



Bass Lake Association - Summer Newsletter August 7, 2023

It has been a busy, warm, and dry summer so far. Lots to update you on so please sit back, relax, and read on.

Loon Update

What a difference 8 weeks makes! Baby loon (Our granddaughter has named him/her Cupcake) hatched on June 2, 2023, has grown dramatically and appears to be preparing for his/her diving and pilot's licenses. Mom, dad, and baby are usually spotted in the bay near the boat launch, along the south shore and along the east shore. As the chick grows more independent, they are venturing farther from the shoreline. The distance between mom, dad and baby grows as well. Baby is still not a full-grown loon so it can be harder to spot in the water. **Be aware!!** It is not unusual to see the baby swimming by itself while mom and dad keep watch from a distance. The parents are still VERY protective of their chick so please keep your distance. 150' is the recommended distance between any watercraft and a loon.



June 9, 2023



August 2, 2023

Unfortunately, there have been at least four recent instances of visitors (PWC/jet skis in three of these instances) getting too close or otherwise harassing the loons. In one case, it was a visitor innocently wanting to get a closer look at the loons for their children. They did not realize they were stressing the mother loon by being too close. In two other cases, it may be a jet skier not aware there are loons in the area, or they are genuinely trying to harass the loons. If you observe this type of behavior and can safely approach the offending boat/jet ski/paddleboarder,

politely let them know there are loons in the area, and they should stay a minimum 150' away. If it is a case of intentional harassment, you can contact the Wright County Sheriff non-emergency number (763) 682-1162.

In the fourth instance it was a paddleboarder (ME!) getting in between baby and mom & dad. One morning earlier this week, I was paddling from the boat launch around the peninsula when I spotted the baby not far from the nesting platform. I stayed a good distance from the baby as I went way around to the point. I noticed mom and dad off the point about 100 yards so I mistakenly tried to split the difference between baby and parents thinking about 50 yards would be a safe distance away from all involved. Wrong!! I don't think there is any such thing as "a safe distance" when you are between the parents and their baby. Both parents rapidly and noisily approached me to let me know I was not welcome. I knew they were distressed but unfortunately, they do not understand the English language and did not want to hear my apology and pleading as I am paddling away as fast as I possibly can. Lesson learned.

Annual Picnic - Saturday, August 12

When – 11:30am-1:30pm (**New time**)-we will plan to eat around 12:15-12:30.

Where – Martha and Greg Reger's. 11655 Kimball Ave.

We are bringing back a limited silent auction this year and are looking for donations. If you have a craft/business, or other item you would like to donate, please contact Martha Reger.

- HAMBURGER AND HOT DOGS PROVIDED BY THE BASS LAKE ASSOCIATION.
- BYOB BEVERAGE AND CHAIRS.
- POTLUCK: LAST NAME BEGINS WITH... PLEASE BRING: A-K DESSERTS, L-Z SIDE DISHES/SALADS.
- FREE TO DUES PAYING MEMBERS/FAMILIES, \$5 PER GUEST. IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR DUES, YOU CAN PAY THEM THE DAY OF THE PICNIC.
- WE WILL ONCE AGAIN BE FORTUNATE TO HAVE LIVE MUSIC FROM CHRIS ROGERS AND HIS SON ZACH.

GAMES/FUNDRAISERS:

- **50/50 RAFFLE**- \$1 PER TICKET, OR \$5 FOR 6 TICKETS. WINNER GETS HALF THE "POT" WHICH IS DETERMINED BY THE AMOUNT OF TICKETS PURCHASED.
- **HEADS/TAILS GAME**-"PURCHASE" A STRING OF BEADS FOR A \$1.00 (CAN PURCHASE MULTIPLE STRINGS, BUT NO MORE THAN 3 STRINGS PER PERSON). THE GAME CONSISTS OF THE FLIPPING OF A COIN (YOU HAVE TO CHOOSE HEADS-HANDS ON HEAD, OR TAILS-HANDS ON YOUR "TAIL") AND THE LAST PERSON LEFT STANDING WITH A STRING OF BEADS GETS HALF THE "POT." AGAIN, DETERMINED BY THE NUMBER OF BEADS "PURCHASED." PLEASE RETURN ALL BEADS SO THAT WE CAN REUSE THEM NEXT YEAR.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SHARE WITH NEIGHBORS THAT MIGHT BE NEW AND NOT BE ON THE FACEBOOK PAGE, OR ON THE EMAIL LIST. THE MORE THE MERRIER SO WE CAN GET TO KNOW

ONE ANOTHER. CHEERS. PLEASE CHECK BACK ON THE “BASS LAKE OF ANNANDALE MN” FACEBOOK PAGE FOR ANY UPDATES DEALING WITH INCLEMENT WEATHER, ETC.

Bass Lake Directory

Attached to this email is the Bass Lake Directory. Please carefully review your contact information and let Jean Just (jeanjust88@gmail.com) know of any changes.

Annual Business Meeting

The annual business meeting was held on Saturday, June 24 at the Clearwater Township Hall.

Membership – As of August 1, 2023, we have 65 dues paying members. Annual dues are still only \$50. If you have not yet paid your dues, you can pay at the picnic on August 12 or send a check to:

Bass Lake Association
PO Box 491
Annandale, MN 55302

Presentation – The slides that were shared at the meeting are attached to this email. Due to the size of the original file, all photos and background graphics have been deleted. It may appear a bit bland, but the content is the same. To get the full effect of the presentation, be sure to attend next year’s meeting.

Health of Bass Lake – Connie Crane shared information regarding Bass Lake water clarity and quality. Water clarity (how deep you can still see items in the lake) was 22’ earlier this spring, which is excellent. Currently it is 13’ which is still excellent since the clarity declines as the temperatures warm in the summer. We should all be proud of how clean and healthy Bass Lake remains.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Update

Bass Lake continues to be one of only a handful of lakes in the area that is “Unimpaired” and free of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). As a board we are doing several things to keep it that way. We had a delineation survey completed on May 11. The targeted species was Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) and the results were promising. The amount detected was minimal, however, we later learned this result was misleading since the Curly Leaf Pondweed was slow to emerge after the long winter. However, by the time it emerged it was too late to treat it per DNR regulations. Later this summer we will be contracting for a Point Intercept Survey to be done of the lake. This is a more comprehensive survey that is usually completed approximately every three years. Results of that survey will be communicated in a later newsletter.

Starry Trek – Saturday, August 19, 2023

Learn more about this important event aimed at learning more about the most recent, serious threat to Minnesota lakes - Starry Stonewort. <https://maisrc.umn.edu/starrytrek>

Boat Launch Inspections - We continue to contract for boat launch inspections. These are critical activities to prevent the introduction of AIS into Bass Lake and to educate the public about AIS and the components of Clean/Drain/Dry/Dispose.

New board members

The terms of both Martha Reger and Tom Pitra expired this year and they chose to vacate their positions. Nancy Kosel and Linda Strom-Duesbury volunteered to serve on the board. They were nominated and approved by the members present. We would like to welcome Nancy and Linda and also, thank Martha and Tom for their years of service on the association board. They will continue to be involved in the lake water monitoring, picnic and loon support.

4th of July Boat Parade



This year's 4th of July Parade was another big success. Thank you to Martha and Greg Reger for once again coordinating the parade. Below is a link to some pictures of the participants.

https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipNgisQ07yLHKS1IsD5RHZphK6moGlwoIFeBxaC1loZunGal3Fu9aNs_DJgrwB3q5Q?pli=1&key=M3ZIU1pLOHhDLUdfazl3VjFwX051LW9TWFBwZT73

As always, there was some very creative boat decorating in addition to some very good theatrics.

First place went to the Pirate Ship sailed by the Creswell's. It included a working (?) cannon and a walking of the plank by an offending pirate. They went home with the coveted Bass Lake Bobber Cooler which, like hockey's Stanley Cup, is a traveling trophy the winner gets to proudly display for the year.

Second place was shared by (in alphabetical order) The "Luebker Lifeguards" and the "Picnic Table" that was hosted by the Scheidt's. Both boats had very good participation by their respective crews. Including some actual, almost believable, lifesaving by the Luebker's.

Honorable Mention – The Spirit Award (The long-standing award I just made up) goes to the Anderson/Horswell entry. They spent the entire parade on their feet singing and cheering and simply enjoying themselves.

Honorable Mention – Special Graces Award goes to Ray Sawicky and the six of his 12 grandchildren that joined him for the entire duration of the parade. They never stopped singing and dancing. They knew every word and dance move to "Party in the USA". Bless you Ray.

Other input

A resident recently shared the attached document from a neighboring lake association. It spells out some lake etiquette they share with their residents.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to one of the board members listed below. We would really appreciate any ideas you have on making your Bass Lake Association better.

All the best,
John Fitzgerald
President
Bass Lake Association

Board Members

Pat Beithon
John Fitzgerald
Nancy Kosel

Connie Crane
Dan Geiger
Linda Strom

Jim Dvorak
Jean Just
Laura Weum