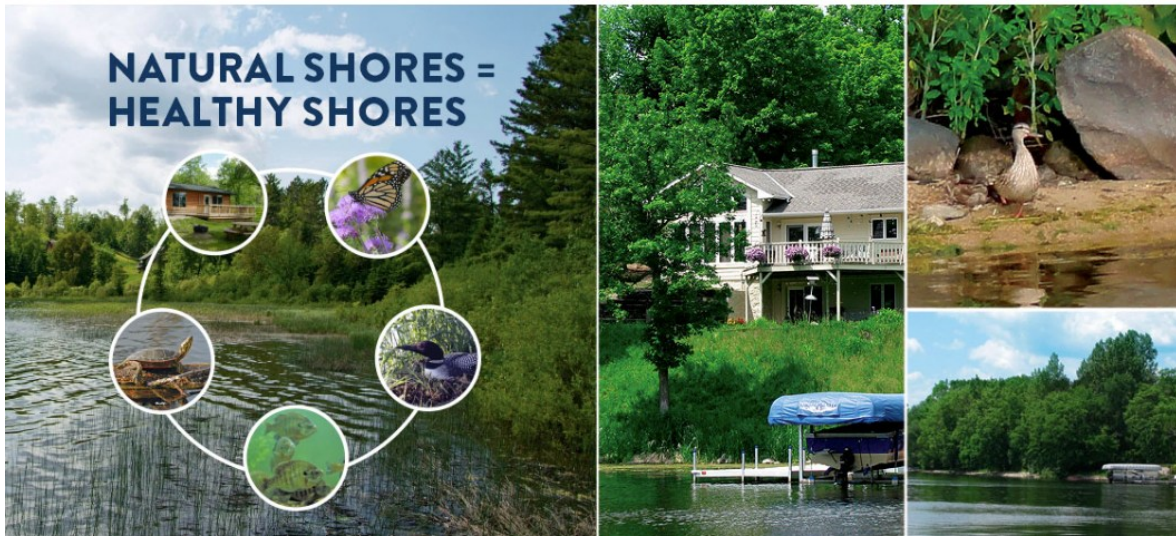
Anyone who lives in Minnesota and has a yard, deck or other outdoor space for planting can apply to be reimbursed for up to \$400 in costs associated with establishing new pollinator habitat in their yards. The program is available to both Minnesota homeowners and renters. **Applications will be accepted through Nov. 30, 2024.** If you previously applied for the program, you will need to reapply to be considered for spring 2025 funding. Apply online at Blue Thumb's website <https://bluethumb.org/lawns-to-legumes/> For more information about Lawns to Legumes, visit BWSR's website at <https://bwsr.state.mn.us/l2l>



People have expressed interest in organizing a group to manage the parade so there could be door prizes, etc. The FILIA board does not sponsor the parade but could communicate for this group via the newsletter. Interested folks please contact me or a board member.

# Shoreland Management – Protect the Lake and the Wildlife

[https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt\\_section/shoreland/index.html](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt_section/shoreland/index.html)



**Maintain and/or restore natural vegetation along your shoreline.** Natural vegetation:

- Holds soil in place protecting shorelines from increasingly intensive rain events and rising water levels
- Slows runoff and stores moisture
- Filters out nutrients, which along with rising lake temperatures, accelerates algae blooms
- Provides habitat so species can survive in a changing climate
- Increases property values by keeping lakes clean.

## **Minnesota law requires water recreationists to:**

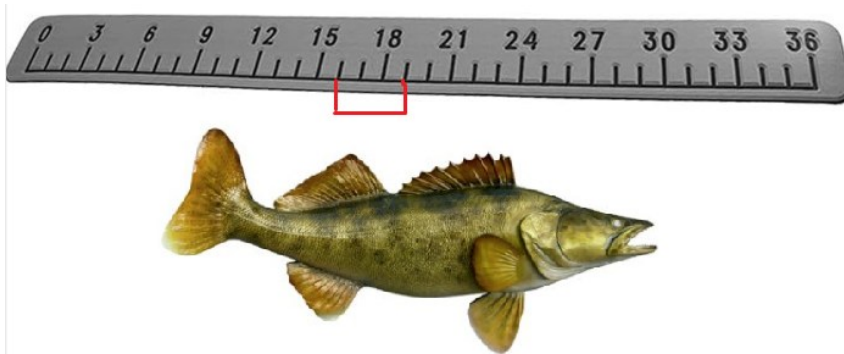
- **Clean watercraft of all aquatic plants and prohibited invasive species.**
- **Drain** all water by removing drain plugs and keeping them out during transport.
- **Dispose** of unwanted bait in the trash and dispose of bait water.
- **Dry** docks, lifts, swim rafts and other equipment for at least 21 days before placing equipment into another water body.

**For more information on the Minnesota law, which holds true whether or not a lake is listed as infested – go to this online link.** [https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/preventspread\\_watercraft.html](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/preventspread_watercraft.html)

Be sure to inform your visitors and neighbors of this important Minnesota regulation, which is also important and necessary to keep our lake clean and free of invasive species.

- The FILIA Board Members, to fulfill our mission of stewardship for Farm Island Lake, strive to maintain good communications and collaborative efforts with lake association members, Aitkin County, and state agencies. To name a few - the DNR, Aitkin Area Fisheries, Aitkin County Soil & Water Conservation District, and Invasive Species Specialist, etc.
- When government, local agency and county information is included we are serving as the messenger to keep you informed of their activities concerning Farm Island Lake.
- The FILIA board members act in good faith as volunteers and assume no responsibility for the boat parade or other FILIA activities.

**The walleye slot limit on Farm Island Lake is 16" – 19".** Fish this size are to be immediately released. It's a bit confusing - on FIL the slot limit from 16-19 inches designates the size to NOT be kept.



**Release 16 – 19 inch walleyes. This protects the best breeders on Farm Island Lake, per the DNR.**



Speaking of fish size! Bruce VanDenBoom was visiting friends on the lake and caught a 30" catfish!



**New Minnesota Law:**

Effective July 1, 2023, it's illegal to place garbage and human/ other waste on or under the ice on Minnesota's lakes and rivers. Garbage, rubbish, cigarette filters, debris from fireworks, offal, the body of a dead animal, litter, sewage and any other waste needs to be stored inside your shelter, motor vehicle or any other conveyance or inside a container that is secured to your shelter, motor vehicle or conveyance.

**\$100 civil penalty for each violation**

For more information visit:  
[www.KeepItCleanMN.org](http://www.KeepItCleanMN.org)



## "How Well Do You Know Minnesota" - New September Video to Watch!

<https://mnlakesandrivers.org/>



Counties across Minnesota and Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates have produced a unique 'How Well Do You Know Minnesota?' series that provides MN fun facts and information about aquatic invasive species. The series launched May 1st and will run through September 30th with a different video showcased each month.

### WATCH and May, June, July and September videos

#### May: Never Release

YT :15 <https://youtu.be/ZYHbUYT98gY>

YT :30 [https://youtu.be/fcV-9\\_kaHKM](https://youtu.be/fcV-9_kaHKM)

#### June: AIS Early Detection

YT :15 <https://youtu.be/IFAIKGZFQyw>

YT :30 <https://youtu.be/6EzR0tzxMdM>

#### July: AIS Cleaning Stations

YT :15 <https://youtu.be/DVy0MfyXZ5s>

YT :30 <https://youtu.be/TRLZlRn47Q>

#### September: Waterfowl Hunters

YT :15 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ol8PqVIPiLO>



## Get the Lead Out - New Information

Get the Lead Out (GTLO) is an educational program by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) that aims to reduce the amount of lead-based fishing tackle that loons are exposed to.

- **Goal:** Protect and restore the loon population in Minnesota
- **Methods:** Educate and promote lead-free tackle alternatives, and provide tackle exchanges where people can trade in lead-based tackle for lead-free tackle
- **Benefits:** Helps protect wildlife and human health

The program started in the early 2000s, and in its first run, the MPCA coordinated over 200 tackle exchanges that collected more than 8,000 lbs. of lead.

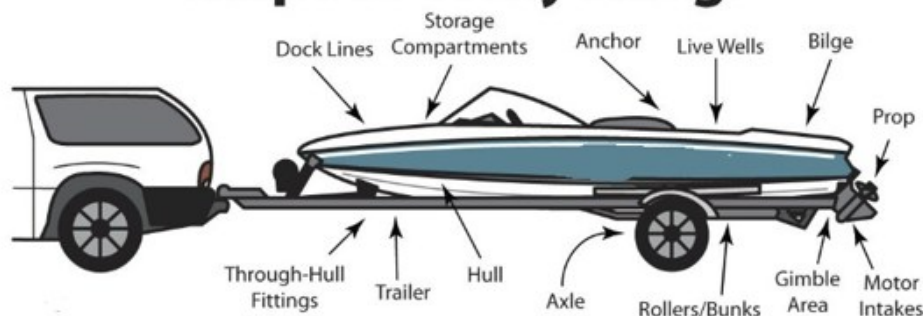
### Here are some tips for identifying lead tackle:

- Lead is a soft, dense metal that is easy to mold and shape.
  - Lead is gray and dull in color. ● If you scratch lead on paper, it will leave a gray mark.
- Lead poisoning can have negative effects on the nervous and reproductive systems of birds and mammals. Loons with lead poisoning may experience physical and behavioral changes, such as: loss of balance, gasping, tremors, and limited flying abilities.
- Depending on how much lead a loon swallows, it can die within two days to three weeks.



To learn more about Get the Lead Out, visit <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/nongame/projects/leadout.html> or Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/LeadOutMN/>

## Before leaving and before launching... inspect everything!



To prevent the spread of all aquatic species, remember to

- Clean
- Drain
- Dry
- Dispose of water.

If you witness a concern, please call the Aitkin County Sheriff's office at 218-927-7435 and provide as much information as you can. Location and photos and videos really help. Our local law enforcement really does want to hear from you.

### Boating and Fishing Regulations

The DNR Boating and Fishing Regulations

are on our website under Useful Info:

<https://www.farmislandlake.org/useful-links>

and are also listed on the DNR website.

<https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/rlp/regulations/boatwater/boatingguide.pdf>



*When government, local agency and county information is included we are serving as the messenger to keep you informed of their activities concerning Farm Island Lake.*

### Important Phone Numbers

Aitkin County Sheriff & Water Patrol	911 or 218-927-7435
MNDNR Hotline	651-296-6157
AIS Specialist	218-203-4354

### Loon Watch

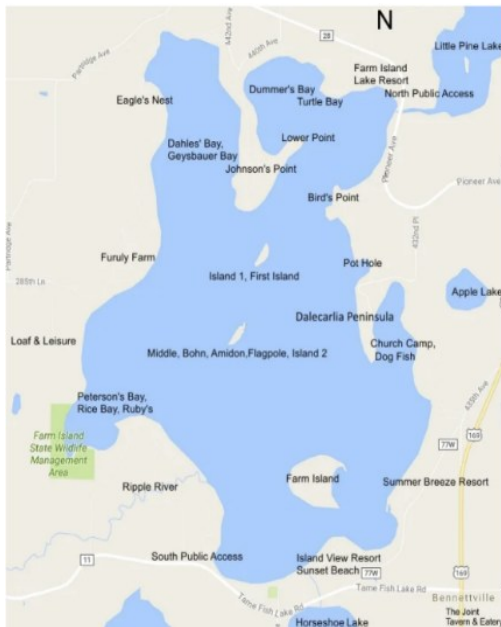


At August-end there were 4-6 loon chicks. The adult loons are gone, but as of Nov. 6th I saw an immature loon still here.

### Aitkin County Planning and Zoning

If you are building, remodeling or working on shoreline, contact Aitkin County at 218-927-7342 or their website to be sure you are up-to-date on their codes.

<https://www.co.aitkin.mn.us/departments/enviro-svcs/enviromentalSvcs.html#gsc.tab=0>



### AIS Brochure

“WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FARM ISLAND LAKE”

Find the brochure at

<https://www.farmislandlake.org/copy-of-score-your-shore-1>

*This is a section title from the FILIA AIS Brochure which is on the website. Click on the link to get the details.*

### BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO ENHANCE AND PROTECT THE LAKE AND WILDLIFE

1. Maintain or establish a buffer zone between your yard and the lake.
2. Limit fertilizing and don't fertilize within 50 feet of the lake.
3. Use zero-phosphorus fertilizer.



# 2025 Calendar of FILIA Events

*Spring Board Meeting	Saturday, May 3, 8:00 am	The Joint Tavern & Eatery
Annual Association Meeting	Saturday, June 14, 9-11:00 am	Hazelton Town Hall
4th of July Boat Parade	Friday, July 4, Noon	FIL South Public Access
*Fall Board Meeting	Saturday, Sept 6, 8:00 am	The Joint Tavern & Eatery

Hazelton Town Hall is located on Hwy 169, a few miles south of Tame Fish Lake Rd.

\*Only board members attend the board meetings.

The annual meeting is held the 2nd Saturday of June each year.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Haroldson ..... President

Cindy Chuhanic

Mike Harrington

Gordon Vetsch ..... V.P.

Dennis Kraimer

Scott Scheele

Cheryl McDonough .... Secretary/Treasurer

Stan Barnes

Russ Hoppe

Contact board members: [FILIALake@gmail.com](mailto:FILIALake@gmail.com)

## FILIA Website

There is a lot of information on the FILIA website. This site map includes the links to the various pages on the website. [FarmIslandLake.org](http://FarmIslandLake.org) **FILIA Financial Report is on the Administrative page.**

### Site Map

- [Home](#)
  - [Membership](#)
  - [Pay Dues](#)
  - [Newsletters/Lake Info](#)
  - [Contact/Calendar](#)
    - [Local Events](#)
  - [Administrative](#) *Financial reports, current and past*
    - [Meeting Minutes](#)
    - [FILIA Bylaws](#)
  - [Aquatic Invasive Species](#)
    - [Score Your Shore](#)
    - [How to identify zebra mussels](#)
    - [Living with zebra mussels](#)
    - [How to combat swimmer's itch](#)
  - [Useful Info](#) *Aitkin County contacts, etc.*
    - [Boating & Fishing Regulations](#)
    - [DNR Permitted Lake Service Providers](#)
- Mission statement, printable map of Farm Island Lake, description*  
*Members lists, application form*  
*Pay yearly membership dues online with credit card*  
*Current and past newsletters, Gillnet Survey Results*  
*List of Board of Directors, Shore Captains, Meeting dates*

Be sure we have your email addresses to ensure receipt of newsletters and email updates throughout the year.



*Have a safe and joyous winter holiday season!*

Sincerely,

Cheryl McDonough

Editor, FILIA Newsletter

[filiialake@gmail.com](mailto:filiialake@gmail.com)

Your comments are welcome.

FILIA

PO Box 135

Aitkin, MN 56431

[FarmIslandLake.org](http://FarmIslandLake.org)

# FILIA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

FarmIslandLake.org

**BECOME A MEMBER AND HELP PRESERVE AND ENHANCE FARM ISLAND LAKE**

Dues are **\$25.00** a year per property owner from January to December.

You can pay online at your FILIA website, or bring this form to the annual meeting, or mail it to:

**Farm Island Lake Improvement Association ( or FILIA )**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PO Box 135**

**Aitkin, MN 56431**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address** \_\_\_\_\_

No need to write your home address if your correct address is on your check.

**Lake Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone**-best year-round contact phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Email**-best year-round contact email(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Your email addresses will be used to send you newsletters and other FILIA news. It will not be sold or shared.

**Additional money for the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Fund** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**209 members**

57% of 368 property owners

Accola, Mike & Melanie  
Althoff, Chad & Tresa  
Amrhein, Terry & Dorla  
Anderson, Greg & Diane  
Anderson, Julie  
Anderson, Marty & Karen  
Anderson, Todd  
Arndt, Joseph Farm Island Lake Partnership  
Ball, Denny & Sharon  
Balko, Tim & Tracy  
Barnes, Stan & Karla  
Beise, David & Laura Boyd  
Bencini, Lon & Deb  
Blake, Gary & Kelly  
Boudreau, David & Laura  
Bouquet, Greg & Dawn  
Brandt, Robert & Dorothy  
Buechele, Don & Doreen  
Burnison, Russ & Trish  
Campbell, Charles & Melissa  
Cannady, Doug & Judy  
Carbone, Catherine & John Buchmeier  
Chmelik, Marvin & Joanne  
Christy, Judy  
Chuhanic, Ed & Cindy  
Cowan, Rob & Pam  
Dahlquist, Christopher & Jeanie  
Danielson, Stephen Jr. & Katy  
Danielson, Steve & Roxanne  
Densmore, Mary Ann  
Dickison, Kevin & Kim  
Diedrich, Bill & Karen  
Ditty, Dave & Angie  
Dosser, Paul & Linda  
Doty, Gary & Jody Nelson  
Doty, Tom & Jeanette  
Elkin, Alice  
Engh, Jim & Julie  
Englebert, Erin & Brookes  
Erickson, Ron & Helen  
Fahey, Michael & Linda  
Farm Island Lake Resort-Jake Mueller  
Fawley, Craig & Sharon  
Feldstein, Thomas & Mary Ellen  
FIRM-Farm Island Repair & Marine, Scott Boyd  
Fjerstad, Mark & Kim Curless  
Foley, John & Shari  
Fragodt, Brian & Joy  
Frederick, Todd & Keri  
Freeman, Maurice & Arlene

Fritz, Robert  
Furth, John or Allison  
Furuly, LLC  
Geist, Gary & Mary Joan  
Gilson, Scott & Pam  
Green, Mark & Julie  
Griesel, Wayne  
Hanna, Connie; Scott & Jen Nordquist; Brian  
& Laurie Klepinger  
Haroldson, Bill  
Haroldson, Debbie  
Harrington, Mike & Wendy  
Hasbrouck, Chris & Meg  
Hayes, Jim & Cindy  
Hausauer, Jim  
Henrickson, Dennis & Candy  
Hesse, Steven & Sally  
Highum, Andrew & Sonja  
Hoelzer, Greg & Marybeth  
Hoffman, Mike & Denise  
Holder, Adam & Kelsey  
Holst, Brad & Vicki  
Holter, Steve & Lynn  
Hoppe, Russ & Roxie  
Hutterer, Vincent & Doreen  
Iverson, David & Lisa  
Jamar, Jeff & Laura  
Jelsing, Vicki & Doyle  
Johnson, Dennis & Kelley  
Johnson, Eric & Lisa  
Johnson, Scott & Jodie  
Johnson, Richard & Phyllis  
Johnson, Mary & Tom  
Keatts, Andy & Deb  
Keisling, Stephen  
Kiefer, Josh & Melissa  
Kise, John & Kayla  
Klein, Doug & Stacey  
Knott, Randy & Jan  
Koester, Todd & Kate  
Kraimer, Dennis & Chris  
Krautkramer, Cory  
Kuchenmeister, Randy & Tracy  
Kuchera, Todd & Tamara  
Landgren, Ted & Jeanne Jauss  
Larson, D'Ette  
Larson, Lowell & Carole  
Larson, Tom & Rachel  
Lavigne, Larry & Jule  
Leafblad, Tricia  
Lensegrav, John & Lisa



Leonard, Gary & Rea  
Lien, Bruce & Patty  
Lilledahl, Kris & Tom  
Lind, Chris & Carol  
Lloyd, Mindi & Nick Schimming  
Loew, Patrick & Nancy Jo  
Long, Gerry  
Long, Lisa & Lori  
Luker, Rebecca & Ed Stabno  
Lund, Mike  
Lux, Ronald & Carol  
MacLeod, Les & Judy  
MacMillan, Mike & Carol  
Martin, Rett & Rebekah  
Martin, Ron & Wendy  
Martinson, John & Sara Fisher  
Matthias, Don & Judy  
Mattison, Robert & Sharon, & Karen Ulstad  
McDonough, Kevin & Cheryl  
McLain, Janis  
McPheeters, Jeff & Tammy  
Meehan, John & Claudia  
Meyer, Bob & Beth  
Meyer, Tim & Deb  
Michaelis, John & Mary Jane  
Moey, Lee  
Mohning, Maggie  
Moser, Todd & Amy  
Muelhbauer, Gerald & Pam  
Munzel, Jeffrey & Victoria  
Murray, Barry & Joyce  
Noling, Dennis & Denise  
Norberg, Richard & Nathalyn  
Norgren, Jim & Judy  
Oare, Scott & Robbin  
O'Brien, John & Karin  
Olinger, Tom & Dru  
Perrine, Pat & Judy, Aaron & Stephanie Perrine  
Peters, Gordon & Muriel  
Peterson, Rozanne  
Pierson, John  
Poser, Richard & Sue  
Rachey, Loren & Dianne  
Rasmussen, Roma Lee  
Rausch, Jeremy & Sara  
Redner, Scott & Dee  
Reinhard, Arnie & Connie  
Reinke, Robert & Diane  
Reisetter, Tom, Doreen, Dan & Ann  
Remme, Susan  
Rezac, Terry & Janet  
Riazi, Homayoun & Kathy  
Roggenbuck, Mike & Linda  
Roiger, Lavonne

Rolley, Jeremy & Leah  
Romenesko, Stuart & Sherry  
Ronhovde, Jim & Jan  
Rose, Mike and Joyce  
Russell, John & Sue  
Ryan, Tim & Sue  
Scharmann, Phil & Lori  
Scheele, Scott & Cheryl  
Schiffler, Roger & Sharon  
Schifsky, Mark & Peg  
Schifsky, Steve & Dawn  
Schlichte, Robert & Kathy  
Schmidt, Dan & Susan  
Schmidt, Wade & Tonya  
Schwartz, Don  
Scott, Paul  
Scott, Tom & Cindy  
Seiger, Gary & Cheryl  
Seltun, Jay & Kelly  
Shikowsky, Steve & Pam  
Smalley, Matt & Angela  
Smith, Danny & Jane Bergquist  
Smith, Tom  
Smith, Trevor & Jennifer  
Stevenson, Gary & Mary Ann  
Stippel, Roger & Lucy  
Strohmayer, Tim & Chris  
Sullivan, Nancy or Sheila Sullivan  
Swenson, Don & Barb  
Sylvester, Kathy  
Theis, Marvin & Sue  
Thoen, Larry & Cindy  
Thomas, Ward & Joyce  
Trick, Carol  
Turbes, Chris  
Tyson, David & Jane and Doug & Antoinette Daleiden  
Utterberg, Tom & Carol  
Vetsch, Gordy & Laurie  
Vetsch, Thomas & Connie  
Vollmer, Steve & Cindy  
Von Bargaen, Dennis & Annette  
Walter, Bill & Karen  
Weikert, Josh & Heidi  
Wensole, Leroy & Connie  
Weslander, Dennis & Eunice  
Westendorf, Dean & Mary  
Whalen, Tom & Kellie  
Williams, John & Karen  
Wilmo, Sylvia  
Wilson, Steve & Julie  
Young, Keath & Lesley  
Zazverskey, John & Mary  
Zeilinger, Ken  
Zelixon, Lily & Alex  
Zumwinkle, David & Family