

Three cheers for the volunteers

Think back to one of those warm, pleasant July early mornings. Many of us would be having our first cup of coffee, starting to think about breakfast for the family visiting for the weekend and what fun activities we'll partake in later. For some Bay Lakers, however, early morning meant a two-hour shift on the public access, inspecting boats coming into and leaving Bay Lake. Twenty-five of our neighbors spent time doing exactly this over the summer, mostly early morning and late afternoon. The group was outstanding, taking on 107 shifts of at least two hours, for a total of more than 215 inspection hours.

Changes in the county-managed inspector program and a shortage of those inspectors resulted in a significant reduction in paid inspector hour from prior years. This decline in protection triggered the reestablishment of the volunteer inspection program.

And there is more good news. Over the summer, we tested the water, searched below the surface with divers, examined docks and lifts, checked zebra mussel detectors and inspected thousands of boats coming into and leaving Bay, and the DNR (Department of Natural

Resources) checked dozens of docks and lifts on dry land. Other than a mysterious September find of a single zebra mussel shell, there have been no other sightings. As of this date, the DNR does not believe there is a zebra mussel infestation in Bay Lake, and we can breathe a sigh of relief.

Thank you to the many BLIA members who contribute to the BLIA Environmental Protection Fund, which pays for AIS

prevention and milfoil treatment. Please keep the fund in mind as you consider year-end tax planning.

And a final thank you to the many BLIA volunteers, whose time and energy help make Bay Lake such a special place. Please turn to Page 3 for a list of the many volunteers who spent time inspecting boats on the public access this summer.

Phil Rollins
AIS Prevention Coordinator



Runners triumphantly cross the line under a new Start/Finish sign during the 33rd annual Runtilla. Story on Page 4.

Zebra mussels found in Serpent Lake. Story on Page 3.

A message from your president

As we close out another great summer at the lake, I hope all of you enjoyed the various events and activities sponsored by the Bay Lake Improvement Association. Your support and participation continue to make BLIA one of the strongest and foremost lake associations in the

state, recognized as such by the many governmental entities and other associations we work with. Thank you to the many volunteers who donate their time and efforts to make this happen.

I also thank all of you for your continued financial contributions, which make it possible to carry out

the many tasks that BLIA takes on each year to make our lake one of the finest in the state. Our continued fight against Eurasian watermilfoil and zebra mussels, along with a host of other aquatic invasive species, is ongoing and will continue for years to come. Your association is in excellent shape, both financially and organizationally; my sincere thanks for your continued membership and donations, which are what make this possible and keep our association moving forward.

I hope you all had a great summer and have an enjoyable winter season as well. If you have questions, comments or suggestions for your association, please feel free to contact me via my e-mail address below.

Hoping to see you on the lake next year,

Bruce Johnson, President
bruce@baylakerealty.com

BLIA 2017 dues still welcome

Snow, what do you think? Is it too late to send in your membership dues, now that we have seen that white stuff covering the ground, much earlier than usual? NEVER! We will happily receive your dues all year long, snow or no snow! The easiest and quickest way to do so is to go online to www.baylake.org, click a few times and you are done! If, however, you prefer to mail it in, send it to BLIA, P.O. Box 461, Deerwood, MN 56444. And don't forget to donate to the fireworks. It all helps.

A big thank you to those who have once again supported our association by already becoming members. It is truly appreciated.

See you in the spring — once that white stuff disappears!

Betty Marquardt, Membership
(218) 678-2417
mbmarquardt@msn.com

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Editor.....Bobbie Keller

EWM control program continues successfully

This year we continued our program to control Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) in Bay Lake as we have since 1992. We conducted a spring survey and then treated 16.3 acres in June. We did a survey again around Labor Day, with a treatment of 39.9 acres the first week of October.

The treatments last fall and again this spring were very effective. Fall treatments work the best, and spring/summer treatments have had mixed results over the years. We mostly treat potential traffic and access areas in the spring and larger/more sites in the fall. With the wet summer, growth of the EWM was not as

aggressive this year as some years, and the native plants were very healthy. Our goal has always been to not let EWM be the dominant plant in the lake, and we have done just that.

As a reminder, we are not collecting signatures any longer; we are working on the assumption that it is OK to treat your shoreline unless we hear from you that it is not. Each year we will survey the lake in late May/early June, with a treatment in late June, and then do another survey around Labor Day, with a treatment in the first part of October. This will be posted in the spring and fall issues of the Breezes each year

and on the Bay Lake website approximately a week before we treat in the spring and fall. We will also send an e-mail blast to everyone on our list before each treatment notifying all of our plans.

Thanks to all for your support. We are able to control EWM in Bay Lake, and it's because of all of you contributing and supporting the program.

David Devins
Aquatic plant management

Zebra mussels now on Serpent Lake

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has confirmed zebra mussels in Serpent Lake, according to a DNR news release dated Oct. 30.

A lake service provider business contacted the DNR after workers found several suspected zebra mussels on a dock they were removing. DNR invasive species specialists also confirmed zebra mussels attached to vegetation hanging from a removed dock about 1.3 miles away, at the Highway 6/210 public access.

With the dreaded invasive species now so close to Bay Lake, it's more important than ever to be vigilant and do what we can to avoid having zebra mussels take residence on our beloved lake.

Thanks, volunteer inspectors!

We are grateful to these committed Bay Lakers who spent some of their "lake time" on the public access and offer our sincere thanks. Please extend yours when you see them.

Denny Arons
LeAnn Brecht
Corky and Chuck Carlson
Nancy Glass
George Johnson*
Kathy and Arvid Johnsen
Sandy Johnson
Brandt Keefe*
Marilys and Bill Keefe
Sue Mathews
Mike Mirau*
Dan Mulheran

John Mulheran
Dave Perry
Phil Rollins
MaryBeth Sorenson
Dave Stark
Roger Stark*
Jack Strobel*
Jodi and Frank Tonnemaker
Mike Wachter
Jerry Wilhelm

*10 or more shifts

Approximate 2017 inspection hours: To adequately inspect boats on our public landing, we need about 2,000 hours covered each summer, putting us about 700 hours short for 2017. Looking forward, I'm anticipating the need for additional volunteers in 2018 and will make that announcement next spring. --PR

Volunteer inspectors	215
County-paid inspectors	600
BLIA-paid county inspectors	400
DNR inspectors	100
Total	1,315

33rd annual Runtilla another record-setter



From left, Owen Burkstrand, Collin Cooney and Sawyer Malkerson, winners in the 0-10 age category, pose with Jim Bye, Runtilla coordinator.

It was another great morning for a run, and Bay Lakers came out to do just that for the 33rd annual Runtilla Aug. 5.

While many ran, some walked, biked or skated around the 5K course to the cheers of family members and friends.

Henry Jessen again took the lead as overall winner with a time of 18 minutes, 9 seconds. After three years in the top spot, Henry did not compete last year, and his brother, Luke, won top honors. This year Luke was first in his age category, coming in just a second behind his brother.

Caden Malek, grandson of Gary and Carol Malek of Bay Lake Camp, designed this year's Runtilla t-shirt.

Before the awards ceremony, special guest Jack Ruttger, who this year celebrated 65 years in the resort business, spoke to the crowd, recounting how his family had started the resort

more than 100 years ago. He praised the Runtilla and other events that have helped build a real community around Bay Lake.

Another delicious picnic topped off the day. The Charles family began cooking in the early morning to make sure the hot dogs, hamburgers, baked beans and other goodies were ready in time.

Jim Bye, Runtilla coordinator, thanked Dennis and Jackie Charles and their family for providing the food and hospitality,

Winners in the age 71-plus category included, from left, Darla Fischer, Meredith Poland Bloedel and Connie Pfeifer. Jim Bye is at right.



Jim Bye, left, welcomes special guest Jack Ruttger to the podium.

and Jim and LeAnne Brecht for donating 480 bottles of water for thirsty event participants.

Runtilla sponsors broke another record this year, donating a total of \$32,000, bringing the historical total to \$309,000. Bye praised the "amazing generosity we continue to receive from Bay Lakers." All proceeds go to the BLIA Environmental Protection Fund.

Kudos also went to the Lonesome Pine team, who donated profits from their Bloody Mary bar to the Environmental Fund, and to Brent Souder and his friends, who created and erected a new Start/Finish sign. Special thanks also went to the 25 volunteers who help set up and keep the event running smoothly.

"I'm happy with the way the Runtilla has transitioned over the many years," said Bye. "It's great fun for the community. It's a real community event."



Annual Golf Scramble and Picnic was a good time, but missed its founder and longtime chair this year

We sure missed George Reynolds at this year's BLIA Golf/Picnic event. Although we had a fairly good turnout and beautiful weather, it just wasn't the same. This year, we had only 55 golfers, and another 19 Bay Lakers came for the picnic. This was close to 75 percent of the previous year's participants. We really did miss you, George.

The threesome of Mike and Karen Norman, along with Phil Rollins, took first place honors at 6 under par. Second place, won by a tie breaker, went to Mike and Debbie Mirau and Dave and Karlynn Fronek at 4 under par. Third place went to the foursome of Bob and Lisa Baumgartner, Aly Murphy and Annie McShane, also at 4 under par.

Individual hole winners were Chip Sorenson, closest to the pin on Number 9, and Phil Rollins, winning the longest putt on #9. Congratulations to all of you.

Following the picnic, there was one final contest, which is now called the George Reynolds BLIA Putting Championship.



Bay Lakers enjoyed the traditional Ruttger's picnic buffet.

There were about a dozen contestants who qualified for the final "putt off," which was about a 35-foot winding putt on a sloped green. The winner and 2017 George Reynolds BLIA Putting Champion was Phil Rollins.

Quite a day for Phil and also a great day for all those who

participated. I also thank all the individuals and businesses that contributed prizes for the winners and door prizes. Thanks to Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge, The Lonesome Pine, Bay Lake Realty, Hansen's Sports, Weekend Extensions, Paddle Power SUP, ACE Hardware, Woodland Beach Resort, Island Cafe and Harbor Inn.

Thank You.
Bruce Johnson



Bruce Johnson, right, who coordinated the event this year, congratulated Phil Rollins, winner of the George Reynolds BLIA Putting Championship, which took place after the picnic.

Bay Lake Camp celebrates 91 life-enriching summers for campers



Campers' smiles say it all.

Holiday greetings from Bay Lake Camp! 2017 marked our 91st year of providing a camping experience to more than 4,000 campers on Bay Lake's beautiful Church Island. First Lutheran Church of St. Paul thanks you for your ongoing support, especially during this important time of transition, as we seek to work with a new partner or partners to assist us in continuing our unique mission. Hats off to Wayzata Community Church in their inaugural season, with fun times had by all who attended!

Lives are touched, lives are changed forever after a camping experience. Our clients come from a wide variety of Christian and civic settings, including Boy Scouts, 4-H, Boys and Girls Club of America, public schools, colleges, theater groups and church groups. The young, the old and families all enjoy. The Red Cedar Lodge is perfect for

family reunions, church retreats, weddings and other celebrations. Come on over and check us out.

Thank you to all who helped make our summer worship services a success, especially with the needed changes we incorporated this past summer. Each Sunday Memorial Day through Labor Day we continue to hold worship. Our annual pie and ice cream social on Labor Day Sunday was again a success, and we extend a big thank you to all who supported by helping out with the big day.

If you are here over the New Year's Holiday, come and join us on Jan. 1 at noon for our annual New Year's Day service, when we gather around the campfire at the outdoor chapel, weather and ice conditions permitting. It is a great way to begin the New Year!

We also thank all of you who helped raise funds to Send a Kid to Camp by supporting or

participating in the Annual Bridge Tournament! Held this past year in late August, fun was had and money raised to support this good work of camping for kids! We look forward to hosting more fun times like these in 2018, so please watch the Spring issue of the Breezes for details!

In closing, remember a donation to Bay Lake Camp helps continue the work and ministry of Bay Lake Camp. Donations can be sent to First Lutheran Church, 463 Maria, St. Paul, MN 55106, marked "For Bay Lake Camperships."

Wishing you a safe and blessed Holiday Season. See you on the island.

Brenda Olson, Camp Director
(651) 247-0360
Carol and Gary Malek
(218) 820-3329

Remembering

This summer and early fall, we lost several longtime Bay Lakers and former Bay Lakers, and learned of the passing of others who had died earlier. Our sympathy to the families and friends of:

Ralph Albinson
Jim Burns
Barbara Burt
Carol Ekelund
Kathryn Grace Fronek
Maxine (Archibald) Larson
William (Bill) Rose
Marit Swenson
Pastor George Thronson
Paul Tietz

Amazing Race teams take on 10 challenges

The sixth annual Bay Lake Amazing Race was another fun-filled event! Nineteen boats stopped at 10 challenge stations.

This year's challenges ranged from a four-wheel bike race (with two riders) to guessing foods and knowing Minnesota birds. Again there were 45 to 50 volunteers to time the challenges, with the winning team completing all challenges in 8.6 minutes. Eight teams finished in less than 11 minutes.

A special thanks to teams, volunteers, sponsors and mostly Josh, Karen, Kara and Jennifer for providing and serving 35+ pizzas at the awards ceremony at the Lonesome Pine.

Save the date: July 21, 2018.

Nancy LaTourneau



Victorious Secret, including Randy, Bethany, Shannon and Chris Bagwill, top row, scored first place, while Savor the Flavor, middle row, took second and Awesome Blossoms, front row, was third.

2017 Runtilla winners (Story on Page 4)

Age 0 to 10

- 1 - Quinn Daugherty, 10, 30:05
- 2 - Hailey Sicard, 7, 33:52
- 3 - Ashtyn Cooney, 10, 39:02
- 1 - Owen Burkstrand, 9, 25:58
- 2 - Collin Cooney, 9, 28:25
- 3 - Sawyer Malkerson, 9, 28:44

Age 11 to 15

- 1 - Megan Sieve, 14, 20:58
- 2 - Courtney Leising, 14, 22:01
- 3 - Adrienne Miller, 15, 23:19
- 1 - Conner Cooney, 14, 22:00
- 2 - Tommy Sieve, 12, 24:48
- 3 - Brendan Sieve, 14, 24:54

Age 16 to 20

- 1 - Zoe Peterson, 18, 25:20
- 2 - Jackie Charles, 18, 26:24
- 3 - Molly Farrell, 18, 27:29
- 1 - Luke Jessen, 16, 18:10
- 2 - Jack Joas, 16, 22:57
- 3 - Cal Techam, 19, 23:17

Age 21 to 30

- 1 - Justine Charles, 22:03
- 2 - Monica Stark, 22:32
- 3 - Missy Rose, 24:14
- 1 - Henry Jessen, 18:09
- 2 - Tim Clementson, 21:07
- 3 - Dan Hilback, 21:35

Age 31 to 40

- 1 - JoEllen Arons, 20:50
- 2 - Karin Coyne, 24:22
- 3 - Jen Sherry, 26:08
- 1 - Andrew Connor, 19:29
- 2 - Ryan Sicard, 22:14
- 3 - Steve Arons, 22:57

Age 41 to 50

- 1 - Lisa Ness Lay, 25:19
- 2 - Kelly Bled, 26:30
- 3 - Pam Peterson, 27:11
- 1 - Ian Noetzel, 21:09
- 2 - Dan Wloblesk, 21:21
- 3 - Rick Giertsen, 23:06

Age 51 to 60

- 1 - Susan Vickerman, 25:15
- 2 - Diane Meyer, 27:29
- 3 - Kristin Finberg, 32:57
- 1 - Rick Taplin, 18:16
- 2 - Dean Hansen, 22:39
- 3 - Mike Rose, 23:10

Age 61 to 70

- 1 - Bonnie Oementon, 32:10
- 2 - Janet Belligan, 35:00
- 3 - Kathy Stark, 38:52
- 1 - Marcus Johnson, 23:13
- 2 - Jeff Peters, 27:53
- 3 - Roger Stark, 32:05

Age 71 to 100

- 1 - Darla Fischer, 47:22
- 2 - Meredith Poland Bloedel, 48:10
- 3 - Connie Pfeifer, 51:17
- 1 - Art Erdman, 29:15
- 2 - Bill Cooney, 30:31
- 3 - Sherm Malkerson, 34:10

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

**Celebrate the Holiday Season
with your Bay Lake friends**

Join us at the 2017 BLIA Holiday Party

Saturday, Dec. 2
Ruby's Room at Ruttger's

Social hour starts at 4:30 p.m., traditional holiday buffet at 6.

You should have received reservation material in the mail.
For more information, call Louise Sorenson, (218) 678-2543.

See you there!