



# Bay Lake Breezes

Bay Lake

Improvement Association Inc.

[www.baylake.org](http://www.baylake.org)

Spring/Summer 2013

## Our late spring may have been good for Bay Lake

Is there an upside to the long winter? I'm thinking yes. It will reduce the growing season of Eurasian watermilfoil and delay the onslaught of boat launches into Bay Lake, perhaps reducing the likelihood of zebra mussels being brought into the lake. How's that for a positive attitude?

### Highlights of the past six months

- Although the state legislature is still in session and several Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)-related bills have been proposed, at this time it does not appear that BLIA (Bay Lake Improvement Association) will receive any financial or other support from the state.
- DNR (Department of Natural Resources) will offer the same programs as in recent years.
- Crow Wing County has organized the hiring and assigning of Class 1 inspectors for various lakes within the county, with lake associations paying for the inspectors.
- BLIA will continue our volunteer monitor program.
- Bay Lake Township is installing a gate at the rough public access point off Brighton Point Road.

### More Class 1 inspectors

The cost of inspecting boats and monitoring boat ramps continues to fall almost entirely on lake associations like ours. For the coming season, it is estimated we will spend up to \$17,000 on DNR-trained Class 1 inspectors.

DNR will continue recent programs, including some "complimentary" inspector hours, monitor training and the operation of a handful of mobile decontamination stations posted at different points around the state.

At the county level, however, there is really good news: Crow Wing County has hired and assigned as many as six Class 1 inspectors to the Bay Lake public ramp. We anticipate they will monitor our main public



access weekly, every Thursday through Sunday. Class 1 inspectors have the authority to board a boat and, if evidence of AIS is found, send the boat to be decontaminated. Details are still being sorted out, but I feel very positive about this increased level of inspection for Bay Lake.

As part of our continuing efforts to have all incoming and outgoing boats inspected at the main public ramp on Battle Point Road, last fall BLIA asked the Bay Lake Township to consider installing a gate at an unmonitored lake access point off Brighton Point Road. This gate will essentially close the access to boats in summer, while allowing winter access for snowmobiles and ice fishermen. The township board held a public hearing on the matter last October; many Bay Lakers attended and spoke in support of the request. Over the winter, the township board



## Can BLIA membership reach 600?

I know that Spring will eventually arrive — we would hope by the time you have received the Breezes. I also hope the ice is out of the lake by then!

We have a big challenge this year: One of our board members

has indicated that he wants to see us reach a total of 600 members in 2013. We've always managed to come in close to 500, so this is a big jump and a wonderful goal to have. I've heard that there are a fair number of Bay lake owners

who routinely do not join the BLIA. That is a disappointment to me, as I feel that it's a great organization that is trying to keep our lake clean and as free from invasive species as possible.

So, I am asking everyone on the lake to encourage anyone who has not joined in the past to do so now, along with children, relatives, friends or enemies! We need all the help we can get, and you are the ones to do it.

Your \$30 yearly dues pay for the twice-yearly publication of the Breezes, printing and mailing of BLIA event promotions, placement and replacement of the buoys, printing of the decals, and the upkeep of our database. We have not raised the dues amount for quite a few years, feeling that we want to be as fiscally responsible as possible, and that we do not want the dues amount to keep anyone from being able to join.

So remember: 600 is our goal. See you at the Annual Meeting!

Betty Marquardt  
Membership Chair

### Bay Lake Camp wish list

Perennial flowers and native plants (if you divide yours, remember BLC!)  
Raspberry and blackberry plants for the Folk School gardens  
Leftover tile or paving brick (especially used for an upcoming mosaic/labyrinth project)  
Sliding compound miter saw  
Long bar clamps  
John Deere gator transport or similar

#### Officers

President.....Dominic Ciresi  
Vice President.....Bruce Johnson  
Secretary.....Jim Ysseldyke  
Co-Treasurers.....Chris Gondeck, Sylvia Graff

#### Directors

Rick Bale, David Devins, Chris Gondeck, Josh Goolsbee, Bruce Johnson, Tamara Johnson, Bobbie Keller, Gary Malek, Phil Rollins, Chris Ruttger, Steve Souder, Jim Ysseldyke

#### Committee Chairs

Access monitoring.....Phil Rollins  
Aquatic plant management.....David Devins  
Beach captains.....Josh Goolsbee  
Breezes.....Bobbie Keller  
Church camp liaisons.....Gary & Carol Malek  
Conservation.....Tamara Johnson, Steve Souder  
Continuity.....Ruth Hansen  
Env. Protection Fund.....Dominic Ciresi  
Fireworks.....Gregg Orwoll  
Fishing resources.....Gary Malek  
Government.....Open  
History.....Paul Erickson  
Legal advisor.....Mike Kelly  
Membership.....Betty Marquardt  
Nominations.....Chris Ruttger  
Programs/social.....Open  
Runtilla.....Jim Bye, Steve Souder  
Security.....Larry Latourneau  
Shoreline protection.....Tiffin Tripp  
Taxes.....Bruce Johnson  
Water quality.....Open  
Water safety.....Karl Krueger  
Website.....Scott Shekels, Paul Erickson

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Website: [www.baylake.org](http://www.baylake.org)

Editor.....Bobbie Keller

## Long winter frustrated us, but should slow EWM growth this year

If there is any good news about this past winter, it's that the EWM (Eurasian watermilfoil) should be fairly light this year. The heavy snow cover all winter and late ice-out should slow EWM growth, which will be an advantage to native species during the upcoming growing season.

We have been fortunate the last several years to have the weather on our side, making our efforts to control EWM that much easier. The way we conduct our treatments in years like this allows the native species to fill in and actually crowd out EWM.

In 2012 we treated 55 acres using liquid 2,4-d. The treatments and our plan continue to be very effective, and we will work the same plan again. Buddy Divers will do a full lake survey starting around Memorial Day, and Lake Restoration will conduct a treatment at the end of June. They will survey again around Labor Day and do treatments in the first part of October.

### **Please sign approval form**

We are required to have your authorization to chemically treat for EWM, and we need your approval again. You should have received a letter from the BLIA asking for your signature authorizing the association to chemically treat along your shoreline out to 150 feet.

**Without this approval we will not treat along your shore.** In the past your response to this request has been fantastic. There will be only one mailing, so please respond ASAP by sending your authorization in the stamped return envelope. This approval

will be good for five years this time.

Later this summer we will be asking you to inspect your shoreline for EWM and zebra mussels and to report back. Your response has been very helpful in the past, and I expect it will be again this season.

### **Monitoring for AIS**

Our volunteer program to monitor the public access for Aquatic Invasive Species will continue. Phil and Jane Rollins are doing a great job with this program to keep zebra mussels out of Bay Lake and need your help. EWM is very controllable, but zebra mussels are not. Your efforts volunteering at the public access might just save the lake from an ecological disaster.

Your support over the years has been fantastic and the reason we have been able to do what we

have done. Please continue to support the Bay Lake Improvement Association Environmental

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***EWM is very controllable, but zebra mussels are not. Your efforts volunteering at the public access might just save the lake from an ecological disaster.***

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Protection Fund with your donations, and if you're able, please volunteer to inspect watercraft at the public access.

We have a wonderful community that really cares and has always been willing to pitch in to support efforts to keep Bay Lake the way we all remember it. Thank you.

David Devins  
Aquatic plant management

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### **AIS monitoring, cont. from Page 1**

approved the proposal, and BLIA is providing the financial support to pay for the gate and its installation.

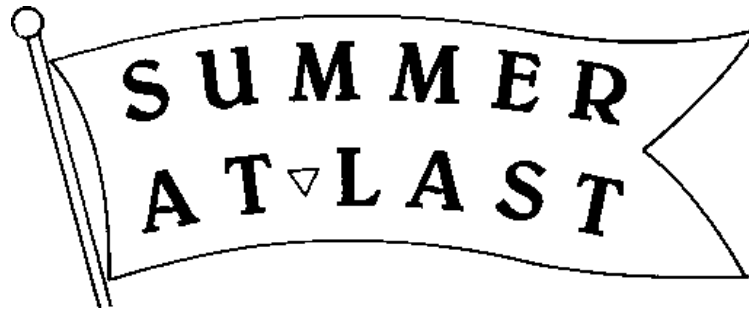
Last but not least, many of our volunteer monitors have indicated that they will put in some hours again on the public boat ramp. However, we never have enough and continue to seek new volunteers willing to give two to four hours over the summer — not much to ask considering the ramifications of zebra mussels or other AIS finding their way into Bay Lake.

Keep in mind that more than 100 Minnesota lakes and waters are now infested with zebra mussels — 12 in Crow Wing County alone, including Gull, Mille Lac, and the

Mississippi and Pine Rivers. Only 20 Minnesota lakes were infested just two years ago. That's a 500 percent increase! And from our monitors' data, we know boaters who frequent infected waters bring their boats to Bay Lake. We are at risk and could use more help.

To those of you supporting our AIS programs with your time or money or both, thank you from all Bay Lakers. If you aren't part of these efforts, please consider joining us. We'd love to have you! Contact me, using the info below.

Phil Rollins  
Public boat ramp monitor coordinator  
(218) 678-2898 - cabin  
(415) 497-2838 - cell  
[philfishing@gmail.com](mailto:philfishing@gmail.com)



## Save these dates for special fun

### 2nd Annual Bay Lake Amazing Race — July 27

With all the fantastic support from the teams in 2012, and requests for a repeat in 2013, the second annual Bay Lake Amazing Race will be held on July 27.

Create a four-person team for this fun event on Bay Lake. Again, teams will participate in 10 challenges/events at different locations. Entry fee is \$40 (\$10 per person), and start time is 10 a.m. The actual time involved is approximately two hours, with a gathering at The Lonesome Pine afterwards for the award ceremony and goodies.

Anyone interested in creating a team should notify Nancy

LaTourneau (612-240-5959) or Lisa Gray (218-851-9085) for more information. Volunteers at each station are needed, so call for that information as well. Entry forms will be available online at [www.baylake.org](http://www.baylake.org) or at Hansen's.

Don't miss your opportunity to be an Amazing Race sponsor. Consider a donation of \$50 or more to the BLIA Environmental Protection Fund to assure the name of your choice on the backside of the Amazing Race t-shirt. Call for that information, too.

### 7th Annual Golf Scramble and Picnic Aug. 10

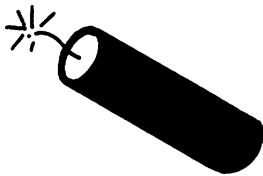
Mark your calendars now for Saturday, Aug. 10. The seventh annual Golf Scramble and Picnic Benefit at Ruttger's is coming soon!

Proceeds will support the Bay Lake Improvement Association Environmental Protection Fund. Registration information will be available in July.

We hope you will join us and bring your family and friends. Everyone is welcome!

George and LaDonna Reynolds  
Co-chairs

### Annual Children's Party — July 13



### Fireworks — July 5

**Join us for the annual fireworks display beginning at 10 p.m. (dusk) Friday, July 5, from the east end of Ruttger's.**

Mark your calendars now to bring the whole family to Church Island on Saturday morning, July 13, from 10 a.m. to noon for the annual Bay Lake Improvement Association's Children's Party!

This year, the event will be coordinated and hosted by the Bay Lake Camp staff. We thank Minna Gallagher and her whole family for all the work they've put into creating such a great event the last several years.

Beginning at 10 a.m., bring over the whole crew by boat, or catch a shuttle from Bay Lake Camp's mainland access point at 16257 Brighton Point Road. Kids can

choose from a number of interactive game stations led by Bay Lake Camp High School summer interns and other great volunteers. We will have favorite classics and some new games, too (anyone have a dunk tank?). The event will conclude with a free picnic lunch, and while you're there, check out the playground, labyrinth and walking trails of Church Island.

Feel like helping out for a couple of hours to put smiles on Bay Lake kids' faces? Contact Bay Lake Camp Director Brenda Olson at 651-247-0360 to join the fun. See you soon on the Island!

# A busy summer ahead at Bay Lake Camp

Greetings and welcome to Bay Lake Camp (affectionately known as Church Island up north)! While writing this article, we (imp)patiently wait for this year's long spring thaw. But all of us, I know, are looking forward to summer and all the activity it brings to Bay Lake and Church Island. Right now we are rearranging the schedule for some of our early spring groups that couldn't get to the island at the end of April, and we hope to see you at some of our summer's most important get-togethers. Make Bay Lake Camp part of your family's summer plans, and join us for any or all of the following:

**Sunday worship** begins on Memorial Day Sunday, May 26, at 10 a.m. and runs through Labor Day Weekend. Come by boat or catch the shuttle from the Brighton Point landing beginning at 9:30.

**Special Sundays** include:

**May 26** - Opening worship, led by Pastor Chris Berthelsen

**June 30** - Churchyard Grass, Bluegrass group from Crosby

**July 7** - First Lutheran Church Congregational and Heritage Sunday

**July TBA** - Special musical guests include Ante Hogue and Rachel Kurtz

**Sept. 1** - Labor Day Sunday worship and sixth annual Send-a-Kid-to-Camp Auction and Arts Jam, complete with music, food and crafts after worship. Many beautiful handmade items and donations from local businesses will be included.

**Open camping sessions:**

Women's Retreat: July 19-21  
Contact Pastor Chris Berthelsen (651-247-8926) or [pastorchrist@mac.com](mailto:pastorchrist@mac.com)

Women's Stitch and Craft Retreat: Aug. 16-19

Contact Keli Moffat (651-786-6653) or

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

Family Camp Weekends: May 24-27, June 14-16, Aug. 9-11, Aug. 30-Sept. 2

Elementary (3rd-6th): July 15-19

Junior High: July 29-Aug. 2  
Senior High: July 11-14 (15-19 as jr. counselor)

Contact Sarah Grans (612-280-5517) or [sarahgrans@gmail.com](mailto:sarahgrans@gmail.com)/  
[www.baylakecamp.com](http://www.baylakecamp.com)

Youth Theater Camp/Youth

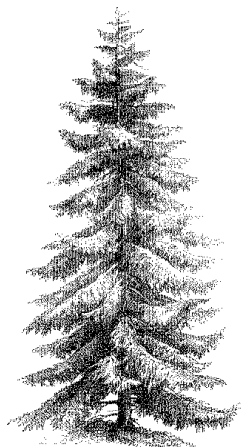
Performance Company: Aug.

12-16. Contact Julie Magnuson, 651-325-5041 or

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

Folk School Sampler Weekends: June 22, July 20, Aug. 17

Come try out a class and learn how to bake bread, preserve food from our (or your own) garden, or help us finish our new wood-fired pizza oven. Sign up on Sunday mornings after worship or call 651-247-0360 and ask Brenda to sign up your family for a class. Our Island Folk School gives everyone a chance to try out a new craft or skill that connects hands-on activities to lifelong learning. It's a great way to spend time with family on the Island!



**Other opportunities at BLC:**

- Saturday, May 25, 9 a.m. Come and help put in camp docks and ready the outdoor chapel and paths for worship.
- Saturday, July 13, 10-12 noon BLIA Children's Party, lunch included.
- Friday, July 26, 3 p.m. Fourth Annual "Big Swim." Meet at the Camp Landing on Brighton Point Road and then swim, kayak, canoe or float around Church Island, with picnic dinner to follow. Look for more details about this fun event to help raise funds for "Send a Kid to Camp" on the BLIA website and at Hansen's.
- Come on over and simply walk the paths, bring the kids to the playground, walk the labyrinth, sign up for a camping session or Folk School Class, check out the Red Cedar Lodge, see the progress on our new Island Folk School (our old Boy Scout Camp) and Gardens or attend Sunday morning worship.

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.

See you on the Island,  
All your Friends at Bay Lake  
Camp on Church Island



## Looking forward to another great Runtilla July 20

Whether you run, walk, bike, skate or stand on the sidelines to cheer, you can be part of the fun at the 29th annual Runtilla on Saturday, July 20.

As always, registration will begin at 8:15 a.m., and the starting gun will sound at 9. Participants will go 1.55 miles down Brighton Point Road to a marker and return.

The top three male and female runners in each of nine age-group categories will receive awards. Following the awards ceremony participants and their supporters will enjoy brats, hot dogs, potato salad and chips, compliments of Dennis “Charlie” and Jackie Charles, who were longtime White Hawk owners.

The event has become a tradition for many Bay Lakers, with several multi-generational families joining in the fun. Last year the crowd numbered between 500 and 550, according to Jim Bye, Runtilla founder and coordinator.

“We’re so pleased that the people of Bay Lake seem to like the event and support it,” he said. “And we’re always excited about people who contribute sponsorships. A \$50 sponsorship is as welcome as a larger amount. Every dollar raised goes directly to the Bay Lake Environmental Protection Fund.”

A \$50 contribution earns the sponsor a mention on the back of the Runtilla t-shirt, while a \$250 donation secures a place



**Runners round the corner toward the finish line at last year’s Runtilla.**

on a sleeve and \$1,000 or more, space on the front.

Last year the t-shirt listed 56 sponsors, whose contributions brought the total raised over the history of the event to \$196,000, well within reach of a milestone \$200,000.

Again this year Bay Lakers age 20 and under, and 70 and over, are invited to submit an original design to go on the front of the t-shirt. Bri Shekels designed the front of last year’s shirt.

Design entries, sponsorships, participant entry forms and t-shirt requests should be submitted at Hansen’s by Saturday, July 13. Forms will be available at Hansen’s and at [www.baylake.org](http://www.baylake.org) by Memorial Day Weekend.

Bye thanked Lynn Hansen, Charlie and Jackie Charles and the 29 other volunteers who help make the Runtilla run smoothly every year.

“We couldn’t do it without them,” he said.

Noting the longtime enthusiasm Bay Lakers have shown for the event, he added, “We should have another great year.”

### **Help a child experience the out-of-doors — through Bay Lake Camp**

Interested in sponsoring a child at camp this season?

A gift of \$250 will provide a camping experience of a lifetime! Send your check to: Bay Lake Camp, 16257 Brighton Pt. Rd., Deerwood, MN 56444.

Thanks!

## Good news — and a challenge

The BLIA Board of Directors thanks all the generous donors to the Environmental Protection Fund last year. Your gift allows us to continue to treat Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) and continue our monitoring work at the public access.

Our monitoring work is vital in the attempt to keep zebra mussels out of our lake. This year, under the auspices of Crow Wing County, we will have Class 1 inspectors, who can turn infested boats away, at the landing Thursdays through Sundays. This is wonderful news!

However, it also comes with a significant cost: \$13 per hour from sunrise to sunset. As you can see, the cost quickly multiplies.

Our work fighting to keep EWM in check and zebra mussels out of the lake not only protects your property values, it also allows future generations the chance to make meaningful memories at Bay Lake. If you have not given before, please consider a gift. If you have given before, thanks again, and please consider an increase if feasible.

Thank you!

Dominic Ciresi

## Propane seasonal rate tip

Last fall I became aware that if you inform Lakes Gas Company that you have property on Bay Lake, Lakes Gas will give you a Lake Association discount price, which is a few cents less than the seasonal rates.

If you lock in the propane seasonal rate, it ends on March 31, 2014. If you prepay the propane seasonal rate, it will be extended until Aug. 31, 2014.

A few cents always helps. Thank you, Lakes Gas, from the BLIA.

Sylvia Graff

## Holiday fun

The 2012 BLIA Holiday Party was held on Dec. 8. As always, the Holiday buffet was excellent.

Chris Ruttger welcomed us after the social hour and Holiday buffet dinner. Jerry Hendricks, accompanied by Margaret Lunacek on the keyboard, led the Bay Lake choir and guests in singing Holiday songs. We all sang the Scandinavian song “O Lutefisk, O Lutefisk.”

A special thank you to Chris Ruttger and the Ruttger family, Jerry Hendricks, Margaret Lunacek, and Donna Murphy for her Holiday arrangements that she again donated from her Celebration Flora Company. The winners were able to enjoy them long after our event.

Look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming Holiday Party on Dec. 14, 2013, in Ruby’s Room at Ruttger’s. Mark your calendars.

Sylvia Graff

## Please keep us informed

The Bay Lake Improvement Association has had requests to let as many BLIA members as possible know when a past or present Bay Lake community member is deceased. Some of us do not hear about the sadness for months or years.

As a service to our members, we will try to inform as many BLIA members as possible of the passing of a Bay Lake community member by e-mail.

Please have a family member or friend contact Lynn Hansen at (218) 678-2051, and Lynn will have Paul Erickson e-mail members. Once the information is published in the newspaper, it is public and we can publish it.

Thank you.

Sylvia Graff

## Remembering

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

Dennis Gaffney  
Paul Gooding  
Joan Hanson  
Bernard Hofschulte  
Alice (Sue) Keller  
Lloyd Kohlen  
James Owens  
Jean Quist  
Ron Randall  
Don Safe, Sr.  
Howard Shekels  
Ada Tietz  
John Walsh

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## Watch for these exciting BLIA events:

May 25 Tree & Plant Giveaway, Lonesome Pine  
10 a.m. to noon  
July 5 Fireworks, east end of Ruttger's  
10 p.m.  
July 6 BLIA Annual Meeting, Ruttger's  
9 a.m. Continental Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. Meeting  
July 13 Bay Lake Children's Party, Church Island  
10 a.m. to noon  
July 20 Runtilla, near White Hawk  
8:15 a.m. Registration  
9 a.m. Race start  
July 27 Amazing Race  
10 a.m.  
Aug. 10 BLIA Golf Outing and Picnic, Ruttger's  
Dec. 14 BLIA Holiday Party, Ruttger's

### **BLIA Board Meetings**

May 18, 9 a.m. Ruttger's  
June 8, 9 a.m. Ruttger's  
July 13, 9 a.m. Ruttger's  
Aug. 17, 9 a.m. Ruttger's  
Sept. 14, 9 a.m. Ruttger's  
Dec. 14, 11 a.m. Lonesome Pine  
Everyone is welcome.

### **Tree/Plant Giveaway Saturday, May 25**

After our long winter, it's time to give your yard or your shoreline a treat.

Come to the annual BLIA Tree/Plant Giveaway from 10 a.m. to Noon Saturday, May 25, rain or shine, in the Lonesome Pine parking lot.

Please bring one or more containers to carry your plants home in. Plants will be available **beginning at 10 a.m.**, no earlier. See you there.