



Bay Lake Breezes

Bay Lake Improvement Association Inc.

www.baylake.org

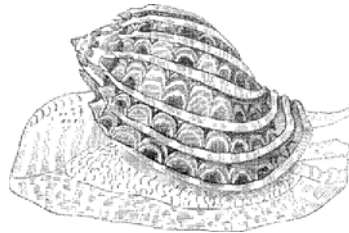
Spring/Summer 2012

Zebra mussels continue their advance

The possibility of a zebra mussel infestation and of dangers from other non-native aquatic invasive species is now more likely than ever. No doubt you have read of this and other related news over the winter. Currently, more than 100 Minnesota lakes are infested with zebra mussels, 12 in Crow Wing County, including Gull and Mille Lacs, and the Mississippi and Pine Rivers. Only 20 Minnesota lakes were infested in 2010. We know boats frequenting infected lakes come to enjoy Bay Lake.

While the state and DNR (Department of Natural Resources) struggle with solutions to these threats, our best defense is to monitor boats coming into Bay Lake. Annually, your lake association contracts with the DNR for interns to help with that monitoring, up to 550 hours this coming summer. However, that covers only about 1/3 of the hours we need to monitor. The remainder of the monitor time must be covered by volunteers, many of whom have been participating in this program for years and likely are your neighbors.

To help us inspect as many boats as possible, I'm asking you to consider committing to four to



eight hours of monitoring over the summer. That doesn't seem like much to give, considering the "cost" we'll all pay if zebras get into Bay Lake. An infestation would greatly impact how we enjoy the lake and, most certainly, diminish our property values. These costs include:

- mussels covering underwater structures, boats, motors and the lake bottom,
- cut feet from sharp mussel shells,
- lower nutrients in the water, resulting in smaller and fewer fish,
- clearer water, resulting in significantly increased weed growth.

More than 100 Bay Lakers have joined the monitor program in recent years, about half the number we need to adequately cover the boat ramp during daylight hours. It may be presumptuous of me to put it this

way, but **now it's your turn to help out.**

The DNR monitor training, which is required of all new volunteers, is scheduled for **Saturday, May 19, at 10 a.m. at Ruttger's Resort.** The session will last about two hours. A second training session will be **July 7**, also at Ruttger's.

To register for the training, please either call (415-497-2838) or e-mail me at philfishing@gmail.com. Additional training sessions are available at other sites and dates. Go to this DNR webpage (or call me) and scroll down on the page to find the dates:

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/watercraft_inspect.html.

If you are already a volunteer and want to refresh your monitoring skills, you are welcome to attend the training.

Many Bay Lakers are contributing to this effort, but only about 15 percent of our cabin owners participate. If half of our cabin owners monitored for four hours each over the entire summer, we would be able to monitor the boat ramp during ALL daylight hours.

I invite you to join in this important project.

Phil Rollins
Public boat ramp monitor
coordinator

A poem to ponder...

Spring has come, summer, too,
 Time to remind you it's time to
 renew (membership),
 Breezes, fireworks, lots of perks!
 The cost is low, so don't be slow,
 Send in today. Don't delay!

I probably won't win any Pulitzer
 Prize for my poetic writing ability
 (or lack thereof), but this is
 simply a way to garner your
 attention to the fact that the
 BLIA needs your new or renewed
 membership dues. Every year we

start out fresh, needing the \$30
 to cover such things as printing,
 mailing, buoy replacement and
 party expenses, plus your
 fireworks donations. All of this
 is to keep you informed about
 what is happening on the lake,
 what the issues are, and what we
 are doing to keep Bay Lake as
 clean and in as good a condition
 as possible. Plus, to have some
 fun during the course of the
 year!

You can mail in your dues to
 BLIA, P.O. Box 461, Deerwood
 56444 or go online to
www.baylake.org and donate
 that way. Whichever you prefer.

So, I am thanking everyone in
 advance for being conscientious
 and supporting our association
 to the best of your ability. Many,
 many thanks!

Betty Marquardt
 Membership Chair

Remembering

We lost several Bay Lakers
 over the winter. Our sympathy
 to the families and friends of:

Jack Betker
 Clarine (Kay) Herda
 Russell Hockman
 Peter Meyer
 Bob Mundt
 Mary Jo Ness
 Kellogg Olson
 John Pfeifer
 Annalee Shekels
 Ruth Von Hoff
 Patricia Williams

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 Souder, Jim Ysseldyke

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 Aquatic plant management.....David Devins
 Beach captains.....Josh Goolsbee
 Breezes.....Bobbie Keller
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 Conservation.....Tamara Johnson, Steve Souder
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 Fireworks.....Gregg Orwoll
 Fishing resources.....Gary Malek
 Government.....Jerry Poland
 History.....Paul Erickson
 Legal advisor.....Mike Kelly
 Membership.....Betty Marquardt
 Nominations.....Patricia Jespersion
 Programs/social.....Open
 Runtilla.....Jim Bye
 Security.....Jim Nelson
 Shoreline protection.....Tiffin Tripp
 Taxes.....Bruce Johnson
 Water quality.....Mark Roloff
 Water safety.....Karl Krueger
 Website.....Scott Shekels, Paul Erickson

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Editor.....Bobbie Keller

Boating safety course June 26 at Ruttger's

Bay Lake and Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge, along with the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Department, will sponsor a boating safety class on Tuesday, June 26, at Ruttger's.

The class will begin at 8:30 a.m. and include classroom training in the morning, followed by on-the-water training in the afternoon.

Graduates will receive their watercraft operator's certificate, which is good in most states. The watercraft operator's certificate allows children ages 13 to 17 to operate a watercraft with a motor over 25 hp, including jet skis. It's also a great idea for more mature skippers who want to broaden their boating knowledge and perhaps receive a discount on their boat insurance. (Many boat insurance companies offer discounts to boat owners who have taken an approved boating safety course.)

There is no charge for the course.

The Sheriff's Department will provide boats and set up a course to train the candidates. The class requires a minimum of 12 participants and a maximum of 25, so sign up quickly to ensure you get a spot!

To register for the course, please contact Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge or Chris Ruttger at chris@ruttgers.com.



Warm weather, little snow this year may encourage EWM, but we're ready

For the past few years the weather has been on our side, after some horrendous years for EWM (Eurasian watermilfoil) growth in Bay Lake in 2005-2008. We prevailed through those tough years and our plan continued to work. Then we caught a break with the weather, and the EWM was almost hard to find last fall. This is why we only had to treat 36 acres in all of 2011.

Oh, but my how times change. Remember over the years when I said we are going to ride through various weather conditions and ups and downs with EWM growth? One factor for keeping EWM in check is good solid snow cover, which we had almost none of this winter. With the warm spring it will be interesting to see what the survey we will conduct in late May reveals. The good news is we are ready for it, and we will successfully address whatever is thrown our way.

We did experiment with liquid 2,4-d last fall and will evaluate how it worked with this spring's survey. The label has changed for application, and if successful, the change will save some cost.

Buddy Diving Service will do the annual spring survey starting later in May, and we will



anticipate chemically treating EWM sites in the latter part of June.

Later in the summer we will be asking you to inspect your shore and dock area for EWM and any signs of zebra mussels. We will send out EWM and zebra mussel ID cards along with a return card asking for feedback. This has been very helpful in the past, so please support it.

The volunteer monitoring program for the public access has taken on an even more important role, as zebra mussels are spreading quickly around the state. The State of Minnesota is getting more aggressive with inspections and fines. We need to cover every hour of the day as the only way to stop zebra mussels. Please volunteer! It's your lake and you might be the one who saves it.

As always, your contributions to the Environmental Protection Fund are appreciated, so please contribute what you can.

David Devins
Aquatic plant management

Calling all Bay Lake children and families

Please join us for the annual Bay Lake Children's Party on Church Island from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 7.

All school-age children, including lake guests, and their families are welcome to come and enjoy games, crafts, prizes and fun! This year we'll have many new activities and crafts. The party is a great get-together for children to meet new friends on the lake.

Come in your own boat or take the shuttle pontoon from Brighton Point. Meet at the flag pole. A light lunch will be served. In case of heavy rain, the party will be cancelled.

There is no cost for association members, but donations to help cover party costs will be accepted.

Parents, other adults and siblings 12 and older are encouraged to help run the party. Please contact Minna Gallagher at 952-474-0329 or minpat@skypoint.com to let her know the number of children coming and to volunteer to lead a pre-planned craft or activity.



Kids had a great time at last year's Bay Lake Children's Party. Bay Lake adults are invited to help lead this year's fun.

Minna is also collecting jar lids and scrap lumber for craft activity.

Volunteers are needed and so appreciated! Come enjoy an afternoon with the children.



Calling all Bay Lake golfers and picnics

Save the date: Saturday, Aug. 11, for the sixth annual Golf Scramble and Picnic benefit at Ruttger's. Proceeds will support the Bay Lake Environmental Protection Fund.

Mark your calendars now. Registration information will be available in July.

Hope to see you there!
George and LaDonna Reynolds
Co-chairs



Join us for the annual fireworks display beginning at 10 p.m. Friday, July 6, from the east end of Ruttger's.

Loads of summer fun in store at Bay Lake Camp

Greetings and welcome to Bay Lake Camp! Come on over and simply walk the paths, bring the kids to the playground, walk the labyrinth, sign up for a camping session, check out the Red Cedar Lodge, see the progress on the Boy Scout end of the island or attend Sunday morning worship. There are all sorts of special things happening on the island this summer:

Sunday worship begins on Memorial Day Sunday, May 27, at 10 a.m. Come by boat or catch the shuttle from the Brighton Point landing beginning at 9:30.

Special Sundays include:

June 24 - Steve Gamble, Gospel recording artist and speaker

July 1 - special music by recording artist Rachel Kurtz and Nate Houge

July 15 - Scandinavian Jazz Quartet from Sweden and Norway

July 29 - Churchyard Grass, Bluegrass group from Crosby

Sept. 2 - Labor Day Sunday worship and fifth annual Send a Kid to Camp Raffle drawing and Arts Jam, complete with music, food and crafts after worship. All summer we will be selling raffle tickets to raise dollars to help send kids to camp. Many beautiful handmade items and donations from local businesses will be included.

Camping sessions open:

Women's Retreat: June 22-24
Elementary (3rd-6th): June 18-22
Junior High: Aug. 6-10
Senior High: July 30-Aug. 3
To register, contact Elizabeth Hanson at First Lutheran Church, 651-776-7210 or VIBEyouth.info@gmail.com.

Youth Performance Company: Aug. 13-17. To register, contact

Julie Magnuson, 651-325-5041 or julieamanda@gmail.com.

Other opportunities at Bay Lake Camp:

- Saturday, May 26, 9 a.m. Come and help put in camp docks and ready the outdoor chapel and paths for worship.
- Saturday, July 7, 10:30 a.m. BLIA Children's Party, lunch included.
- Saturday, July 14, 7 p.m. Scandinavian Jazz Quartet concert on the island. Free-will offering.
- Friday, Aug. 3. Third Annual "Big Swim." Watch for details about this fun event to help raise funds for "Send a Kid to Camp." Info will be posted on the BLIA website and at Hansen's.

And, maybe you have heard about Bay Lake Camp's catering company, Heavenly Day Cafe and Catering? We would love to serve your family and friends this summer. We are available to cater on our island site or deliver to your place. Interested? Call Brenda Olson at 651-247-0360 or Ray Plaskett, Lead Cook, at 651-253-8500. We can do everything from brunch to BBQ, at your place or ours.

Sponsor a camper with a gift of \$250 and help us provide a camping experience for inner city youth and families. Send your check to BLC, 16257 Brighton Point Rd., Deerwood, MN 56444.

On behalf of Bay Lake Camp and First Lutheran Church of St. Paul, thanks for your ongoing support. Have a wonderful summer — we hope to see you on the island!

Brenda Olson - Camp Director
651-247-0360
Carol and Gary Malek
218-394-0016



Tree/Plant Giveaway Saturday, May 26

Looking to spruce up your yard or add more plants to your shoreline?

Come to the annual BLIA Tree/Plant Giveaway from 10 a.m. to Noon Saturday, May 26, in the Lonesome Pine parking lot.

A large assortment of Shoreline Protection Plants will be available. The trees this year will be 3-year-old transplants: 8" to 24" Norway Pines (also known as Red Pines) and for the first time, Black Hills Spruce.

See you there.

Join the fun at the 28th annual Runtilla Aug. 4

Saturday, Aug. 4, is the day to mark on your calendar this year for one of the most popular family events of the summer: the annual Bay Lake Runtilla.

That's when Bay Lakers of all ages run, walk, skate and bike on Brighton Point Road, with family members and other Bay Lakers cheering them on. Weather permitting, between 300 and 600 people come out for the event each year. Last year at least four families had four generations participating, according to Jim Bye, Runtilla founder and coordinator.

This year—the 28th annual—participants will check in near White Hawk beginning at 8:15 a.m. When the starting gun sounds at 9, they'll go 1.55 miles down Brighton Point Road to a marker and return.

Following the awards ceremony, there'll be brats, hot dogs, potato salad and chips for all, compliments of Dennis "Charlie" and Jackie Charles, who were longtime White Hawk owners.

Bay Lakers age 20 and under, and 70 and over, are again invited to submit a design to go on the front of this year's Runtilla t-shirt. The contest annually draws interest from the younger age group but has had only one entry from the 70-and-over category, so Bye especially encouraged people in that age group to get their creative pencils going.

The shirt will also list Runtilla sponsors. Last year a record number of more than 70



sponsors appeared on the shirt. On the back are the names of individuals, families, groups and companies who donate \$50; names of \$250 donors appear on a sleeve and \$1,000 donors, on the front.

"Many thanks to especially our longtime sponsors," said Bye. "Every dollar raised goes to the Bay Lake Environmental

Protection Fund. With last year's donations, we've raised more than \$190,000 since the Runtilla began; our goal is to reach \$200,000 this year."

Design entries, sponsorships, participant entry forms and t-shirt requests should be submitted at Hansen's by July 21. Forms will be available at Hansen's and at www.baylake.org on June 1.

Bye also thanked "Charlie" and Jackie and the many other volunteers who give of their time and effort before and during the Runtilla to make sure the event, including the cookout, runs smoothly.

Bye encouraged everyone to come out.

"The Runtilla is a great way to meet fellow Bay Lakers," he said. "It's also a great way to start a Saturday morning: with a little bit of exercise and fun."



Runners take off at last year's Runtilla.

Come experience some Bay Lake history and share yours

An open house celebrating the 100th year of the Taylor home, a local landmark on Hwy. 6 known as the stone or rock house, will be held on Aug. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Verner C. Taylor (1872-1933) built the family home using a variety of stone masonry techniques to advertise his work. The home place remained in the Taylor family until 1968, when it was sold to Blanch and Denny Moore. Blanch later sold to the Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge, who are the current owners. Kathy Jasperson, Taylor's granddaughter, completed a basic restoration of the home's interior in 2004.

All who have roots in the Bay Lake area are invited to display their heritage and memorabilia within this unique example of pioneer history. Following the



open house, Ruttger's Lodge will host a social hour and dinner beginning at 5 p.m. on Aug. 4.

Further information to come from the Crosby Courier, Aitkin Newshopper, Ruttger's website

and Kathy Jasperson. You can contact Kathy at: home 218-678-2256 cell 651-253-7476 katyj@hotmail.com

Your BLIA membership counts

Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge is one of the many local business that support the Bay Lake Improvement Association and its activities. This summer, to help say thanks and further support the Bay Lake Environmental Protection Fund, the resort is offering these specials for BLIA members:

- \$5 off your regular green fee, plus Ruttger's will contribute an additional \$5 to the Bay Lake Environmental Protection Fund.
- half-price appetizer with the purchase of a dinner or sandwich at the Bear Pine Bar or Zig's.
- 20 percent off regular room rates Sunday-Thursday, based on availability.

Bay Lakers have fun during the Holidays, too

Our 2011 BLIA Holiday Party was held on a beautiful evening last Dec. 10. As usual, our Holiday buffet was superb.

Chris Ruttger welcomed us to the well-decorated lodge after the social hour and the Holiday buffet dinner. Jerry Hendricks, accompanied by Margaret Lunacek on the keyboard, led the BLIA guests and the Bay Lake Choir (everyone is welcome to join, with rehearsal and performance on the spot) in several Holiday songs. Sylvia Graff, using the word "up" (which has the most definitions in the English language), gave a reading at various times throughout the program.

We concluded our program by giving away six beautiful Holiday floral centerpieces by the Celebration Flora Company. They were arranged and donated by owner Donna Murphy, even though she was unable to attend.

A special Thank You to the Ruttger family, Chris Ruttger, Jerry Hendricks, Margaret Lunacek and Donna Murphy for their participation, and a huge THANK YOU to everyone supporting the Holiday Party.

Look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming BLIA Holiday Party on Dec. 8, 2012, in Ruby's Room at Ruttger's.

Sylvia Graff

Bay Lake Breezes
Bay Lake Improvement Association
P.O. Box 461
Deerwood, MN 56444-0461

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Watch for these exciting BLIA events:

May 26 Tree & Plant Giveaway, Lonesome Pine
 10 a.m. to noon
June 30 BLIA Annual Meeting, Ruttger's
 9 a.m. Continental Breakfast
 9:30 a.m. Meeting
July 6 Fireworks, east end of Ruttger's
 10 p.m.
July 7 Bay Lake Children's Party, Church Island
 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Aug. 4 Runtilla, near White Hawk
 9 a.m.
Aug. 11 BLIA Golf Outing and Picnic, Ruttger's
Dec. 8 BLIA Holiday Party, Ruttger's

BLIA Board Meetings, all at 9 a.m.

June 9 Ruttger's
July 21 Ruttger's
Aug. 18 Ruttger's
Sept. 15 Ruttger's
Dec. 8 Lonesome Pine

Everyone is welcome.