

2006 Minnesota Lake Association of the Year

Volume XVIII, Issue 7

September 2012

Mark your calendar...

- Sept 13 Healthy Lakes— 6:30 PM
Palmer Town Hall
- Sept 8 BLCA Board Mtg—8:30 AM
Palmer Town Hall
10:00 AM General Meeting
- Sept 10 Palmer Twp Board—7 PM
- Sept 18 Clear Lake Twp Board—
7 PM

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Second - Aaron Rothstein -
Campfire at Dusk



Third -
John Schnell -
Flower



PALMER DIRECTORY PHOTO CONTEST

Thank you to all who entered their pictures for the photo contest! The BLCA board members had a tough time choosing their favorites from all the wonderful submissions, but we finally narrowed it down!

First Place - Roger and Barb Johnson - Sunset Bird silhouette



President's Letter

HINDSIGHT IS 20/20

My term as president of the BLCA is coming to an end and I recall at one point in time wondering "what the heck was I thinking?!" when I took this position. As president, I have had endless opportunities to grow as a person, whether I wanted to or not (!); however, I have come to realize this growth has been a gift. Many of us, myself included, often choose not to stretch too far as we age, so that we don't have to leave the familiar comfort zone we have built so carefully over the years. By stretching and learning in my role as BLCA president, I have become a better person, found out that many things are possible and I just look at life differently. It makes me smile.

In reviewing my term, I might have done a few things differently, some not at all and others just worked harder on. (After watching the recent summer Olympic Games I feel I could raise the bar on many things that I do.) But hindsight is 20/20 and it is pointless to plan a do-over. I have stretched in ways I never imagined, made decisions I never knew I would have to make and have been confronted with unexpected issues. The hardest lesson was controlling my ego; it often had to be locked up so I could listen with an open mind. That is tough to do. It's easier to give a cat a bath than to control one's ego. But I learned, I can see clearly now that I learned from it all and am glad that I accepted the position.

So, thank you all for your support and encouragement throughout the last two years! It made it easy to teach this old dog some new tricks. I am so blessed to be a part of this community.

See you on the lake,

Barb Aaberg
BLCA President

NOTICE

Please be advised that channel marker buoys are placed by the sheriff's office. During the early part of August, one red and one green buoy were moved from between Brigg's and Julia and later placed in front of Brigg's Lake access. This is considered 'Interfering with/removing a regulatory buoy' and the person/person's responsible would be charged with theft.

If anyone has any information relating to this event, please notify the sheriff's office or contact Deputy Joe Schanen at: joe.schanen@co.sherburne.mn.us

Palmer Township

The Palmer Township Board meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Township Hall. Let **Kathy Miller** 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 **Mary Mathison** know of agenda items by Thursday morning before the meeting.

To contact Clear Lake Township, please call the Clear Lake Township Hall Tuesday–Friday at 320-743-2472 between 11 AM and 4 PM or email the Township Clerk at marymathison@hotmail.com. Our website is www.clearlaketownship.org.

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



i would like to thank the current board members for their outstanding service in 2012. With their efforts we have made some major accomplishments this year as well as continued with our past programs. Job well done!

Laura Schnell, has completed her term and we can't thank her enough. She has been the **Events & Programs Chair**, over-seeing the BLCA picnic, Garage Sale advertising, Hwy 25 Spring & Fall Clean-ups, Family Game nights, Valentine's Day Craft Day and other activities. Her contributions to the BLCA have been outstanding!

Karen Jones, Treasurer - managing all the financials, bookkeeping, filing the BLCA taxes and keeping the BLCA compliant with the State & Federal authorities.

Kenzie Phelps, Past President - helping guide me, overseeing the Fly-over study and filling in where ever necessary with his vast experience.

Adele Munsterman, Secretary - providing excellent coverage of meetings with her detailed minutes & door prizes for general meetings.

Jane Curtis, Vice President - supporting me and filling in when needed.

Sandra Hart, Member Development Chair - Overseeing the membership drives, directing the nominating committee and the Welcome Walkers.

Diane Schneider - Communications Chair, what a trooper in her new position under the most unusual conditions.

Karen Nielsen - Lake Report Editor, Secretary-to-be

Mike Flanery - Web Master, managing the BLCA website

Ken Gossett - Grant coordinator, directing the SERP Grant program

Dan Stang - Palmer Day Food Booth coordinator

Dayle Meyer - McDonalds Brat Sale

Dan Merchant - Fly-over study and BLCA President-to-be

Scott Ruiter, Wayne Smith, Jolene Henning & Barb Kydd - Endless hours of support!!!

We also have non-board members that volunteer that we are extremely grateful for their service:

Walt Munsterman - Co-Chair Healthy Lakes Committee

Carol Kufner - Green Sheet advertising

Jack Kufner - Meeting Signs

Marilyn Humble - Sunshine Mailing

Steve & Virginia Demeules - Palmer Directory, Membership records, Newsletter mailings

Penny Houtz - Linders Sale

Tom Eilers - Elk Lake Walleye Stocking

Mark Baker - 4th of July Fireworks

These are just a few of the many, many BLCA Members that donate their time and talent to get things done and make a difference. You are so appreciated and we can't thank you enough!!!

Sincerely, Barb Aaberg



During March of this year, Mike Flanery, from Lake Julia, a BLCA and Healthy Lakes Committee Board Member, applied to the DNR for enhanced signage to educate boaters on how to protect our lakes from aquatic invasive species (AIS) like Eurasian water milfoil and zebra mussels.

All lakes are vulnerable and infestations can be started from microscopic larvae or tiny amounts of plant matter. In addition to boaters, waterfowl hunters and shoreline property owners can transfer AIS from infested waters and infect healthy waters. Recently, transferring a shore Station from an infested lake introduced zebra mussels into a healthy one. The big problem with AIS is, once waters are infected, controlling AIS is very problematic and eradicating them may be impossible. They can ruin the fun of using a lake or river.

Since several waters close by our chain of lakes (Mille Lacs, Minnetonka, Shamineau, Green, Little Elk, Sylvia, Pelican Lakes and The Crow Wing and Mississippi Rivers to name a few) are infested with AIS the BLCA Healthy Lakes Committee felt it would be prudent to educate as many people as possible on how to prevent the spread of AIS. The improved signage was seen as a good way to reach a lot of people who had the potential to spread AIS.

Flanery got a couple of new but non-current signs from the DNR. He got permission from property owners to place them in their yards next to the private accesses on the Briggs Bayou and on Big Elk Lake. His daughter Nina pounded in the stakes so Flannery could secure them. ***Thanks Mike and Nina for a job well done!***

The parks and trails staff from the Sauk Rapids DNR office updated the signage at the public landings on Rush, Julia and Briggs Lakes the week of August 20th. The three signs they installed are prominently placed and very large so they should draw the attention of boaters using the accesses to the new rules and procedures required of them when they pull their boats out of our lakes, before they transport them and before they launch them.



Unfortunately, the sign for Big Elk Lake is on back order so the parks and trails staff is not certain when they will be able to install it. They plan on placing a smaller sign, soon, at the Briggs walk in access. By: Dan Merchant

Board Position Results From August 11 General Meeting

The BLCA members present at the August 11 General Meeting voted in the following officer and board members:

President: Dan Merchant
Secretary: Karen Nielsen
Briggs Lake: John Schnell
Big Elk: Francis Beaudry
Lake Julia: Ruth Thom and Dave Goldstein

The above new officers and board members will hold a two year term from October 2012 to September 2014. Please join the BLCA Board in congratulating the new officers and board members!

The BLCA Board would also like to extend a thank you for the years of service and contribution to **Laura Schnell** who will not be renewing her term. By: Sandra Hart

Protect Minnesota's waters by following state aquatic invasive species laws

You must...

1. **Clean** visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels and other prohibited species from watercraft, trailers, and equipment before transporting from any water access.
2. **Drain** water from bilge, live well, motor, ballast tanks, and portable bait containers before leaving water accesses or shoreline property. **Keep** the drain plug out and all water-draining devices open while transporting watercraft.
3. **Dump** unwanted bait in the trash.



You may not...

- **Transport** aquatic plants, water, or prohibited invasive species such as zebra mussels or Eurasian watermilfoil.
- **Dump** live bait into state waters, on shore, or on the ground.
- **Launch**, or attempt to place, watercraft, trailers or equipment with aquatic plants, zebra mussels, or prohibited invasive species into any state waters.

Additional recommended precautions:

1. To remove or kill hard-to-see aquatic invasive species before moving to other water bodies the following is advised:
Spray with high-pressure water and rinse with very hot water and/or
2. **Dry** boats and water-related equipment for at least five days
2. **Report** new sightings of aquatic invasive species. If you suspect a new infestation of an invasive plant or animal, save a specimen and report it to a [local natural resource office](#).
3. Decal is no longer required on watercraft.

Info provided by: 2012 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

- Check out the DNR website for additional information. Also take a look at the great DVD: [Aquatic Invasive Species: Minnesota Waters At Risk](#) (also available on YouTube)
- dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/preventspread.html
- The library at Palmer Town Hall has a copy of the above mentioned DVD available.

Enjoy your time on the water and remember these simple steps:

CLEAN

DRAIN

DRY!!!

The Lake Report



Briggs Lake Chain Association

See us on the Web at

<https://www.briggslakechainassociation.com>

Email us at blca@briggslakechainassociation.com

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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.

BLCA Membership Drive

The BLCA Board would like to thank each of you who have renewed or are new members to our Association! Our Membership Drive is finished resulting in 294 members. It is still not too late if you have a friend or neighbor who wishes to join. Direct them to www.BriggsLakeChainAssociation.com website to download a Membership Form or contact a board member. Membership is \$30.00 and is tax deductible. To have *The Lake Report* sent to their computer, they need to include their e-mail address on the membership form. Send the BLCA Membership form and a check payable to the BLCA in the amount of \$30.00 to the BLCA Treasurer Karen Jones at 11271 42nd Street; Clear Lake, MN 55319.

Again, thank you for your assistance to improve our lakes' water quality and our lake community by being a lake association member!

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Hart

Please remember that the BLCA relies on your financial support to improve the quality of our lakes for ourselves and for the benefit of future generations.

We have been granted 501.C3 status and your \$30.00 donation is now TAX DEDUCTIBLE!!!

Please contact any BLCA Board member to join! (Our contact information is in the Palmer Directory.)

This 'n That

From the Flotilla event comes our 1st recipe! Thank you to Sue Merchant for sharing this delicious recipe!

Recipe for: <i>Tomato Basil Pie</i>		Serves: 8
From the Kitchen of: <i>Sue Merchant</i>		
Ingredients		Ingredients
1 Refrigerated unbaked pie crust		1½ c. Mozzarella cheese
5-6 Roma tomatos (others are fine too)		1c. Loosely packed fresh Basil
4 Cloves Garlic or 1T. Powder		½ c. Parmesan cheese cheese
⅓ tsp. Pepper		½ c. Mayo (Lite)
Recipe instructions		
Bake crust in 9" pie dish until brown. Sprinkle ½ c. Mozzarella cheese in bottom of crust. Cut tomato in wedges. Drain on paper towels. Arrange tomato wedges in baked crust/shell. Chop finely Basil & Garlic. Sprinkle over tomatos.		
In a mixing bowl, mix remaining Mozzarella cheese, Pepper, Mayo & Parmesan. Spoon over top & spread evenly. Bake 375°, 35 - 45 minutes — til golden brown.		

Please send news about BLCA members to **Marilyn Humble** so that a card may be sent for such things as illness or a death in the family. Call her at 743-2741 or email her at imhumble@midco.net



PALMER DAY 2012 IS UPON US!!

ARE YOU READY???

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2012
PARADE STARTS AT NOON!

Check out Palmer Day 2012 on the WEB for detailed information.