



Bay Lake Breezes

Bay Lake
Improvement Association Inc.



www.baylake.org

Fall/Winter 2009-2010

EWM control working; native species returning

Good news on our efforts to control Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) in Bay Lake.

After several years of hot, dry conditions with horrible EWM growth, the weather has cooperated the last two seasons, and our control efforts have worked. This past winter was the second in a row with good snow cover followed by a cooler summer, both of which contributed to greatly reduced EWM and greatly increased native plant regrowth in areas formerly dominated by EWM.

With that being said, our program is really paying off. We are indeed seeing native species coming back — this year some natives actually outgrew the EWM.

This past spring we treated about 35 acres, which resulted in the most successful spring treatment in our history of EWM control. This fall's survey found a surprising increase in the amount of native species, while the breadth and densities of EWM sites were significantly reduced.

We treated 75 acres in early October. Our success has been helped by the cooler, wet summer and our continued consistent control efforts. It was interesting to note that in many areas that people complained about, what they thought

was EWM was in fact native species growing for the first time in many years.

I have mentioned many times that weather conditions would play a big role in the control of EWM and they certainly have, both negatively and now positively in the last four seasons. What we have learned is that we can control EWM and keep it from being a dominant specie in the lake. Seventeen years after we discovered EWM in the lake and began our control program, Bay Lake is still a beautiful recreational and fishing lake. Our plan, and your contributions and support of the plan for almost two decades is the reason why.

I received about 90 survey cards back from homeowners this fall, and I greatly appreciated the response. It does make a difference. It was great to see that most of the cards said no or very little EWM was found. The responses were night and day from three years ago. Thank you.

We will have spent about \$115,000 in 2009 and can expect that to continue. What we have learned is that our program works as long as we are consistent. We can not stop. We know from our own experiments that EWM sites that go untreated for years continue to grow no matter what the weather conditions. What we

have done all along is continuously treat lots of small areas and mix them up all over the lake. This gives the natives a chance to fill in and not allow the EWM to take root and establish itself.

In early 2010 we will have to ask for approval to treat your shoreline again. These signatures are good for three years. I ask that you respond as soon as you get the letter and make sure your neighbors respond as well. We have had incredible response over the years, and we have to continue that. If I am missing signatures from homeowners along a shoreline and we are not sure who is who, we will not treat the shoreline. Help yourself, your neighbors and Bay Lake by sending the signature card back immediately.

EWM, continued on Page 2

Image # 7334

And they're off!

The 25th annual Runtilla featured a new route, a new tradition and a record number of participants. Story and more pictures on Page 4.

It's always the season for BLIA membership

Whether the weather thinks it's fall or winter, it is always the right time to send in your 2009 membership dues. And the best thing about joining the Bay Lake Improvement Association is that

the dues are NOT subject to change. They are still only \$30 — no tax increase, higher interest rates or hidden charges.

If by chance you have not sent in your 2009 dues, you can

still do so till the end of December. But, why wait! Your dues help support the ongoing expenses of the BLIA and are always much appreciated and put to good use! You can send in your check, payable to BLIA, to P.O. Box 461, Deerwood, MN 56444, or you can visit www.baylake.org to sign up online.

Thank you in advance for your membership. And thank you to those who have already sent in their 2009 dues! You are all the mainstay of our organization!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me, Betty Marquardt, at mbmarquardt@msn.com or call me at 218-678-2417 at the lake, or 651-730-1045 in the Cities. See you at the Holiday Party!

Betty Marquardt
Membership Chair

EWM, continued from Page 1

We can control EWM in Bay Lake — what we have seen the last few years goes to show our program works. With this being said, we have to remember that weather patterns will shift again, the EWM is not gone and we have to continue our program year after year in a consistent manner.

Please continue to support the BLIA Environmental Protection Fund and our EWM program, and the results will continue. Bay Lake is truly a special place, and we have to keep it that way.

Thank you for all your support.

David Devins
Aquatic plant management

Bay Lake Improvement Association

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Editor..... Bobbie Keller

Thank you, Bay Lake monitors!

by Sylvia Graff

The 2009 monitoring season was over as of Sept. 26, 2009. Due to the Breezes deadline and the fact that I do not have all of the evaluation sheets, all I can say is a big THANK YOU to all who monitored. Please turn in your sheets as soon as possible so I can file a report to the DNR. BLIA is noted for its participation.

Besides the Eurasian watermilfoil and zebra mussels,

we now have concerns with spiny water fleas that were found in Mille Lacs Lake this summer. Look for fishing lines that have a goop of jelly with black spots. Spiny water fleas are about 3/8 of an inch long and prefer deep lakes, but can be found in shallow waters. The females die out of water. They

are spread by fishing lines, down riggers, fishing nets, anchor ropes, bilge water, bait buckets and live wells.



Please consider giving of your time and talent to help keep this important committee going. Please don't hesitate to call or e-mail me: Sylvia Graff, 218-678-2543 or

graffbay@mlecmn.net.

Kudos to this year's top anglers

by Joel Kraft
BLIA Fishing Contest

Thanks to all who participated in the 2009 Bay Lake Improvement Association Fishing Contest! It was a beautiful summer, and I'm glad that you were able to spend part of it fishing the waters of Bay Lake.

The contest concluded on Labor Day, but will be up and running again next year. I hope that you have the chance to get out on the water again next summer and look forward to seeing your name in the registration book for the 2010 contest.

This year's winners are listed below. In addition to trophies being awarded for the largest of each species in both adult and kids divisions, all entrants were included in a drawing for two gift certificates to Tutt's Bait & Tackle in Garrison.



Congratulations to the following 2009 winners!

2009 Winners - Kids Division

Alex Poland – Sunfish, 10 inches
Kyle Malecha – Crappie, 13 inches
Bowdy Gustafson – Largemouth Bass, 18 inches
Anna Barger & Kory Dalstrom – Northern Pike, 31 inches

2007 Winners - Adult Division

Jim Ysseldyke – Crappie, 12.25 inches
Kellie Lekie Murphy – Largemouth Bass, 20.5 inches
Arnie Graff – Northern Pike, 35 inches
Robert Sorenson – Walleye, 29.75 inches

Winners of \$15 Gift Certificates to Tutt's Bait & Tackle:

Jonathan Paquette & Jackson Bell

Thanks again to all who participated in the 2009 BLIA Fishing Contest!



25th on the 25th: a rousing Runtilla celebration

July 25 was the 25th anniversary of the Runtilla, and Bay Lakers celebrated with a new route, a new tradition and more participants than ever.

With road construction on Hwy. 10, this year Runtilla runners, walkers, skaters and bikers stayed on Brighton Point Road, beginning and ending at the traditional finish line. All along the way, fellow Bay Lakers greeted them with cheers and supportive signs.

“We had a sea of people at the starting line and more cheering residents along Brighton Point Road than I’ve ever seen,” said Jim Bye, Runtilla coordinator. “The event really brought people out.”

J. P. Rose was the overall winner, running the 5k course in 17 minutes, 6 seconds. Laura Swartz won the Women’s Division with a time of 20 minutes, 25 seconds.

After the award presentations Dennis “Charlie” and Jackie Charles, former White Hawk owners, grilled brats and hot

dogs for participants and supporters alike, and Lonesome Pine owner Josh Goolsbee provided the potato salad and chips. Music by the band French Lick added to the fun.

“With the success of the barbecue and band, we’ll do it again next year and keep the tradition going,” said Bye.

Race participants and others wore t-shirts bearing a commemorative design by Kate and Charlie Hallett, a sister and brother team. Their colorful entry was among 55 drawn by children at Minnow Camp on Church Island in June.

The shirts listed the names of a record number of donors. This year’s Runtilla raised more than \$20,000 for the Environmental Protection Fund, bringing the 25-year total to more than \$170,000.

Bye thanked the donors and all others who had contributed to the day, including the Hansens, who helped distribute entry forms; Minna Gallagher, Minnow Camp coordinator, and her

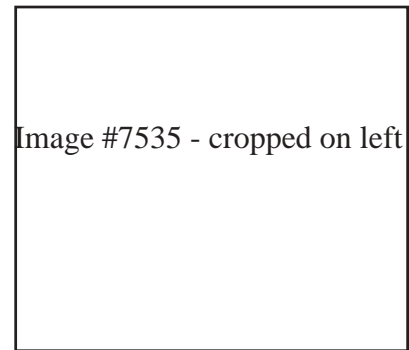
Congratulations to this year’s winners:

Age 0 to 10

- 1 - Lilly Campbell, 9, 26:49
- 2 - Aleah Techam, 8, 29:40
- 3 - Allie Spinner, 10, 32:40
- 1 - Nate Koneh, 10, 24:39
- 2 - Brendan Maus, 9, 25:42
- 3 - Jensen Erickson, 10, 27:02

Age 11 to 15

- 1 - Emily Rose, 12, 22:34
- 2 - Clarissa Bruning, 14, 22:38
- 3 - Missy Rose, 13, 26:43
- 1 - Tony Nikodym, 15, 17:50
- 2 - Damon Grilz, 14, 20:40
- 3 - Henry Jessen, 13, 21:48



volunteer staff; children who submitted t-shirt design entries; the Church Island staff; the Runtilla volunteer staff; and of course those providing the barbecue fun. A special thanks to the Cuyuna Regional Medical Center Advanced Life Support team, who enhance the event’s safety each year.

“This was the most fun year we’ve ever had,” said Bye. “Everybody enjoyed the new route, commemorative t-shirts, barbecue and band. Most important, they enjoyed each other.”

Watch for information on the 26th annual Runtilla, to take place at the end of July 2010.

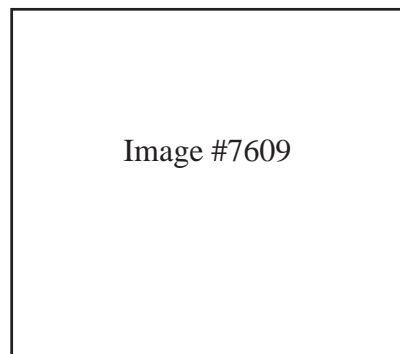
Age 16 to 20

- 1 - Molly Noah, 19, 24:01
- 2 - Ali Schultz, 20, 24:07
- 3 - Gina Luke, 18, 24:10
- 1 - J. P. Rose, 17, 17:06
- 2 - Sam Bruning, 19, 18:47
- 3 - Connor Ekelund, 17, 19:38

Age 21 to 30

- 1 - Ashley Stott, 23:17
- 2 - Brooke Sonense, 26:39
- 3 - Meghen Domino, 27:34
- 1 - Mike Stoffel, 21:13
- 2 - Chris Malkerson, 21:40
- 3 - Chad Noah, 22:38

Runtilla winners, cont. on Page 5



A brief shower failed to dampen the enthusiasm of Bay Lakers as they gathered for a barbecue to celebrate the Runtilla’s 25th anniversary after the race.

Another great day on the links for golfers — and fun for everyone at the picnic

Bay Lakers had another swinging time Aug. 8 when 72 golfers took to the course and another 82 joined them for dinner at the third annual Bay Lake Golf Scramble and Picnic at Ruttger's.

The picnic, under the golf-cart shelter near Zig's, again featured a scrumptious buffet, great door prizes and lots of good company.

Golfers Josh Goolsbee, Dominic Ciresi, Bryan Holte and Mark Fredericks made up the winning foursome.

"Our score of -6 was completely legitimate," said Goolsbee.

In second place was the team of Merritt Marquardt, Josh and

Greg Elmer, and Tom Murphy; and John and Beau Farrell, and Don and Helen Knutzen placed third.

The Billman team was closest to the pin on the seventh hole, while the Johnson team was the closest on Hole 9. There were no hole-in-ones.

Thanks to door-prize donors Ruttger's, Hansen Sports, Lonesome Pine, Sunshine Golf, Trish Jespersion (Aflac), Deer Stand and Mary Swanson, who made a colorful afghan for the occasion.

Additional thanks to Ruttger's for their hospitality.

"Proceeds help the BLIA Environmental Protection Fund,

and it's a nice social event, too," said George Reynolds, the event's coordinator. "This was our third one, and we hope to keep it going. So golfers, go out and practice. Maybe next year someone will get a hole-in-one."

Mark your calendar for the fourth annual Bay Lake Golf Scramble and Picnic on Aug. 14, 2010, and look for more information next spring.



Remembering

We have lost several Bay Lakers and former Bay Lakers over the past year. Our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of:

- Helen Bolduc
- Robert Broman
- Billy Bye
- Jim Charboneau
- Julia Bell Evenson
- Warren Finberg
- Charlotte Hall
- Marcia Penner Husbands
- Jane Elizabeth (Betty) Keye
- Les Malkerson
- Dorothy O'Sullivan
- Helen Picha
- Gretchen Pracht
- Mary Gail Reynolds
- Buzz Riley
- Margaret Minsgul Salb
- Fern Tengden
- Craig Yudell
- Cheryl Yursi

Runtilla winners, continued from Page 4

Age 31 to 40

- 1 - Krista Jones, 21:24
- 2 - Julie Maus, 21:30
- 3 - Hade McDeknudt, 23:43
- 1 - "Shoebob," 17:49
- 2 - Dan Swartz, 18:53
- 3 - Matt Nikodym, 18:56

Age 41 to 50

- 1 - Laura Swartz, 20:25
- 2 - Deb Bruning, 22:30
- 3 - Carrie Nydahl, 22:58
- 1 - Rudy Regalado, 17:51
- 2 - Bryan Jones, 18:22
- 3 - Todd Maus, 19:20

Age 51 to 60

- 1 - Nancy Sorenson, 25:03
- 2 - Tari Sherry, 26:18
- 3 - Diane Meyer, 27:06
- 1 - Marcus Johnson, 21:11
- 2 - Steve Shern, 26:08
- 3 - Peter Domino, 27:32

Age 61 to 70

- 1 - Mary Maus, 25:48
- 1 - Roland Anderson, 22:01
- 2 - Gregory Garmer, 22:38
- 3 - Sherm Malkerson, 25:34

Age 71 to 100

- 1 - Mark Paper, 43:01
- 2 - Ken Hoper, 44:46

*Thanks to Kim and
 Kent Orwoll and
 their crew for
 another fabulous
 Fireworks Show on
 Friday, July 3. It
 just gets better every
 year!*

Greetings from Bay Lake Camp!

Greetings from Bay Lake Camp! 2009 marked our 100 years of stewardship over Church Island! Thank you for helping us celebrate this unique gift and supporting the vision to offer a lake country experience to those who have never had it or never could without our help.

Our second annual Art Jam and Raffle to raise funds to "Send a Kid to Camp" was a success! Thank you for supporting this important fund-raiser by donating items to be raffled and purchasing tickets. On Labor Day Sunday more than 400 attended worship and then stayed for food, crafts for the kids and the raffle drawing!

We hope you have been able to stop over at camp to see the new facilities that now make it possible to welcome campers during the fall, winter and

spring! Remember the Red Cedar Lodge when planning your business and church retreats, family reunions, weddings and other celebrations. Just call First Lutheran,



Urban campers enjoyed the remodeled dining hall.

651-776-7210, or check out our website at baylakecamp.net.

It was a busy summer at camp, hosting campers of all ages, church groups, two theater companies, 4-H, men's and women's retreats, family reunions, wedding parties and family camps. Our

100-year celebration in July was highlighted by the return of Robert Robinson and the Twin City Gospel Choir. Thank you, Ruttger's, for hosting a Saturday night concert at the lodge.

The Gospel Choir then returned to BLC for a worship celebration the following morning.

We have campers scheduled this fall and winter, too.

Our annual New Year Worship Service this year will be held on Friday, Jan. 1, at noon, weather and ice conditions permitting. Check with Hansens' Store or Maleks to confirm. Join us for music, praise and fellowship at the outdoor chapel.

The next day, Saturday, Jan. 2, stop by the island by snowmobile or skis and head up to the Dining Hall for some famous Bay Lake Camp chili and cornbread! We'll be making snowshoes and taking donations for Silent Sports recreation and equipment for the camp. Want to help us build a pair or take a set home for the cabin? Let us know

and we'll order'em up for you! These make a terrific legacy for the camp kids or your outdoor camper at home!

In closing, thanks to all of you who continue to support Bay Lake Camp. A special thank you to all of you who help with Sunday worship services, with grounds work, putting in and taking out docks, cutting trees, woodworking projects and so much more! Together we support a very special place. God Bless,

Brenda Olson, BLC Director
651-776-7210
Carol and Gary Malek
218-820-3329



Don't forget to make reservations for the Lonesome Pine's annual New Year's Eve party, featuring live music. Lonesome Pine will also host a wine tasting event Saturday, Nov. 28, to benefit the Wild

and Free Animal Rehab program, out of the Garrison Animal Hospital. The restaurant is open at 5 p.m. Thursday through Monday, closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays, during the winter. A HUGE THANKS to everyone for their support of the Lonesome Pine throughout the year. Get ready for a great 2010!

"Bay Lake History 101" is now on the website. Go to baylake.org and check it out! See how on Page 7.

History project brings more-than-expected benefits

by Paul Erickson
History Project

Wow, what a summer! More than 50 percent of our Shoreline History Projects are now complete, and most of the remaining shorelines expect to finish next summer. More than 250 Bay Lake cabins now have a Shoreline History Book, and most of the owners have attended a Celebration Party.

Although our original objective was to document Bay Lake history, this project is paying unforeseen dividends. The “community strengthening” benefits are awesome. First, neighbors are meeting neighbors — often for the first time. Bay Lake is a community of long-term, often multigenerational residents with a huge common interest (i.e. Bay Lake), but long driveways, time spent with kids, grandkids and visitors, and a desire to “get away from it all” contribute to an inward focus. That’s fine, but we build on that foundation when we meet and develop relationships with others on our shoreline and in our community. Attending all of the Kick-Off and Celebration Parties has been wonderful. I wish everyone had that opportunity.

Second, we’re learning that we have more than “the lake” in common. We have a heritage. Even a basic understanding of a few of the historical stories promotes a common culture and, ultimately, community pride. To facilitate this we’re posting a version of the “Bay Lake History 101” presentation that was given at the BLIA Annual Meeting on the website. Go to baylake.org then click on “History Project” and look for a link to “History Presentation.”



The original “horseless carriage” (note the horns) in front of the Grays’ store.

A look back: Arthur, Esther and Gordon Gray

In 1904, Arthur and Esther Gray moved from Long Lake, Minn., to the Bay Lake area, where they purchased a 120-acre farm on the northwest corner of what is now the junction of Tame Fish Lake Road and County 10. In 1906, they purchased a 2-acre parcel on the Sissebagama Trail just north of Bay Lake and built a store. In 1914, they sold their store to the Ruttgers. Now 103 years old, it is known as the Ruttger’s Country Store.

In 1919, the Grays purchased 8 acres along what is now Tame Fish Lake Road including the shoreline between (approximately) the current Bernardi and Ysseldyke homes, where they built and operated a resort.

Much later, their son Gordon purchased property on the southwest part of the lake on Echo Bay (west of McGlynns’), where he had a home (the current Godfrey home), a resort and a millworks. Many of the cabins that were built or remodeled in the 50s and 60s were from Gray’s Millworks. In 1969, Gordon sold his business to Larry and Nancy Thoms, who operated the business on the original site until 1989, when they built the current Ace Hardware Store.

*Information from Cuyuna Country: A People’s History Volume 1 and interviews.

If your Shoreline History Project is done, read your book, learn about your neighbors and create new friendships. If it’s still underway, jump in with both feet. Enthusiastically responding to

your Shoreline History Coordinator’s requests for submissions is key to success. In my experience almost everyone procrastinates and a few are outright reluctant, but everyone is ecstatic with the end result.



**Celebrate the holidays
with Bay Lake friends**

*Join us at the annual BLIA
Holiday Party, Saturday,
Dec. 12, at Ruttger's
Banquet Room. Social hour
starts at 4:30 p.m., with
dinner at 6. If you do not
receive a flyer, contact Sylvia
Graff at 218-678-2543 or
graffbay@mlecmn.net
for more information.
See you there!*

Image #7659

Runtilla celebration featured live music

Josh Goolsbee introduced the band French Lick during the barbecue celebrating the Runtilla's 25th anniversary. Goolsbee, owner of the Lonesome Pine, and Dennis "Charlie" and Jackie Charles, former White Hawk owners, provided food for the barbecue. Story and more pictures on Page 4.