



*For immediate release*

## Living and Working in “God’s Country”

*Battle Lake, MN, August 25, 2009* -- Relocating your family can be a very difficult decision in life. Moving your family to the place you have always dreamed to live is not as difficult. Chad and Shannon Schaefer made that move about three years ago relocating to West Battle Lake. Chad is a native of Fairmont, Minnesota and Shannon grew up in Fergus Falls. They lived and worked in the Twin Cities for 13 years before making the move.

Shannon and Chad feel very fortunate to have been able to move closer to family, live on the lake in “God’s Country”, yet have Chad’s job in the Twin Cities. As a telecommuter, Chad manages software implementation with Paisley, a Plymouth-based software firm. He occasionally travels to client sites, but estimates about 80% of his time is spent at his home office on West Battle Lake, using conference calls and virtual room sessions to connect with the various project team members over the Internet.

“I have the flexibility to live where I choose primarily because my clients are located around the U.S.” said Chad. “We leverage technology to have open communications and remote working sessions.”

Chad’s work day often starts at 6:30 a.m. or earlier. However, after pouring his morning coffee, he has a mere one-minute commute instead of a three-hour daily commute to the Plymouth office. “Our family life has improved 100% since moving to Battle Lake,” Shannon adds. “We have lunch and dinners together and family bonding time nearly every day; whereas in the Cities, with crazy schedules and commute time, family time was limited to the weekends.”

For Shannon, a stay-at-home mom, there have been unlimited opportunities to be involved and meet people, through church, the community and school functions. “There is a growing 25+ year old population in Battle Lake and that’s exciting. Battle Lake is a town with energy and amazing people,” the Schaefers added. They feel the Battle Lake school is top-notch and they are thrilled to be sending their kids to a school with opportunities. Shannon concludes, “I wouldn’t trade moving back to a big city for anything; we are HOME!”

### **About Lakes Area Development Association**

Lakes Area Development Association enables economic development in the lakes area with business expansion services, new investments, and community enhancements while preserving a superb quality of life. Contact LADA at 218-862-5232.