

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.

March Lake Report - The President's Letter Brad Kipp email: bradkipp1@gmail.com cell: 612 810 6738

Greetings,

Goodbye to a cold February. Who would think the ice will ever melt? It will. This a reminder to all you fisherman that your houses need to be off the lake by March 2nd. The first day of spring is March 20th.

One last comment about February. The 4th annual ICE DAY ON THE CHAIN was another successful event. Yes.. It was cold. "Ya sure .. you betcha" .. we Minnesotans are a hearty bunch. It was fun. Now we are ready for spring. It was a huge group effort to put on this event. A big THANKS to Forrest Brothen, his team and everyone who worked to make this happen and all of you who braved the cold.

The 2021 membership drive is in full swing. Thanks to everyone who already sent in their renewal. Our Thank You for your membership & other donations and your 2021 membership sign will be in the mail soon. This year's signs are green. Please find a place to display your sign where everyone driving by can see it. Be proud of your sponsorship and encourage others to join the BLCA.

Hopefully you are aware there is an opportunity for a new county park on the Howard Weise property on Big Elk Lake. The county is working on a master plan for the potential future county park. A couple weeks ago they hosted a question and answer session at the Elk landing. In addition there is a link to their website to offer suggestions and give opinions on the park. If you have an opinion PRO or CON, now is the time to speak up. If this is new news to you, feel free to give me a call or send an email.

I encourage anyone who wants to be more involved and active in our lake association to come to a monthly board meeting. Meetings are the 2nd Saturday of the month 8:30 AM at the Palmer Town Hall.

We have openings for board members representing Briggs, Rush & Julia. Big Elk is fully represented.

Do you have any questions, suggestions ... PRO or CON you want to present to the board? If you can't make a meeting, once again, you can give me a call or

send me an email. I will let the board know your comments and include that in our minutes.

Think Spring and Happy St Patrick's Day Brad

Summary of the Healthy Lakes Meeting - February 4, 2021

The Healthy Lakes group meets on the first Thursday of every month at the Palmer Township Hall at 6:30 PM. This is a group of people that have an interest in the health of all four lakes. Everyone is welcome, you do not need to join, come share your thoughts and interests.

The following items were discussed at our Feb. meeting:

- TLID update
- Grants: TLID and HL
- Sherburne County Park Update (Wiese property)
- Big Lake LID Status
- Early Detection/Rapid Response Plan:
- Change in Lake Spraying for Individual Property Owners
- 2021 Healthy Lakes Goals

The next Healthy Lakes meeting is on March 4th at the Palmer Township Hall at 6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome!

Mark your calendar... For these upcoming meetings

T LID Meeting Monday, 3/1 6:00(1st Monday) Healthy Lakes Thursday, 3/4 6:30 (1st Thursday) Palmer Township Meeting Monday, 3/8 7:00 (2nd Monday) Clear Lake Township Meeting Tuesday, 3/16 7:00 (3rd Tuesday) BLCA Board Meeting Saturday, 3/13 8:30 (2nd Saturday) Board of Adjustments Thursday, 3/11 5:30 (2nd Thursday)

PLEASE CHECK TO MAKE SURE MEETINGS ARE STILL HAPPENING *

PARKING HAS BECOME AN ISSUE AROUND THE LAKES HERE IS A REMINDER OF THE PARKING ORDINANCE

A seasonal parking ban will go into effect on November 15th of each year and shall remain in effect until April 15th of the following year. NO VEHICLE SHALL

BE PARKED IN ANY PORTION OF A STREET OR HIGHWAY

In addition, no person shall park a vehicle in any portion of a street or highway for a period exceeding 24 hours. After 24 hours, the vehicle may be towed away and impounded at the owner's expense.

Under no circumstances shall a person park a vehicle in any portion of a street or highway in such a way as to create a hazard for the traveling pubic or interfere with maintenance of the right-of-way. The Sherburne County Sheriff's Department may issue a parking citation and sign a towing order.

ALSO A REMINDER TO SLOW DOWN ON THE STREETS AROUND THE LAKE.

On Saturday, January 30th there was a gathering and informational session about what is being proposed for the Weiss property on Elk Lake. It was an informal meeting with questions being raised about what will go on the property and the resident's concerns about the impact on the lake.

Will there be another boat access?

What about the increased traffic to our small lake?

Has anyone contacted the tribes about the burial ground on the property?

Will there be camping, hiking trails, a nature preserve or what is the county thinking?

There will be more informational meetings to come but everyone is invited to comment and give suggestions to the county. Please contact Gina Hugo, Sherburne County Parks Coordinator, at gina.hugo@co.sherburne.mn.us

SINCE THAT INFORMATIONAL MEETING...

Our Board President, Brad Kipp, has been asked to write a letter supporting the grant for the purchase of the property. After discussion about this at the last board meeting that was attended by about 40 Elk Lake Residents, the letter has been sent to all members who receive this newsletter BUT that letter has not been sent yet. There is still some discussion and commenting going on so I will put a copy of the final letter as an addendum to this newsletter when it is sent.

AN IRISH BLESSING

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rain fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again May god hold you in the palm of his hand

and finally:

May your troubles be less, Your blessings be more, And nothing but happiness come through your door.



B.L.C.A. FINANCIALS

Operating funds checking \$ 8,928.56 Money Market Rapid Response \$ 100,025.22 Total BLCA Cash \$ 109,953.78

Looking forward to the start of Spring?.....I know I am Spring begins on Saturday, March 20th.(hoping)

Ice Houses need to be off the lake in a day or two. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE pick up your trash as you leave the lake. Let's all work to keep out lakes looking great.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14TH is the start of Daylight Savings time. Remember to spring ahead.

ICE DAY on the lake was a huge success. There are so many pictures to choose from and we can't put them all in the newsletter so please look on our facebook page for people's individual photos.

Dates in March that may or may not be important to you. This is not all of them. There is something almost every day...

- 3/1 National Peanut butter lover's day
- 3/1 Self Injury Awareness day
- 3/2 Read across America

3/2 Teen Mental Wellness Day 3/4 Hug a G.I. day 3/5 Employee Appreciation day 3/6 National day of UNPLUGGING 3/6 National Dress day 3/9 National Meatball day 3/10 National Hug your dog day 3/12 National plant a flower day 3/13 National K9 Veteran day 3/13 National Good Samaritan day 3/15 National napping day 3/16 National Corn dog day 3/17 ST PATTY'S DAY 3/19 National let's laugh day 3/20 SPRING SPRING'S 3/21 National Poetry day 3/21 National down's syndrome day 3/22 National goof off day 3/23 National puppy day 3/28 PALM SUNDAY 3/29 National Vietnam War Veteran's day

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH.

In 1980 President Jimmy Carter declared the week beginning March 8th as National Women's History week and congress passed a resolution establishing that week as an official annual celebration. Eventually congress extended the celebration to include the whole month of March and in 1987 the first women's history month celebrated the achievements of women and their contribution to culture, history, and society. Those who paved the way for the fight for equality and those women who continue to fight for women's rights today

The official color of National Women's history month is PURPLE and the theme for 2021 is

"Valient Women of the Vote: Refusing to be silenced" in honor of the women's suffrage movement.

HOW ABOUT STARTING A NEW SECTION IN THE NEWSLETTER? RECIPES.....We all have to cook. Let's share some favorite recipes with our neighbors.

Email them to me and I will put one or two into the newsletter each month.

