





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.

June Lake Report - The Presidents Letter

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

Happy Summer,

Yes, I know the official first day of summer starts June 20th. I was out on the lakes Memorial Day weekend. Summer has already started on our lakes. I think there were more boats on the lakes then a 4th of July weekend. The social distancing was good. I talked to one fisherman who caught 20 big crappies. He had a sign on his boat that said, "You must keep a social distance of 40 feet from my boat". 😊

Positive things happened in May. The annual stocking of Walleye fries (the mini baby fish) on Big Elk was completed Friday, May 8th. Thousands were released. In two years the 5% that reach eating size will be ready to catch. THANKS to the volunteers who helped on this project. Member contributions, on the sponsorship form, funded the \$2,000 for the stocking. I think our friends on Big Elk should have a plan to catch a bunch of them and invite the rest of us over for a fish fry in two years.

Saturday, May 16th a group of volunteers cleaned up a three mile section of Highway 25. This is a semi-annual project that the BLCA supports. Another THANKS to the clean up team. We should have had a contest to see who picked up the most tobacco chew tins and empty Fireball shot bottles. There were a lot of them.

More positive for summer. July 4th lake events will go forward as planned. Last week I reached out to the Sheriff for Sherburne County recreational water enforcement officer and our fireworks vendor. Both said, at this point, there is no reason to think our fireworks display can't go on as planned. THANKS to all who all who contributed to the fireworks fund. All donations of any size are appreciated. A special THANKS to a number of you who donated \$100 or more. Our goal and budget of \$8,000 for 2020 is the same as last year. We achieved our goal. We will enjoy another spectacular fireworks event that will last around 30 minutes.

FIREWORKS: FRIDAY, JULY 3RD AT DUSK ON BRIGGS

BOAT PARADES AT BIG ELK AND BRIGGS: PARADES START AT NOON ON SATURDAY, JULY 4TH. 11:30 LINE-UP BY THE BRIGGS/RUSH CHANNEL AND BY THE PUBLIC ACCESS ON ELK. CASH PRIZES FOR 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD FOR BOTH PARADES.

In June we usually have a general membership meeting and picnic in the park.

Sorry to say that had to be CANCELLED DUE TO THE VIRUS.

Our next scheduled general membership meeting hopefully will be the second Saturday in August at the town hall.

One more positive sign summer is here. The best ice cream cones in the county are back again at the Briggs Lake Store. What's your favorite flavor? Mine is chocolate.

Enjoy Summer and stay safe Brad

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, 6/1 6:00(1st Monday)

Healthy Lakes Thursday, 6/4 6:30 (1st Thursday)

Palmer Township Meeting Monday, 6/8 7:00 (2nd Monday)

Clear Lake Township Meeting Tuesday, 6/16 7:00 (3rd Tuesday)

BLCA Board Meeting Saturday, 6/13 8:30 (2nd Saturday)

Board of Adjustments Thursday, 6/11 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



BRIGGS LAKE CHAIN FINANCIALS KERRI WELCH

Financial Statement for 4/30/2020

Income to date: \$21,468.40

Expenses to date: \$9,008.06

Net Proceeds: \$12,460.34

Rapid Response Money Market \$116,178.61

Checking Total Funds Held: \$ 4,430.32

Total BLCA Assets \$ 120,608.93

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.mnlakesandrivers.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

THIS YEARS MEMBERSHIP TOTAL SO FAR IS 231.

Come on people, we can do better than that....

. Do you enjoy the fireworks ?

. Do you like that fact that the BLCA is working to keep the lakes clean?

. Do you like the picnics and the brat sales and all the other activities the BLCA sponsors?

. Do you like getting the newsletter emailed or snail mailed to you?

Your membership and donations make these things possible.



BLUE GILLS



WALLEYE FRIES



WATCHERS

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 in 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 NEW handy dandy 'Welcome' booklet on the www.briggslakechainassociation.com website. The welcome booklet has been updated. 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.

See us on the Web at:

<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

Hopefully everyone sent in their membership form before the directory went to print and 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.

UNFORTUNATELY THERE WILL BE NO JUNE GENERAL MEETING OR PICNIC.

WE ARE SAD ABOUT THIS BUT CERTAINLY DON'T THINK WE COULD DO SOCIAL DISTANCING WELL ENOUGH AT THIS TIME.



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