



Bay Lake Breezes

Bay Lake

Improvement Association Inc.

www.baylake.org

Fall/Winter 2011-2012

Milfoil control going well; we still need to be vigilant

We continue to control Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) in Bay Lake. This was our 20th season of fighting EWM. Our plan works!

With weather on our side for several seasons now, the chemical treatments we've conducted have been very successful. Normal weather conditions, combined with our plan, have enabled native vegetation to thrive and push/hold back the EWM.

We treated approximately 28 acres this fall and eight this past spring, for a total of 36 acres. We also experimented with liquid 2,4-D in select sites and will be able to evaluate the results next spring.

We signed a new five-year Lake Vegetation Management plan with the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) that works very well for us. This agreement gives us a great deal of freedom to work our plan.

One of the changes is that authorization signatures for chemical treatment will now be good for five years instead of three. We also now have the flexibility to work with and try other chemicals for treatment.

Thank you for checking your shoreline and sending in feedback. It is very helpful and

appreciated. As usual we identified some additional treatment sites this year because of your efforts.

We continue to work the public access with volunteers inspecting boats, trying to keep zebra mussels out of Bay Lake. Please help all of us by volunteering for this important effort. Phil and Jane Rollins have done a great job of running this program, which is so needed. Thanks to both of you.

While the lake is in great shape this year, we can't lose sight of

the fact that we are one or two warm, dry seasons away from explosive EWM growth like we experienced in the mid to late 2000s. This year we conducted our fall treatment in mid October, which was a couple of weeks later than normal. With the very mild September and October we'd had, the sites to be treated had become very dense in the five weeks since the inspection.

This should remind us of the past — that weather conditions

EWM, continued on Page 3



Heavy early morning rain couldn't stop the 27th annual Runtilla. Runners took off a few minutes late under cloudy but dry skies. Story on Page 5.

The importance of BLIA membership

Every year I encourage the people on Bay Lake to join or renew their membership in the Bay Lake Improvement Association (BLIA). It is sometimes difficult to come up with a new or different way to

express this idea, but what doesn't change is the importance and the need for people on the lake to be a part of our association. Every year our expenses increase slightly as we try to keep communicating with

all of you. This is one of our prime objectives. We need to keep you informed about activities, concerns and issues that are facing us, which all seem to be increasing. We want you to participate in as many of the BLIA-sponsored activities as possible so we can continue to enhance our sense of community. We want to hear your concerns. And we need to keep you informed about all the issues we are facing, such as more dock regulations, the possibility of zebra mussels getting into Bay Lake and the latest DNR rules.

Because you all have been such strong supporters of the association through the years, I know that those of you who may not have yet joined will do so once you have been reminded that we still need your 2011 dues. They are still only \$30 for the year. Checks can be made out to the Bay Lake Improvement Association and mailed to P.O. Box 461, Deerwood 56444. You may also join online at www.baylake.org.

Thank you in advance for your membership. It is always much appreciated!

Betty Marquardt
Membership chair

Remembering

Our sympathy to the families and friends of these Bay Lakers, whom we lost this summer:

Cecilia Bernardi
Grant (Jerry) Feldman
Robert Mundt, Sr.
Duane Trones

Officers

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

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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, Patricia Jespersion
Fireworks.....Gregg Orwoll
Fishing resources.....Gary Malek
Government.....Jerry Poland
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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

Zebra mussels or not?

Another summer season has passed, and so far there are no signs of the dreaded zebra mussel in Bay Lake. That's not to say that they haven't arrived, by way of a boat from Mille Lacs or Gull or the mighty Mississippi, but a large group of volunteers is working hard to make sure that doesn't happen. The DNR (Department of Natural Resources) estimates that about 50 Minnesota lakes are now infested with zebra mussels.

This past summer season, a large number of your neighbors put in many hours monitoring boats coming into and leaving the lake. In addition, the DNR provided interns to supplement our volunteer efforts.

However, even with all the great volunteer help and DNR intern hours, we were far short of what's needed to cover the ramp for most daylight hours. Here's what we need and what we achieved:

- 630 — number of daylight hours
Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays
- 840 — number of daylight hours
Monday through Thursday

That's about 1,470 hours we're trying to cover over the course of

the busy summer season. Our volunteers accumulated 278 hours of ramp time; DNR interns accounted for another 230 hours. Due to the Minnesota state government shutdown in July, we lost 175 DNR intern hours, roughly all the weekend coverage for July. Fortunately, our fantastic volunteers picked up most of the July weekend ramp shifts.

All that comes to about 500 hours of time our volunteers and DNR interns put in on the ramp this summer, which is huge. But, in coming years, we need to have a stronger presence on the ramp, with more volunteers and additional intern hours.

Next summer, the BLIA Board has committed to "purchase" 500 DNR intern hours, in addition to the approximately 200 "free" hours we typically get. The rest of the job is up to us and, of course, we have the most to lose should zebra mussels or other new invasives get into Bay Lake.

If you are already a ramp monitor, thank you so much for your service. It is through your efforts that we continue to be free of the zebra mussel and other new invasives.

If you are not yet a volunteer, please contact me and I will



coordinate your becoming one in 2012: cell 415-497-2838 or philfishing@gmail.com.

Consider this: If only half of our cabin owners monitored only four hours each over the entire summer, we would be able to cover the boat ramp during all daylight hours. Please join our effort to protect our lake for our children and grandchildren.

Phil Rollins
Access monitoring

EWM, continued from Page 1 will change and conditions for EWM explosive growth will happen again.

Fortunately our lake association's plan and program to control EWM does work. Because of your financial support, we are in a great position to respond to whatever EWM conditions develop. Please keep giving to the Environmental Protection Fund. Thank you.

David Devins
Aquatic plant management



155 enjoy afternoon of golf, scrumptious food to support the Environmental Protection Fund

Despite threatening skies, 77 golfers teed off at Ruttger's on Aug. 13 for the fifth annual Bay Lake Golf Scramble. We only experienced a couple of light drizzles, which did not dampen the spirit of the day!

Another 78 people registered for the picnic only, which was held following the golf tournament in the golf cart shelter. This made a total of 155 registered supporters of the Environmental Protection Fund.

A special thanks to everyone who supported this event, raising more than \$2,800 to help keep our beautiful Bay Lake clean! Great job, everyone!!

Golf Scramble Team prizes were awarded to the following:

First Place Team — Score of 30 (6 under par): Mike & Tim Vanda, Brandon & Tyler Billman

Second Place Team — Score of 31 (5 under par): Chuck, Ted, Charlie & Wes Carlsen

Third Place Team — Score of 31 (5 under par): Megan & Nick Dolejsi, Allie Donnino and Cody Killion

Closest to Pin #7 in one shot: Team of Mike & Tim Vanda, Brandon & Tyler Billman

Closest to Pin #9 in one shot: Team of Tim Bedor, Dave Legut, Danelle, Don & Reily Knutson

The Christensen Insurance Agency sponsored a separate

individual challenge on Pin #9 to hit within a 20-foot circle.

Winners were Vi Klungness and Don Knutson. This event raised \$190 for the Environmental Protection Fund. Thank you!!

A group picture was an added feature this year, with Bob Schwartzbaur doing the photography. Check it out on the BLIA website. Thank you, Bob!

A putting contest was included again this year. Many people qualified for the putting finale, which was worth \$100. Sue Erickson was this year's winner and received an embroidered green jacket "Bay Lake Scramble Master Putter" and a \$100 check from Sunshine Golf (George and LaDonna Reynolds). Congrats, Sue!

A raffle and many door prizes were awarded again this year due to the generosity of the following individuals and businesses: Mary Swanson (afghan), Terry & Bill Bunker (golf at Rio Verde), Jonathan Paquette (Ruttger's Garage), Alex Poland (Ruttger's Garage), Tom Kraft (Zig's), Sam Carte (Tutt's Baits), Cal Thorson (Tutt's Baits), Hansen Sports, White Hawk Restaurant, Lonesome Pine Restaurant, Blue Goose Restaurant & Bar, Coaches Corner Restaurant, Ruttger's Resort, Fine Line Spa at Ruttger's, Sunshine Golf, Christensen Insurance Agency, Ace Hardware, Black Bear Restaurant. Thanks to everyone involved!

We especially thank Jack, Ann and Chris Ruttger for use of their



George Reynolds congratulates Sue Erickson, this year's "Bay Lake Scramble Master Putter" contest winner.

great facilities and their support. Golf Pro Jamie and his staff were excellent in assisting us in setting up the golf tournament. Thanks, guys!

And finally, a huge thanks goes to *everyone* who supported this special event, raising a net \$2,800-plus for the Bay Lake Environmental Protection Fund. Great job, everyone!! We hope you all had an entertaining time.

It's not too early to mark your 2012 calendar for Aug. 11, 2012 —the second Saturday in August —for the sixth annual Golf/Picnic event. Bring your family, friends, guests to support a great effort to keep our lake clean. ALL are WELCOME!

George and LaDonna Reynolds
Co-chairs

27th annual Runtilla successful despite wet weather

Doubt turned into joy July 23 after heavy morning rain stopped just in time to let the annual Runtilla begin.

“We were planning to call the event at 9:15, but the rain stopped at 9:10, so we were able to start at 9:15,” said Jim Bye, Runtilla coordinator.

Participants and spectators totaled about half the usual number, but the event was still a success, raising about \$18,500 for the Environmental Protection Fund. That brings the historical total to about \$185,000, within reach of the milestone \$200,000 mark for next year.

Todd Maus was the overall winner with a time of 19:08, while Janna Swenson ran the course in 20 minutes, 13 seconds, to win the women’s division. Emily Rose created the winning design for this year’s t-shirt.

Bye thanked the 29 volunteers who help make the Runtilla a success every year and White Hawk owners Cindy and Randy Kleve. The Kleves opened the White Hawk at 8 a.m. to shelter Runtilla organizers from the rain, then hosted the awards ceremony and the annual complimentary picnic inside after the race.

“Crowds were patient and had a good time, despite the fact we had to be inside,” said Bye. “People pitched in to help move tables; it was a fun atmosphere. This is the first time we’ve had rain in 27 years, so we’ve never had a backup plan. Now we do.”

Adding to the fun, Warren and Sherm Malkerson provided hand-made baskets, chairs and other craft items for sale, and donated the proceeds to the Environmental Protection Fund.



Runtilla winners pose with Jim Bye, third from left. Sherm Malkerson is sitting in one of the chairs for sale to help raise money for the Environmental Protection Fund.

Bye invited Bay Lakers to make similar donations at future Runtillas.

Bye also thanked Bay Lakers for their flexibility.

Here are the 2011 winners:

Age 0 to 10

- 1 - Lily Maus, 8, 32:59
- 2 - Anna Liv Fredrickson, 10, 36:16
- 1 - Henry Campbell, 8, 22:20
- 2 - Luke Jessen, 10, 24:15
- 3 - Jacob Wroblecki, 10, 25:12

Age 11 to 15

- 1 - Lily Campbell, 11, 22:05
- 2 - Emily Rose, 14, 24:20
- 3 - Natalie Maus, 12, 25:52
- 1 - Henry Jessen, 15, 22:36
- 2 - Brendan Maus, 11, 23:34
- 3 - David Birkeland, 11, 24:50

Age 16 to 20

- 1 - Gina Luke, 20, 20:42
- 2 - Michelle Sass, 20, 30:06
- 3 - Madison Bates, 20, 32:41
- 1 - Max Hanson, 20, 19:30
- 2 - Louie Page, 20, 21:16
- 3 - Sam Johnson, 19, 22:03

“I was extremely pleased with their adjustability,” he said. “With the uncertain weather, we didn’t know what we were going to do, but all of a sudden it happened, and it turned out to be a great event.”

Age 21 to 30

- 1 - Janna Winkle, 25:26
- 2 - Anna Christensen, 25:37
- 3 - Brooke Sorensen, 27:05
- 3 - Jackie Sorensen, 27:05
- 1 - Bud Rossina, 21:04
- 2 - Britt Goetze, 23:16
- 3 - L. A. Sorensen, 27:45

Age 31 to 40

- 1 - Janna Swenson, 20:13
- 2 - Jennifer Swenson, 22:36
- 3 - Cara Campbell, 23:34
- 1 - Chris Martin, 21:23
- 2 - Jon Birkeland, 22:07
- 3 - Dan Hoolstaetter, 26:33

Age 41 to 50

- 1 - Julie Swenson, 22:09
- 2 - Peggy Jessen, 26:50
- 3 - Cathy Paper, 27:35

Runtilla, continued on Page 7 5

Bay Lake Camp welcomes campers all year long

Holiday Greetings from Bay Lake Camp! 2011 marked our 85th year of camping on beautiful Bay Lake's Church Island. First Lutheran Church of St. Paul thanks you for your ongoing support.

We have had campers throughout the year, including many church, 4-H, theater and public school groups, family reunions, quilter and crafter groups, and wedding parties. This year we have campers over the winter holiday and a New Year's Eve party scheduled. Remember BLC when planning your business and church retreats, family reunions and celebrations. Our Red Cedar Lodge is a great setting. Come, check it out.

A big part of our mission is Sunday morning worship services, where all are welcome. Thanks to all who help make this happen each Sunday,



Ten swimmers paddling from Hansen's Sports dock to the White Hawk in August raised more than \$2,500 to help send kids to Bay Lake Camp.

Memorial Day through Labor Day. Once again we hosted an average of 200 people each Sunday. On Labor Day Sunday more than 350 people came together to worship and then celebrate Bay Lake Camp at our fourth annual Art Jam and Raffle, raising funds to "Send a Kid to Camp." Thank you, Bay Lake area businesses who donated and all the talented friends of BLC who donated

items for the raffle, and thanks to all of you who purchased raffle tickets.

Our second annual "Big Swim" in August also raised more than \$2,500 to "Send a Kid to Camp." This year we had 10 participants swim from Hansen's Sports dock to the White Hawk! Thank you, swimmers and spotters, for making this a fun and successful event. Watch for details about next summer's "Big Swim" in the spring issue of the Breezes.

A gift of \$250 will send a kid to BLC for a week next summer. Thank you for helping us serve campers who cannot afford this experience without help.

On Sunday, Jan. 1, join us for our annual New Year's Day worship service. We will gather at noon around the campfire at the outdoor chapel. Check with Hansen's store or Maleks to confirm if the weather or ice conditions are questionable. What a great way to welcome in the New Year! Hope to see you there.

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



"Big Swim" participants pose before diving in.

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

Website reaches more people than ever as part of a strong informational network

2011 was a year of content growth, with about 70 new articles (including three to four times that many new pictures) and enhanced presentation techniques. If you haven't been regularly checking www.baylake.org, please do so now. See what you missed and then make a commitment to check weekly beginning in mid May (or earlier to view the Webcam and/or watch the Ice Out Contest).

But more important, 2011 was when this old timer was dragged into the age of Facebook and Twitter...and I owe my daughter, Kristine, for leading the way. Folks, this is

powerful stuff. By combining BLIA e-mail blasts, Facebook and Twitter with www.baylake.org, we reach well over 1,000 Bay Lakers...and Facebook and Twitter reach a high number of young (and young at heart) Bay Lakers that may not be BLIA members (i.e. kids and grandkids) and therefore don't get the Breezes or BLIA e-mail blasts. In fact, nearly 800 people follow Bay Lake on Facebook alone!

This means we've evolved from a nice community website where the Ice Out Contest and Webcam were the primary draws, to an informational network capable of entertaining, informing,

educating and, ultimately, affecting opinions and behavior. www.baylake.org now gets an average of nearly 300 visitors and 2,000 hits **per day**. Why is this important? Because our mission is "Information to Strengthen Our Community" and, as I constantly repeat, Bay Lake is more than a lake. It's a community and, for most of us, it's "home," regardless of where we actually live, and it's "home" to multiple generations. Whatever we do to enhance our community has a huge payback. **Please visit www.baylake.org weekly and/or follow BayLakeMN on Facebook or Twitter.**

Paul Erickson

Shoreline History project to conclude in 2012

The Cottage Hill Road/Indian Point, Eaglewood and North Bay Shore (Tame Fish Road) shorelines completed their projects this summer, bringing the number of successful shorelines to 17. Next spring Bay Lake Shores and Pioneer Bay will complete their projects, bringing total participation to about 90 percent. Nearly 400 cabins will have gotten their Shoreline History Books. To see a map of the status of this project, go to www.baylake.org.

I know that saying our Shoreline History Project is about to conclude is like a store saying it's having yet another "Going Out of Business Sale," but by this time next year the shorelines that haven't been involved will be left behind. If you live on Wild Bird Lane,

Evergreen Trail, Bayview, Scotland Shores or County 10 and you want to help preserve the history of your shoreline for your family and neighbors, contact me at ericksonpaulsue@aol.com. With focus, your project can be done in a month (and I'll create the book).

Rather than include another historical story in this issue of the Breezes, I'm going to ask a favor. If you haven't already watched our presentation "Bay Lake History — Railroads & Mining," please do so now. It's in the History Project section on the www.baylake.org home page. You don't need to be a railroad or mining buff to enjoy this short presentation. I guarantee that you'll find it interesting.

Paul Erickson

Runtilla, continued from Page 5

- 1 - Todd Maus, 19:08
- 2 - Dan Wroblewski, 20:10
- 3 - Mike Rose, 21:57

Age 51 to 60

- 1 - Nancy Sorensen, 25:06
- 2 - Diane Meyer, 26:23
- 3 - Tari Sherry, 29:45
- 1 - Dean Hansen, 19:57
- 2 - Steve Sherry, 27:32
- 3 - Paul Perpich, 28:57

Age 61 to 70

- 1 - Mary Maus, 27:31
- 2 - Barbara Anderson, 40:58
- 3 - Carol Malek, 49:35
- 1 - Sherm Malkerson, 24:59
- 2 - Dave Winkle, 25:26
- 3 - Bill Conway, 26:34

Age 71 to 100

- 1 - Ken Hodges, 39:39

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

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Celebrate the Holiday Season with your Bay Lake friends

Join us at the 2011 BLIA Holiday Party

Saturday, Dec. 10
Ruby's Room at Ruttger's

Social hour starts at 5 p.m., with dinner at 6.

Reservation material will come in the mail.
For more information, call Sylvia Graff, 218-678-2543.

See you there!

