

December 2022

Sylvan Lake Shoreline

Santa's Visit and Luminary Walk



Photos by Tammie and Dan Traban

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Happy Birthday Sylvan Lake!

2023 marks the 100-year
anniversary of ground breaking
for Sylvan Lake

In honor of this momentous anniversary, the garden club will be adding an extra layer of activities and fun to our already existing events throughout the year, starting with WinterFest.

More information will be coming soon! Please keep an eye on the website, Shoreline, email blasts, display boards and our FaceBook page.

If you would like to volunteer for any of the 100th Anniversary Celebration events, please contact Wendy Kjeldbjerg (wkjel@comcast.net) or Nancy Hanson (NHanson@d75.org)

ECO-CORNER #25

by Jenn Cameron

Board Games with a Green Focus!

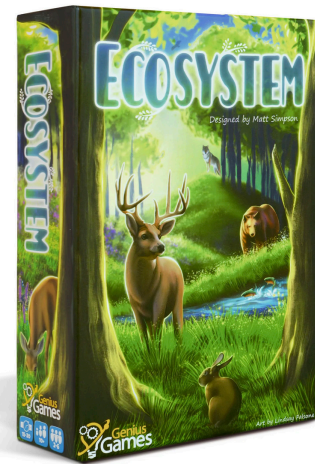
Right about now there's not much green to be seen around Sylvan Lake ~ it's December! For this holiday month or really anytime you want some green fun, here are five environment-focused board games you might be interested in playing with family & friends:



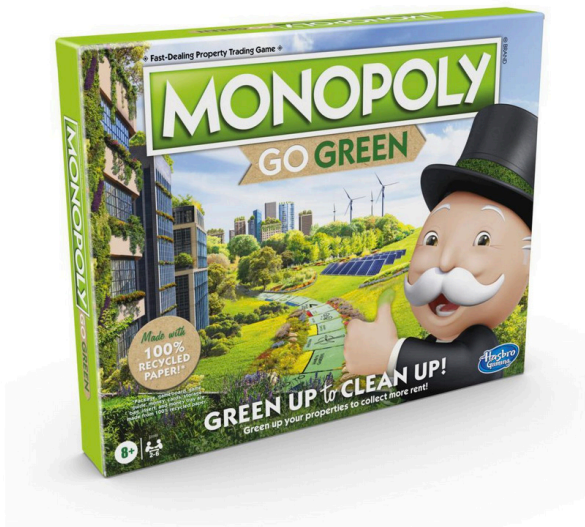
[Global Warning Board Game](#)



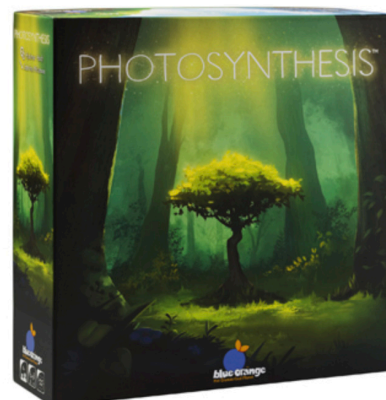
[PARKS Board Game](#)



[Ecosystem | A Family Card Game about Animals, their Habitats, and Biodiversity](#)



Monopoly: [Go Green Edition Board Game](#)



[Photosynthesis Board Game](#)

Thanks for reading the 2022 Shoreline Eco-Corner articles ~ See you in 2023! :-)

Garden Club

Ladies Night

Highlights from the night: Tammie Trahan thanked Irene Flora for hosting the meeting/ holiday party in her home. Tammie asked individuals on the board to give a short update with Garden Club activities.

Kelly Dickinson gave the Treasurer report.

Debbie Pomazol presented an update on the Greeters of Sylvan Lake who welcome all new residents who have moved into the community. A few newcomers were introduced at the meeting.

Tammie showed a slide presentation of photos taken at the various functions hosted by the Garden Club .

Wendy Kjeldbjerg spoke about the 100 year Celebration to be held in 2023/2024.

The 2023 Spring Garden Club party will be hosted by Bridget Duerr. Date will be announced later.

Sandy Washburn and Tammie Trahan will be putting together a Helping Committee to support residents who are ill or in need of some assistance. This idea is in progress.



MaryAnn Mortenson brought up an idea for a plaque to be purchased and presented to the Countryside Fire Department for the years of service they have given to Sylvan Lake. Throughout the years they have provided fire safety, water display at the 4th of July picnic and many acted as Santa on the fire truck during the holidays.

Tammie Trahan and Kathy Ford indicated the Garden Club By Laws need revision. They haven't been updated for a very long time. A sign up sheet was available for volunteers.

Mariann Mortenson Chaired the Nominating Committee along with members; Marlene Kirby and Karen Doan.

Secretary Notes by Nancy Brashear



Garden Club Board

President - Tammie Trahan
Vice President - Kathy Ford
Treasurer - Kelly Dickinson
Secretary - Irene Flora

Directors

Lauren Rollinger
Karen Finerty
Jen Scharf
Nancy Brashear
Nancy Hanson
Olga Zavialov
Debbie Pomazal

Greeters

Tammie Trahan (Coordinator)
Debbie Pomazal
Nancy Brashear
Sam Kendall

Special Committees

Wendy Kjeldbjerg - 100 year
Jen Crow - Cardboard Regatta
Kathy Ford - By-laws update coordinator

Posters

Mariann Mortensen

Getting to Know Your Neighbor

by Peggy Delacruz

Until a few months ago, my family and I were across-the-street neighbors with Derek and Patty Hampson for over nine years. At the time, I had no idea how lucky we would be to move onto a street surrounded by so many wonderful neighbors. The one thing I did know was that Patty and Derek had lived in Sylvan Lake for many years and raised their six children here. We quickly came to know that they would be the kind of neighbors who would bring a home cooked meal when a family member passed away or would clear the driveway of snow while we were away on vacation. I remember many times my kids coming home with a plateful of Patty's homemade cookies or Patty offering to watch my kids during an emergency. It is because of families like the Hampsons that make our neighborhood the friendly place that it is.



Derek and Patty Hampson on their Wedding Day

If you do not know the Hampsons I am certain you have noticed their home (adjacent to the basketball court at the corner of Hillside and W. Sylvan) which is always beautifully decorated and lit up with colorful lights at every major holiday. I don't think they ever skipped a year of decorating in all the years I lived there. It would also be difficult not to recognize the house because Patty lines the yard with many colorful potted flowers beginning every Spring. I'm not sure what her secret is but I know that my potted flowers never lasted as long as hers did during the long, hot summers.

The Hampsons recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary so it seemed a perfect time to

ask them if they would answer some questions so we could learn more about their family but also get a little bit of Sylvan lake history. I sent them some questions and they provided some very interesting and insightful responses. I hope you enjoy reading them as much as I did. Even if you know the Hampsons, I hope that you learn something new about their family and about Sylvan Lake.

Here are the questions along with their responses:

PDLC - When and where were you both born?

PH - Chicago 7/19/1951

DH - Chicago 12/28/1949

PDLC - Do you have any siblings?

PH - I have two sisters

DH - I have one brother

PDLC - It seems like most of your kids are athletic and also love the outdoors. What would you attribute that to?

DH- We credit the interest in sports to growing up with neighbor kids who were usually outdoors playing pick-up games in the parks.

PDLC - What is your favorite or most interesting memory from your childhood, teen years and/or college?

DH - We met in high school and have been together ever since.

PDLC - I hear you just celebrated your 50th wedding anniversary. Any secrets or advice you'd like to share with our younger community about keeping a long, happy marriage?

DH - The years have gone by so fast that we really haven't taken time to think about this. But we have received lots of answered prayers and help from family and friends over the years.

PDLC - When did you move to Sylvan Lake and why did you choose to live here?

DH - We moved to Sylvan Lake after we married

Continued on next page

in 1972. We bought Patty's Grandparents' (Suzanne and Patrick McCarthy) one-bedroom cottage (built in 1923) which was on the same lot that our house is on now.

PDLC - How many children and grandchildren do you have?

DH - We have 6 adult kids: Shawn, Dave, Jenny, Pete, Kate and Suzy. We also have 14 grandkids. Our daughter Jen Crow and her family live a few houses down the road from us.



Derek and Patty Hampson with their 6 adult children and spouses and their 14 grandkids

PDLC - What are one or more of your favorite memories raising your children here in Sylvan Lake?

PH - Being able to run our DCFS licensed daycare from our home which allowed me to be home with our kids, neighborhood gatherings, graduations and significant birthday parties, watching our kids enjoy the multiple Sylvan Lake parks and easements, holidays, taking our kids' neighborhood friends on family vacations and building our family cabin in Northern Minnesota

PDLC - Was there something Sylvan Lake residents did back when you first moved here that you wish we still did today?

PH - There was a time when the neighborhood moms dressed in their pajamas and would knock on my door early in the morning to join them for breakfast with their kids at someones house.

PDLC - How has Sylvan Lake changed (good or bad) since you moved here?

PH - After moving here from Chicago we were

surprised to feel so welcome to the neighborhood. We knew a few of the neighbors from spending summer weekends at the cottage and they introduced us to so many of the families we still know today.

Our neighbors were and are such a blessing. For example, when we were expecting our first child, Jane Finerty came over with a big box of maternity clothes. She said "Karen is #8 and our family is complete!"

DH - Another time and shortly after moving to Sylvan Lake, John Ford told me that he had a collection of tools that I was welcome to use! Coming from Chicago to this kind of neighborliness was unheard of.

PDLC - My sister remembers playing volleyball with Derek and a group of teens when she was younger. Can you tell me more about that?

DH - Back then (late 1970's) a number of the captains of the Sylvan Lake volleyball teams were from a high school boys club that John Scharff and I ran at our church. The guys who were from Sylvan Lake would play pick-up games in Bjorkland Park after school. After a while we thought we would organize some teams and get the whole community involved. At that time the Jr. High and High School players came from family names such as: Finerty, Ford, Kukla, Oliver, Grant, Sweeney, Benedeck, Dickenson, Barr, Bellinder, O'Reilly, Hanson, Boyd, Tonkery, Metz and others. Additionally, John Ford, Tom Finerty, myself and other neighbors were instrumental in setting up the volleyball and basketball courts as well as the light in Bjorkland park.

PDLC - What is or has been your career?

PH - I was a home daycare provider for 40+ years

DH - I am an Electrical Engineer/Program Manager

PDLC - What would you say are some of your current hobbies or interests?

PH - Remodeling our house, cooking/baking goodies and spending time with our grandkids

DH - Photography, Intelligent Design, Working to attain status of Hallmark Husband, Level -One (Level five is the best)!

PDLC - Patty, what is one thing about Derek people may find surprising to know? Derek, what is one thing about Patty people may find surprising/interesting to know?

PH - Derek was a Kirk of the Lake Presbyterian Church Session member, has been a member of the Sylvan Lake board and was a Sunday school teacher for 40+ years!

DH - As a child Patty and her sisters modeled and worked making hats for their grandmother’s millinery shop “Hats By Sue” located in Chicago. As teenagers they worked at their father’s bowling alley River Rand Bowl in Des Plaines. Patty was also a Vacation Bible School Teacher and a Sylvan Lake Garden Club member.

PDLC - If you asked your kids to mention something about your involvement in the community when they were younger, what would they say?

DH - Our kids remember Carp-O-Rama, Capture the flag and kickball in the park, Ice Hockey, Fourth of July fireworks at the beach, Octoberfest, Volleyball league and swimming. They say that Sylvan Lake was always the place where all their friends would hang out. Our son Shawn remembers all the cool Sylvan Lake t-shirts and the contests we ran to design them. Some of those t-shirts were volleyball t-shirts. People would drop off drawings at our house and the volleyball captains would vote on the best design.

PDLC - Knowing what you know now, what’s one piece of advice you’d give to your younger self?

DH - Patty, you were right when you decided to “Trust in the Lord with all your heart....and He will direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6

PDLC - Before we close, is there anything else you can think of that you would like people to know?

PH - Our friends since high school John and Betty Scharff were in our wedding (see photo), were married a few weeks later and purchased their first home here in Sylvan Lake. They still live in the same house. Also, Carol and John Ford lived next door to us and I believe she started the Fourth of July Parade, the Volleyball ice-cream social, Santa’s visit



John and Betty Scharff (current residents of Sylvan Lake) at Derek and Patty’s Wedding

and swimming lessons. They always got Derek and I involved with our kids and theirs helping with all these events. They both have since passed away but left lots of good memories. John and Carol Ford and their family have been such great neighbors. We are so fortunate to have Sam and Kathy (Sam is the son of Carol and John and Kathy is Sam’s wife) next door to us in the Ford house!

SLIA Board

- President.....Dan Trahan
- Vice President.....Cliff Gartner
- Treasurer.....Ed Meltzer
- Secretary.....Jeremy Vale
- Parks & Easements ... Sarah Owen, Kimberly Del Bene
- LakeTom Truffer
- BeachPeter Lind
- RecreationLaurie MacKay

Garden Club

- President.....Tammie Trahan
- Vice President.....Kathy Ford
- Treasurer.....Kelly Dickenson
- Secretary.....Irene Flora

Board Members

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Jen Crow | Nancy Hanson |
| Lauren Rollinger | Jen Scharff |
| Olga Zavialov | Karen Finerty |
| Debbie Pomazal | Nancy Brashear |
| Mariann Mortensen | Wendy Kjeldbjerg |

Newsletter Designed and Edited by

- | | |
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| Melissa Kitzmiller | Andrew Kitzmiller |