



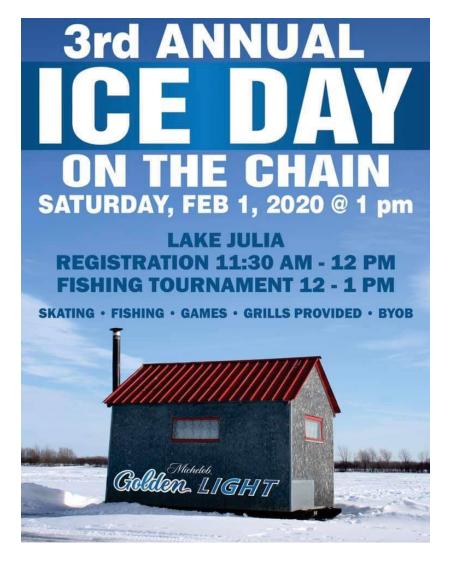


**Remembering the Past – Improving the Future** ...promoting the care, improvement, and general welfare of the Briggs Lake Chain [Julia, Briggs, Rush and Big Elk] and the adjoining and connecting waters.

Mark your calendar... For these upcoming meetings

T LID Meeting Monday, 12/2 6:30 (1st Monday) Healthy Lakes Thursday, 12/5 6:30 (1st Thursday) Palmer Township Meeting Monday, 12/9 7:00 (2nd Monday) Clear Lake Township Meeting Tuesday, 12/7 7:00 (3rd Tuesday) BLCA Board Meeting Saturday, 12/14 8:30 (2nd Saturday) Board of Adjustments Thursday, 12/12 5:30 (2nd Thursday)





December Lake Report - THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Brad Kipp email: bradkipp1@gmail.com cell: 612-810-6738

As I write this letter, I am still anticipating Thanksgiving weekend with family and friends. By the time you read this it will be December. So I want to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas.

Our planned December activity is the "Lighted Train Around the Lakes" Saturday December 7th. This is when we decorate our golf carts, four wheelers, or other small vehicles with a winter/Christmas theme and have a parade around the lakes. The date is set, and most of the details are finalized. Go to our Facebook page (briggslakechainassociation) for more information.

Another winter event, the "Ice Day on Julia" is planned for Feb 2nd. Again more details will be on the Facebook page.

The "Lighted Train" and "Ice Day" have two things in common. Both events were started last year. Both events were started by a small group that wanted to have

some fun around the lakes. Robert Sinclair started the Lighted Train. Forrest Brothen and his neighbors started Ice Day. They gave the lake association a "heads up" on their plan. The BLCA thought it was a great idea and offered financial and volunteer support. Both events were a big success and will be expanded this year.

Several years ago Mark Baker and some friends thought we should have a fireworks display. For a few years they did it all, got the donations, booked the show, and helped set up the display. Mark and his friends are still the key people behind the scenes setting up the fireworks. Several years ago the BLCA (Briggs Lake Chain Association) partnered with Mark. Now the BLCA manages the fireworks donations and includes it in our membership drive.

Two years ago, and again this year, the Junior Board of Directors wanted to sponsor a fishing contest over the July 4th weekend. It was a fun event. The Junior Board asked the BLCA board for support. We responded with a contribution for the prize money.

All of the above have a common theme. Someone or a small group had an idea. Let's do something that would bring our lake community together and be a fun activity. Do you have something in mind you would like to organize? Go for it. Reach out to any board member if you want our help or participation. I don't think we have enough activities that appeal to the youth (Jr. High & High School) in the area.

Another subject: Where did all the people go? I ran across an old email from the Sherburne County Assessors Office.

The upper three lakes on the Briggs Chain (Briggs, Rush & Julia) have 401 dwellings on lakeshore properties. 231 of the properties were homesteaded, indicating they are lived in year round. Thus 231/401 of the properties or 54.6% can be considered year round residents.

On Big Elk 53 of the 103 lakeshore dwelling total were homesteaded. So 53/106 of the properties or 51.5% can be considered year-round residents.

Hope this answers the common question; How many of us live here year round. And NO, the rest of us don't want to hear your stories that it is too hot in Florida and Arizona in January.

Thanks ... Brad

JUST SOME F.Y.I. INFORMATION

## EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL INFORMATION

# Purpose of Survey

These surveys was designed to locate and delineate areas of Eurasian watermilfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum, henceforth referred to as EWM) in Briggs Lake, Julia Lake, Rush Lake, and Big Elk Lake in the summer of 2019. At the request of the Three Lake Improvement District, Rush Lake was surveyed in late June to help guide any summer herbicide treatments, while the remaining lakes were surveyed in August. These later surveys maximized the likelihood of finding any small areas of EWM by allowing any EWM time to grow to the water surface where it would be more easily found.

EWM Delineation Surveys Freshwater Scientific Services surveyed Rush Lake on June 26 and Briggs, Julia, and Big Elk Lake on Aug 19, 2019, with an additional EWM search of Julia during the point-intercept plant survey conducted on Aug 2. During each of these surveys, we navigated a meandering transect over the portion of each lake that supported plants (generally <10 ft). In addition, we conducted a more intensive search (additional rake tosses) in the area surrounding the channel between Rush and Briggs. In all, we surveyed a total path length of 26 miles across all 4 lakes. While navigating these search paths, we used a combination of surface observations, sonar readings, and rake tosses to locate and delineate areas of EWM growth. Sonar and visual assessments were conducted continuously, with subsequent rake tosses to assess EWM abundance at locations where plants were not identifiable from the surface.

EWM in the Briggs Chain During the 2019 surveys, we found only one location with EWM (single EWM plant in Rush Lake). This suggests that the management of EWM in Rush Lake over the past few years has been very effective. Furthermore, it suggests that EWM has not spread to the other lakes in the chain and that the threat of such spread is currently low. Based upon experience with similar EWM control projects in other lakes, it is likely that some EWM remains in the lake and we may see some patches of EWM reestablish from remaining roots in the coming years. However, TLID should be commended on a very successful EWM management program in 2018 and 2019

If you have an Amazon Account you can designate on the smile program for the BLCA to receive 5% of each of your purchases. Please consider adding us to add to our account.

Committes are formed on the board with a board member in all lead positions. We

are always looking for people who want to get involved. Please contact a board member if you would like to take part in any of the committees. Look on our briggs lake chain website for the committees.

Door Prizes are always appreciated. Contact Adele Munsterman if you have anything you would like to donate. Adele can be reached at munstrushlake@aol.com or by phone at 612-310-7791

If you have updates to our membership list please contact Debbie Stacey at debbie.stacey@comcast.net

BRIGGS LAKE CHAIN FINANCIALS KERRI WELCH Financial Statement for 10/31/2019

Total Income budget 34,595

yr to date actual 40,026 Variance 5,431.05

Total Expenses budget 33,975

Total expenses yr to date 26,590

Variance 7,384.80

Total in savings and checking 105,962.92

Please check the website for minutes from our board meetings. If you have any questions or comments our board members are also featured on the website with contact information.

Again, we encourage ALL lake residents to get involved. It's easy and you meet lots of your neighbors. Lake reps are needed on Briggs, Rush and Julia.

IF YOU LIVE ON ONE OF THE FOUR LAKES and you are not a member of the BLCA please consider joining.

Check the BLCA website for this years membership form.

# **REMINDERS!**

You can find a copy of our handy dandy 'Welcome' booklet on the www.briggslakechainassociation.com website.

## ->Briggs Lake Chain Association Contact Info<-

The Lake Report is published for the benefit of BLCA members and lake residents. Please submit articles and feedback by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the next issue. Email or snail mail copy to the Editor.

See us on the Web at:

https://www.briggslakechainassociation.com *Email us at*:

blca@briggslakechainassociation.com

Webmaster: Mike Flanery

Deb Stacey: The Lake Report Editor & Green Sheet contact 651-226-4069 or Email: debbie.stacey@comcast.net

Brad Kipp: Membership Data Updates contact info: bradkipp1@gmail.com

Phone: 612-810-6738

# **TOWNSHIP MEETINGS**

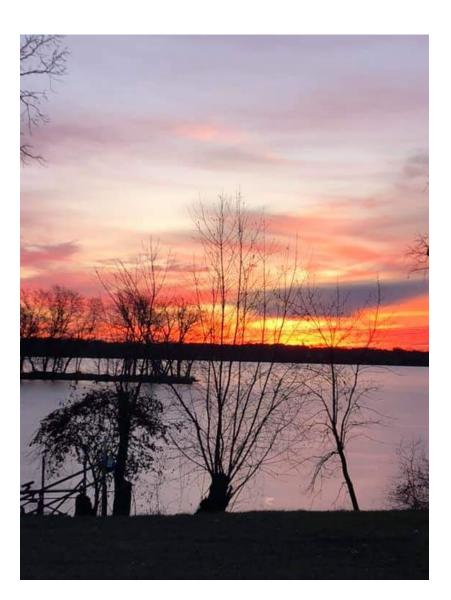
#### **Palmer Township**

The Palmer Township Board meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Township Hall. Let Kelly McCann know of agenda items by email at: palmertwp@gmail.com by noon on Tuesday before the meeting or call her at 743-2100. Our website is: www.palmertownshipmn.org

#### **Clear Lake Township**

The Clear Lake Township Board meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Township Hall. Let the Township clerk know of agenda items by Thursday morning before the meeting. To contact Clear Lake Township, please call 320-743-2472 or email the Township Clerk at: clearlaketwp@hotmail.com

\_Please attend your respective Township meeting and voice your concerns about matters relating to our lakes.



# PLEASE EMAIL DEB ANY PICTURES YOU TAKE OF THE LAKE, THE SCENERY AND THE FUN YOU HAVE IN THE SUMMER TO

debbie.stacey@comcast.net

and you may see them published in a newsletter in the future ALSO

if you have any memories, pictures of the past, etc. I would love to add them. We will be adding a section in the newsletter titled Remembering the Past. We would like to include historical things about our four lakes.

