



# Bay Lake Breezes

Bay Lake

Improvement Association Inc.

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

Fall/Winter 2019-2020

## Zebra mussels have found Bay Lake; goal is to minimize their impact, keep out new invasives

This fall, zebra mussels (ZMs) were found in all parts of Bay Lake — on equipment, lifts, dock posts, swim ladders and a few boats. With more than 2,500 launches per year at our public access, it may have been inevitable that we would become infested.

Typically, it takes several years to fully infest a lake. Lake conditions and chemical make-up of the water affect the mussels' ability to thrive and reproduce. Unfortunately, Bay Lake offers ZMs pretty perfect conditions.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) believes our infestation is four to five years old. An infestation usually starts slowly and ramps up after year four or five, so we should expect a major expansion in 2020 or 2021. Equipment that sits in the lake will likely become home to ZMs. When possible, raise boats and motors completely out of the water to protect them, and drain all water when possible.

### How ZMs work

Each individual ZM can produce up to 1 million veligers, their microscopic larvae, which are

released mid-summer and circulate until finding a place to land, usually a hard surface or plant. ZMs can survive cold Minnesota winters, but they cannot survive out of the water for more than five days. That said, ZMs do not release their grip once dead; they must be scraped or power washed to be removed. And dead ZMs stink! If there are a lot of them, the best way to dispose of them is to bury them or place them in the garbage.

### What's next

Experts and those at other infested lakes are providing advice to help us minimize the

---

*Residents on other lakes, such as Gull, Pelican and Mille Lacs, have been living with ZMs for years and have found ways to live with them.*

*We will too.*

---

impact of Bay Lake's infestation. We will publish recommendations as they are developed. We are also planning one or more ZM workshops for Spring 2020. Residents on other lakes, such as Gull, Pelican and Mille Lacs, have been living with ZMs for years and have found ways to live with them. We will too.

We will continue our boat inspection program in 2020. We need to protect Bay Lake from new and even more destructive invasives.

BLIA has donated to support research at the University of Minnesota, where scientists are working to control and perhaps eliminate ZMs and other invasive species. Check out [MAISRC.umn.edu](http://MAISRC.umn.edu). Donate if you can.

More info to you as it becomes available. Stay tuned.

Phil Rollins  
President, BLIA

# We love our BLIA membership!!

That's the rallying cry for all those who have joined in 2019! We're over the 600 mark and slowly inching upward and think we can get close to the 700 number — if those of you who have NOT joined rush to your

computer or the post office and send in your \$30 membership dues. Whatever method is easier for you. By mail, send it to BLIA, P.O. Box 461, Deerwood, MN 56444. By the internet, it's

[www.baylake.org](http://www.baylake.org). And don't forget the fireworks!

A huge thank you to all who are already members. We appreciate every one of you and even the cat, Sammy, who joined this year!

I also want to acknowledge again the BLIA Board members. They are a wonderful and dedicated group of people who show their love for Bay Lake in all the hours they give to help keep Bay Lake the great place it is. And now with zebra mussels invading our lake, your support is needed even more.

Thank you all again!

Betty Marquardt  
Membership Chair  
218-678-2417  
651-730-1045

## Remembering

We've recently lost several present and former Bay Lakers. Our sympathy to the families and friends of:

Wally Berg  
Dave Ekelund  
Marilyn Hardin  
Pierce MacKay  
Mary Beth (Birkeland) MacMillan  
Dan Mulheran  
Spence Peterson  
Marlen Reinking

We apologize for missing two others who died in August 2018:

Bob Ferris  
Mitze Madden

### Officers

President.....Phil Rollins  
Vice President.....Terry Coss  
Secretary.....Audrey Dietsch  
Treasurer.....Chris Gondeck

### Directors

Terry Coss, David Devins, Chris Gondeck, Josh Goolsbee, Amy Grady, Bobbie Keller, Jennifer Qualen, Matt Qualen, Phil Rollins, Chris Ruttger, Steve Souder

### Committee Chairs

AIS prevention.....Phil Rollins  
Aquatic plant management.....David Devins  
Bay Lake Ambassadors.....Amy Grady  
Breezes.....Bobbie Keller, Editor  
Church camp liaisons.....Gary & Carol Malek  
Conservation.....Brent Souder  
Env. Protection Fund.....Bruce Johnson  
Facebook page.....Scott Shekels  
Fireworks.....Josh Goolsbee, Charlie Zajicek  
Fishing resources.....Matt Qualen  
History.....Paul Erickson  
Legal advisor.....Amy Grady  
Membership.....Betty Marquardt  
Nominations.....Bruce Johnson  
Runtilla.....Jim Bye  
Security.....Larry LaTourneau  
Shoreline enhancement.....Tiffin Tripp  
Water quality.....Terry & Debbie Coss  
Water safety.....Karl Krueger  
Website.....Scott Shekels, Paul & Ward Erickson

Bay Lake Breezes is published twice a year by the Bay Lake Improvement Association, P.O. Box 461, Deerwood, MN 56444-0461.

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

Editor.....Bobbie Keller

## Good news on EWM as control efforts continue

We continued our Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) control program this season with excellent results.

We treated 14 acres of EWM in June and then 20 acres the first part of October, totaling 34 acres for the season. We have had the weather on our side with high water, heavy snow cover and rainy springs and falls the last several years, which has really helped us keep EWM in check. That has made for better recreational use of the lake and allowed the native plants to flourish. As usual, we will continue our control program next spring.

Thanks for everyone's support for this program over the years. We could not have done it without you.

David Devins  
Aquatic plant management

## The Bay Lake 50

Volunteers are the heart and soul of Bay Lake. Without their time and energy, our summer activities would not be possible. However, at times we are short the number of helpers needed for a specific event.

Next spring we will establish a core group of volunteers to be known as the Bay Lake 50, who will commit in advance to work on summer Bay Lake activities. We are working on how best to identify and recognize these special Bay Lakers.

Bay Lake volunteer Ally Oakes will oversee the program. Watch for more information in the spring.

## Big summer ahead in 2020!

The big celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Bay Lake Improvement Association will take place all summer in 2020, and you don't want to miss any of it!

The calendar of events in 2020 appears below, so you can plan your weddings, graduation celebrations and other events around what is happening at Bay Lake next summer.

Following the traditional plant giveaway on May 23, our first big event is the return of a decorated boat parade — the 50th Flotilla Funanza — on Saturday, June 20. Plan now to decorate your pontoon and parade around Bay Lake for prizes and fun!

The Fourth of July weekend is always a special time on Bay Lake, but in the summer of 2020 it will be like no other you have ever experienced. Music on the Lake on July 3 will bring lots of extra surprises and will be bigger than ever! The fireworks over North Bay will, for the first time, be on the 4th of July! We will have a fireworks display to rival all others. Our fireworks

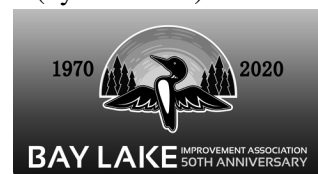
provider is a Bay Lake family, and they want to celebrate the 50th in a big way with a spectacular fireworks extravaganza. You won't want to miss it!

If you don't usually attend the Bay Lake Improvement Association Annual Meeting, you will want to be there on Saturday, July 11, 2020. As a community, we will celebrate and honor 50 years of dedicated volunteers who have led our association and cared for our lake and those who live here. We will present a special video documenting life on Bay Lake. You will see many familiar faces and hear stories about our lake history. Be there to witness this historic moment as we celebrate together.

The Runtilla, Amazing Race and Block Party on Church Island will all have special enhancements to continue our summer celebration of the 50th anniversary. Mark your calendars now and plan to be on Bay Lake for these special events next summer.

### 2020 BLIA Events

- May 23 - Plant Giveaway
- June 20 - Flotilla Funanza Pontoon Boat Parade
- July 3 - Music on the Lake
- July 4 - Fireworks
- July 11 - Annual Meeting with Bay Lake video
- July 11 - Past Presidents' Luncheon (by invitation)
- July 18 - Amazing Race
- Aug. 1 - Runtilla
- Aug. 15 - Block Party
- December TBA - Holiday Party



## Another Amazing Race



What an AMAZING day! From morning rain, clearing up to sunshine. From Church Island to 10 stops around Bay Lake to the Lonesome Pine, 26 teams of four (with others riding along) competed in 10 challenges. Some



**The team BAY BAYZ KIDZ, above, completed Amazing Race challenges in 3.70 minutes to earn the first place trophy. At left, another group plays Ping Pong Paddle Words.**

of the challenges included “Pop-a-Shot,” “Fill’er Up,” “Ping Pong Paddle Words” and “PantyHose Bowling.” With only the challenges being timed, all teams finished in less than 11 minutes.

BAY BAYZ KIDZ took the first place trophy with 3.70 minutes, and BUD LIGHT CAMP finished a close second with 3.84 minutes. WACKY WESTENDERS were right behind with 4.14 minutes. Last year’s winners, SITTING ON THE DOCK OF THE BAY, finished with a score of 4.23.

Once again the event finished at the Lonesome Pine for the award ceremony, fun, pizzas and wings. A special Bay Lake thanks to Josh and his AMAZING crew for another great time!

Save the date: July 18, 2020. Get those teams ready!

Nancy LaTourneau

## Pontoon Parade to kick off BLIA’s 50th anniversary

BLIA kicks off our 50th anniversary festivities next summer with a Flotilla Funanza Pontoon Parade on Saturday, June 20, from 4 to 6 p.m. All Bay Lakers are invited to participate.

Flotillas were popular on Bay Lake in the 1980s, and this one hopes to rekindle the spirit of those good old days. Registration forms for the 2020 rendition are available from Hansen’s Store and online at [www.baylake.org](http://www.baylake.org). Participants are encouraged to decorate pontoons to “Praise the Lake,” to riff on BLIA’s golden 50th anniversary or to come up with any other notion that strikes a fancy. If you’re not one to decorate, then parade anyway, just for the fun of it.

Prizes for the most festive entries will be awarded at the BLIA Annual Meeting on July 11 to boats that display creativity, craftsmanship, enthusiasm, family involvement and creative use of technology. Only boats that register are eligible for prizes.

Only pontoons, please, this time around.

For safety considerations, we ask that you register no later than June 13. Details with meet-up instructions, route and parade position number will be delivered to participant cabins by June 16.

## Fun for all

**Sack races were among the games both kids and adults enjoyed at this year’s BLIA Block Party on Church Island. There also was plenty of good food and conversation, plus door prizes to add to the fun.**





## In its 93rd year, Bay Lake Camp is still changing lives



**Campers, counselors and a canine friend gather for a picture.**

2019 marked our 93rd year of camping on Church Island. Just imagine the life-changing experiences for the people, children and youth in particular, who have come here over the last 90-plus years and continue to come here for the incredible, peace-filled getaway Island camp offers!

Many campers have never swum in a lake before or ridden in a boat. Many have never seen the spectacular expanse of stars at night because they are difficult to see in the city. Many have never been a part of a group who live together, eat together and become deep friends within a week's time, all in the amazing environment of God's creation. First Lutheran Church of St. Paul and Bay Lake

Camp are working hard to continue this tradition.

Our guests come from a variety of backgrounds: Church groups, nonprofit organizations, Urban 4-H, public schools, theater groups, men's and women's retreats, family reunions, nonprofit retreats and parties of all kinds.

Were you there this past summer for the Bay Lake Block Party Picnic? For the second year, 300-plus of our closest friends and neighbors gathered to build community and share great food on the Island shore! Thanks to all who assisted and helped lead this wonderful event!

We take this time to thank you for your support in so many

ways...coming together on Sundays for worship, helping with Island events and the Labor Day Sunday pie and ice cream social!

As we look ahead to colder weather, hopefully we can mark the New Year with our annual worship. Mark your calendars for noon on Dec. 29, ice conditions permitting, as we gather around the campfire on the south shore of the Island for a great way to start the New Year!

Wishing you a safe and Blessed Christmas season. See you on the Island!

Peace,  
Brenda Olson Bingea  
Executive Director

## 35th annual Runtilla ‘as festive as ever’

The sun shined bright on Bay Lakers Aug. 3 as they cheered on all the runners, walkers and bikers circling the 5K course for the 35th annual Runtilla.

For the second year in a row, Henry Jessen was the overall winner, beating his last year’s run with a time of 18 minutes, 10 seconds. Jenna Swenson topped the women’s division with a time of 20 minutes, 9 seconds.

Sorenson grandkids teamed up to design this year’s t-shirt. The shirt lists Runtilla sponsors, who

this year donated a record total \$45,000.

Jim Bye, Runtilla coordinator, thanked all the volunteers “who helped put on this great event,” and Josh Goolsbee and the Lonesome Pine crew, who did a “great job” with the Bloody Marys, earning record sales. (Proceeds go to the BLIA Environmental Fund.) He also thanked Dennis and Jackie Charles and their family for a “wonderful” after-race picnic and use of their property.

“After all these years, the Runtilla was as festive as ever this year,” said Bye. “People were really having a great time and seemed to hang around a great deal later to enjoy the wonderful day, the food and all the Runtilla has to offer.

“Next year we’re looking forward to the Runtilla being part of the BLIA 50th anniversary celebration.”

### Age 0 to 10

- 1 - Pressley Watkins, 10, 29:22
- 2 - Hailey Sicard, 9, 31:45
- 3 - Arden Buckner, 10, 33:49
- 1 - Logan McMann, 7, 30:26
- 2 - Ty Simmons, 9, 31:52
- 3 - Henry Kirchner, 9, 41:37

### Age 11 to 15

- 1 - Liv Birkeland, 14, 24:08
- 2 - Meghan Kilcoin, 14, 25:54
- 3 - Mary Maus, 12, 27:28
- 1 - Nate Perry, 15, 20:45
- 2 - Cal Tortoloni, 15, 22:52
- 3 - Lars Martin, 14, 24:28

### Age 16 to 20

- 1 - Abby Esterby, 16, 23:05
- 2 - Courtney Leising, 16, 23:10
- 3 - Lily Maus, 16, 24:28
- 1 - David Birkeland, 19, 19:49
- 2 - Joseph Walling, 18, 19:58
- 3 - Emmett Marvin, 16, 20:34



### Age 21 to 30

- 1 - Blair Parent, 21:46
- 2 - McKenna Parent, 22:30
- 3 - Justine Charles, 23:08
- 1 - Henry Jessen, 18:10
- 2 - Jaron Coole Shekels, 18:43
- 3 - Paul Broman, 21:10

### Age 31 to 40

- 1 - Karen Coyne, 20:59
- 2 - Jessica Vukelich, 26:20
- 3 - Jen Sherry, 28:12
- 1 - Steve Aron, 22:06
- 2 - Brett Goetce, 23:12
- 3 - David Glass, 25:14

### Age 41 to 50

- 1 - Jenna Swenson, 20:09
- 2 - Britten LaRue, 26:06
- 3 - Julie Maus, 26:09
- 1 - Chris Martin, 22:05
- 2 - Jon Birkeland, 23:16
- 3 - Paul Marvin, 24:23

### Age 51 to 60

- 1 - Kristen Fulberg, 39:52
- 1 - Kay Johnson, 39:52
- 2 - Laurie Spinner, 50:22
- 1 - Danny Wrobleski, 21:18
- 2 - T., 22:08
- 3 - Dean Hansen, 23:58

### Age 61 to 70

- 1 - Diane Meyer, 28:12
- 2 - Bonnie Clementson, 31:52
- 3 - Patty Bowler, 32:00
- 1 - Marcus Johnson, 24:04
- 2 - Lance Broadbent, 27:20
- 3 - Steve Sherry, 31:17

### Age 71 to 77

- 1 - Mary Maus, 38:28
- 2 - Pat Malkerson, 52:18
- 3 - Corky Carlson, 60:30
- 1 - Art Erdman, 30:35
- 2 - Bill Cooney, 35:01
- 3 - Roger Stark, 39:15

### Age 78 to 84

- 1 - Joanne Renquist, 46:39
- 2 - Carol McElroy, 50:12
- 3 - Darla Fisker, 51:38



# Bay Lakers Look Back

I was three years old in 1934 and living in Iowa. We were on vacation in Ely and stopped overnight at Bay Lake on our way home. Our travel took us to Knieff's Shore Acres Resort on the northeast side of Bay Lake. This stay was only overnight, but we returned each summer starting in 1935 for one or two weeks. The only years we missed were during World War II due to gas rationing.

Hugo and Hattie Knieff and their son Al owned the resort. They had 11 cabins, and six were destroyed by a tornado in 1973. The destroyed cabins were replaced with a mobile home park.

During our yearly trips in the 1930s the cabins had running water, outhouses for bathrooms and no electricity. Hugo and Al delivered ice twice a week for the icebox. Each winter ice was cut by Hugo and Al from the lake. They stored the ice in a large building with sawdust and tarps for

insulation. Kerosene lanterns were used for lighting during the evening. "Chamber Pots" were used during the night if you preferred to use them rather than visiting the outhouse.

REA electricity came later so we had electricity for lights and a refrigerator. Bathrooms were added with showers a few years later, so we had the comforts of home.

When we moved to Minnesota in 1970 I made arrangements with Al to rent a cabin for five months each year. When my two daughters married, we rented a cabin for each of them and their spouses.

Today our family rents four cabins, and one daughter and family have a home on Bay Lake. Each family member has many wonderful memories of our times at the lake. This includes four generations today.

Don Renquist

-----

She can remember Grandma Hansen, Curt Hansen's mother, operating the cash register at Hansen's Store. She remembers using an outhouse and drinking water from a pump in the cabin kitchen.

Kate Krueger's family rented a cabin on Woodland Beach before her folks bought one of their own on Eaglewood about 1942. On Woodland Beach, they would walk to LaBrant's small store for groceries and a daily ice cream cone. Black raspberry revel was her favorite. Mrs. Harris, who owned a dairy farm on Bay Lake, delivered milk and served chicken dinner every Sunday. Krueger's mother would buy jam and other things at Hunt's Cannery, and her older sister, Nancy, worked there picking raspberries.

"I can't remember how my mother washed clothes, but I remember her rinsing bed linens in the lake," said Krueger.

Women and children would spend summers at the lake with the car, and men would come on the bus to Garrison on weekends. During a polio epidemic in the 1950s, women and children stayed at the lake until the first frost.

There were plenty of kids to play with, including Krueger's three sisters. They spent many happy hours swimming and playing off a raft supported by barrels. They did scavenger hunts, played triple solitaire and board games, and did jigsaw puzzles.

"Those were wonderful summers," said Krueger.

## Show your Bay Lake spirit!

Show your pride in Bay Lake by wearing Bay Lake 50th anniversary clothing! Sales kicked off at Octoberfest and on the online store in November. Next spring, we will again be selling 50th anniversary commemorative t-shirts, tanks, sweatshirts, 1/2 and 1/4 zip tops, baseball caps and polos. We want your 50th anniversary logo wear to be your Bay Lake uniform for the summer of 2020. Show your team spirit! We also have 50th anniversary insulated coffee and wine tumblers and colorful 50th anniversary beach towels, all bearing our beautiful 50th anniversary loon logo.

In honor of the 50th anniversary, we are also introducing the first ever Bay Lake flag. Raise it proudly on your flag pole, on a dock pole and on the back of your boat. We want to see Bay Lake flags all over the lake next summer. It is available in several sizes and in both a rectangle and pennant (triangle) shape for the back of your boat. Bay Lake flags will be available for sale at the May 23 plant giveaway, at the annual meeting, the Runtilla, the Block Party and on our online store. We sold out at Octoberfest! Be sure to get your Bay Lake flags and show your support and love for Bay Lake!

The online store, through our vendor, Shirts Plus of Aitkin, will open again in the spring of 2020. Watch for announcements in the Blast and on social media.



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

PRESORTED  
STANDARD MAIL  
US POSTAGE PAID  
TWIN CITIES MN  
PERMIT NO. 128

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

Join us at the 2019 BLIA Holiday Party

Saturday, Dec. 7

Ruby's Dining 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, (507) 219-8338  
or e-mail [christinalouisesorenson@gmail.com](mailto:christinalouisesorenson@gmail.com).

See you there!