





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 watersheds.

May Lake Report - The Presidents Letter

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

Happy Spring,

Happy Spring was my opening salutation for the April newsletter. Wow, so much has happened since April. In the news we get the daily update on events that are cancelled, or may be cancelled.

After weeks of self quarantine and thinking, "Will this ever end"?, the good news is the days are getting longer, the temperatures are rising, and the grass is getting greener. Soon we will be enjoying a campfire or a flotilla on the lake and maintaining our "social distancing".

Our Welcome to the Briggs Lake Chain Community information brochure had not been updated for a few years. A new updated 2020 edition is now available. Thanks to Volunteer editors Mike & Debbie Stacey and Ruth Thom for all their time and energy getting the new brochure up to date. By the time this newsletter " goes to press" a digital edition will be available on line at the BLCA website. <https://briggslakechainassociation.com/> Go to the membership tab and download the Welcome to the Community Information file. Our chairman of the communications committee, Debbie Stacey will post this on Facebook. In addition to a digital edition, the old fashioned paper hard copies are available. We plan to print plenty of copies for board members to hand out. Also you can email me(bradkipp1@gmail.com) and I will mail you or hand deliver you the brochure.

The Welcome brochure is a resource for information on the BLCA (Briggs Lake Chain Association), Sherburne County, Palmer Township, Becker, and other localities. Everything from contact phone numbers, local ordinances , permit requirements, and so much more is in this publication. I have been part of the Briggs Lake community since 2000. After I read the final edition of the new Welcome brochure, I was surprised how much new information is in the book.

The Palmer Directory should be available by the end of the month. In addition to local phone numbers, this is your resource to find and support our local businesses. Again, another Thanks to Volunteer editor Roger Miller and his team for putting that book together.

The fish stocking of Walleye into Big Elk lake is still scheduled for this month. We have to wait until the water temperature is warmer. The right temperature increases the survival rate. It will be a week or two.

We are also planning our annual Highway 25 clean up. The BLCA sponsors a

section of the road. We clean up the ditches once in the spring and again in the fall. You may have seen our blue sponsorship sign. The tentative date is Saturday May 16th. We will meet in the parking lot at the Palmer Town Hall at 10:00. We should be done by noon. Please email me (bradkipp1@gmail.com) if you want to volunteer and help. It is subject to change if it is bad weather that day. We will furnish colorful safety vests and trash bags. I think we can safely maintain our social distance walking the ditches.

The lake association motto is: 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 adjoining and connecting watershed.

Thank You for being good stewards of our lakes and supporting the BLCA with your membership donation.

Brad

Mark your calendar... For these upcoming meetings

T LID Meeting Monday, 5/4 6:00(1st Monday)

Healthy Lakes Thursday, 5/7 6:30 (1st Thursday)

Palmer Township Meeting Monday, 5/11 7:00 (2nd Monday)

Clear Lake Township Meeting Tuesday, 5/12 7:00 (3rd Tuesday)

BLCA Board Meeting Saturday, 5/9 8:30 (2nd Saturday)

Board of Adjustments Thursday, 5/14 5:30 (2nd Thursday)

PLEASE CHECK TO MAKE SURE MEETINGS ARE STILL HAPPENING WITH THE SHELTER IN PLACE ORDER

Committees 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 3/31/2020

Income to date: \$19,317.42

Expenses to date: \$8,830.65

Net Proceeds: \$10,486.77

Rapid Response Money Market \$115,959.31

Checking Total Funds Held: \$ 1,349.70

Total BLCA Assets \$ 117,309.01

Questions on the financials, please contact Treasurer Kerri Welch at
BLCAtreasurer@yahoo.com



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 ASSOCIATIONS LIKE OURS ARE PART OF THE LARGEST CONSERVATION GROUP IN MINNESOTA.....

WEBINARS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH MINNESOTA LAKES AND RIVERS THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO YOU
SOME OF THESE ARE:

1. It's time to get the lead out and protect waterfowl from lead poisoning
2. News from the Capitol
3. Protect your lake in three ways
4. Hubbard COLA partnership with 4H. Teaching the next generation of lake advocates
5. Cows for clean water
6. Now is the time to join Minnesota Lakes and Rivers advocates statewide effort

to protect our lakes

Other webinars are listed on their website at www.mnlakesanddrivers.org



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 or contact Debbie Stacey at Debbie.stacey@comcast.net



SURE SIGN THAT SUMMER IS ON THE WAY.....FISH STOCKING WILL BE HAPPENING IN MAY !!!

DNR News Release

For Immediate Release:

April 21, 2020

Questions? Contact DNR Information Center by email or call 888-646-6367

DNR: Be safe, practice social distancing on the water

As boaters across Minnesota prepare to hit the water, they need to keep in mind tips for being safe on cold water as well as their responsibility for staying close to home and practicing socially distancing under Gov. Tim Walz's "Stay at Home" executive order.

"As Minnesotans, we have a natural urge to get outside this time of year – and for many of us, that's especially true this spring," said Rodmen Smith, DNR Enforcement Division director. "We constantly remind people about ways they

can stay safe while they're on the water. In light of COVID-19, we also ask this year that you take additional steps to protect yourself, your family, and the people around you."

Cold-water safety

No matter when the ice went out, there's one common theme: The water this time of year is dangerously cold. Falls into the water can quickly turn tragic. With water temperatures not much above freezing, a fall is likely will trigger cold-water shock. Numbness will set in quickly, and swimming or calling for help will be difficult. You'll probably gasp uncontrollably and draw water into your lungs. Even strong swimmers may drown within minutes.

"The best way to prevent that from happening is to wear a life jacket – actually wear it, not just have it along," said Lisa Dugan, DNR Enforcement recreation safety outreach coordinator. "It's the easiest and most effective way to prevent an unfortunate situation from turning into a tragedy."

The cold-water season isn't the time to boat alone, either. This year, people should head out only with members of their immediate household and let others on shore know where they're going and when they plan to return. Keep the floor of the boat free of clutter to avoid tripping and falling into the water, and ensure the boat has safety equipment such as life jackets, communication and noise-making devices, and a first-aid kit.

Boating during COVID-19

When hitting the water, know the DNR's COVID-19 outdoor recreation guidelines and practice the following to protect yourselves and others:

- Maintain social distance of at least 6 feet. This includes places such as fuel stations and community docks, and means no beaching or tying up to other boats.
- Boat only with people in your immediate household.
- Boat close to home. Travel to and from the access site without making other stops.
- When fueling, wash your hands as you would when fueling a car. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Do not touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- When launching and loading your boat, give people ahead of you plenty of time and space to finish launching or loading before you approach.
- Keep in mind water-access site conditions may be different than in previous years. DNR-managed accesses are open, but spring maintenance is not completed.
- If you have been diagnosed with, or are exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (including fever, cough, or difficulty breathing), stay home. This self-isolation period should extend for at least seven days after the illness begins and include 72 hours of being fever-free without using fever-reducing medications and

resolution of other symptoms.

- Know what's open. To see what DNR-managed sites are available, see the DNR's COVID-19 website or call the DNR information center at 651-296-6157 or 888 646-6367

REMINDERS!

You can find a copy of our handy dandy 'Welcome' booklet on the www.briggslakechainassociation.com website. The welcome booklet has been updated and the new one will be on the website in a couple of weeks. Lake reps will be distributing the booklet to those who would like one. Please contact your lake rep for your copy.

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.

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<https://www.briggslakechainassociation.com>

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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

Our website is: www.clearlaketownship.org

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

THE MEMBERSHIP FORM CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE.....

IMPORTANT REMINDERS FROM COLE PETROSKE

1. Any structure places in the water overnight and not extending from the shore must be permitted by the Sheriff's Office. These structures may include

swim
rafts/mats,
buoys,
slalom
courses,
etc.

2. Any
events
held
on
the
water
must
also
be
permitted.
Fishing
tournaments,
parades,
contests,
etc.

The permits are free and must be updated annually.

You can download them from the Sheriff's Office Recreational Enforcement Webpage or get a copy from our website.

Any questions, please contact Cole Petroske at 763-765-3570 or email at cole.petroske@co.sherburne.mn.us

Yahoo.....Briggs Lake Chain will once again be participating in the cook out at McDonalds meats. It will be in July and calls will be made to get volunteers to work the booth for the day. If you would like to volunteer please contact Karen Jones at karenj55319@midco.net.



DIRECTORY

The directory is going to print.

Hopefully everyone who sent in their membership form wrote the number they want in the directory on the form.

The Directory will be distributed by your lake rep.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR MAIL RECEPTICLES ARE CLEAN AND ACCESSIBLE. OTHERWISE THE DIRECTORIES WON'T BE PUT IN.

There were a number of mailboxes that the mailperson deemed inaccessible and their membership letters were returned. Please check yours. Thanks in advance.

Mark your calendars and watch for information on the general meeting in June for a quick presentation on lyme's disease and an update from Cole Petroski from Sherburne County as well as our annual picnic.....

Decision will be made at our May meeting about whether this will be held or not because of Covid-19



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