



**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.

April Lake Report - The President's Letter

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Greetings and Happy Spring,

As I write this column I see the ice is still on the lake. Hopefully by the time you read this sometime the first week of April, it will be gone. In my mind "ice out day" is the official start of summer. Do any of you long time residents have a history of ice out day on the lakes? Several years ago someone showed me a list going back to the 70's thru the 90's of ice out days. I don't remember who had the list. It would be fun to know. If you know of someone who has been keeping track of this, let me know. I would like to share it in the next newsletter.

There is an Open House and another opportunity April 8th ( at the Sherburne History Center) for those interested in the potential park at Big Elk on the Howard Weise property to voice opinions and offer suggestions on the park. Later in the newsletter is a flyer with all the details. You must go online and reserve a time slot to attend. The goal of the public input is to develop a final park concept that meets the wants and needs of area residents and is compatible with Howard Wiese's intentions and vision for the property to remain a natural setting. This should be something for everyone to enjoy for generations to come.

I just checked the Palmer Township website to see when 2021 spring clean day will be. That is still " To Be Determined". Do you have stuff you don't need or want anymore? The Briggs Lake Chain area garage sale is scheduled for ThursdaY, May 13th through Sunday the 16th. More details in the May newsletter. Time to start your spring cleaning.

How things are communicated to everyone around the lake has changed a lot since we bought our place in the fall of 1999. Back then the monthly newsletter was "snail mailed". We included "green sheets" where you could advertise items for sale. Today we email the newsletter to everyone and we have Facebook. Facebook is a great way for residents to share pictures, information, things for sale, etc. Our intent is for our Facebook page to be relevant and support our local residents. Our Facebook page is private. New users need to send in a request to be approved to join. I had an interesting conversation with Pamela Simonson, one of our Facebook administrators and a board member, about someone who posted an ad for Briggs Lake T- shirts. It was from someone not on our Facebook member list, so she checked it out. A company from London, UK was trying to sell the T-shirts. The post was removed.

Another example of the many ways the BLCA works behind the scenes on your behalf. Thanks to Pamela and your team.

Below is repeat of what I requested in the March newsletter:

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 at 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 that 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 agenda.

Thanks ... Brad

### **Summary of the Healthy Lakes Meeting - March 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 March meeting:

- TLID update
- Grants: TLID and HL
- Sherburne County Park Update (Wiese property)
  
- Big Lake LID Status
- Early Detection/Rapid Response Plan:
- Gentle Footprint Grant Process
- 2021 Healthy Lakes Goals

The next Healthy Lakes meeting is on April 1st at the Palmer Township Hall at 6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome!

**Mark your calendar...** For these upcoming meetings

### **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 public 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.

#### UPCOMING MEETING AND EVENTS

TLID Meeting Monday, 4/5 6 pm 1st Monday of month  
Healthy Lakes Thursday, 4/1 6:30 pm 1st Thursday of month  
Palmer Township Monday, 4/12 7 pm 2nd Monday of month  
Clear Lake Township Tuesday, 4/20 7 pm 3rd Tuesday of month  
BLCA Board Saturday, 4/10 8:30 am 2nd Saturday of month  
Board of Adjustments Thursday, 4/8 6 pm 2nd Thursday of month

#### DO YOU HAVE A BUSINESS YOU WANT TO ADVERTISE ?

Please contact Roger Miller about placing an ad in our annual directory. This directory is distributed yearly to all residents on the 4 lakes. It's a good way to get your information out there.

Rogers information is as follows:

roglynmiller@gmail.com

952-237-3348



#### B.L.C.A. FINANCIALS

Income to date \$ 16,307.64

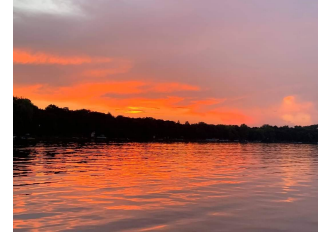
Expenses to date \$ 4,494.36

Net Proceeds \$ 11,813.28

Operating funds checking \$ 15,939.71

Money Market Rapid Response \$ 100,654.21

Total BLCA Cash \$ 116,593.92



IF YOU LIVE ON ONE OF THE 4 LAKES AS A GOOD NEIGHBOR YOU SHOULD BE A MEMBER OF THE BLCA.

THIS ORGANIZATION DOES A LOT BEHIND THE SCENES FOR ALL 4 LAKES WHICH IS PAID FOR BY THE DUES.

IF YOU HAVE NOT SENT YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN, PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

THE FOLLOWING IS FROM COLE PETROSKY AND SOME IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR THOSE OF US WHO USE THE LAKES

Anyone wishing to place a structure in the water that does not extend from shore will need a temporary structure permit.

Scheduled tournaments or events on the water also require a special event permit

Both are available at no cost.

As they anticipate another busy summer increased enforcement will occur to keep the waterways safe. Please read the statutes below or click on the link for application. <https://www.co.sherburne.mn.us/392/Water-Patrol>.

Minnesota Statute 86B.121 requires a permit be issued before holding or sponsoring any scheduled or public race, regatta, tournament or other competition or exhibition, or trial race on water or ice, whether or not involving watercraft.

The statute further states that the County's issuance of a permit under this section does not make the County liable for any injury occurring at the event.

The applicant shall provide a non-cancellable comprehensive general liability policy with Sherburne County named as an additional insured.

In addition to an insurance policy, proof of notification to the City or Township where the event is being held must be provided. This ensures that the City or Township is aware of the event. Be sure to discuss parking/land use issues with the City or Township. Please note that no more than 50% of a State owned public access may be used for an event. (MN Rule 6212.2700)

Other documents that may apply to your event include DNR tournament permits, food and alcohol vendor permits, pyrotechnic permits, gambling permits, etc. Be sure to include copies of these with the application. To obtain these permits contact the MN DNR or the Sherburne County Auditor Treasurer Department.

The application must be submitted to the Recreational Enforcement Division 30 days prior to the event. Delivery can be done in-person, by mail, fax, or e-mail. All other supporting documents and permits must be submitted 7 days prior to the event. Upon review of all documents you will be notified of approval or denial. Approved applications will be signed by the Sheriff and have a permit number listed in the upper right corner. The application and supporting documents must be on site and readily available during the duration of the event.

Watercraft being used for an event will be inspected by event staff before entering and upon leaving public waters to prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species.

Events held on the ice are subject to adequate ice thickness. Generally, there will be no parking of contestant vehicles on the ice. Support vehicles and event structures may be placed on the ice but must maintain a minimum of 30 feet between vehicles and structures. If water rises above holes drilled in the ice or sagging is observed. All vehicles must be removed from the area immediately. To ensure safety for all, these requirements will be strictly enforced.

Failure to follow guidelines and requirements set forth by your permit will result in the cancellation of the permit

#### TEMPORARY STRUCTURE

If you intend on placing any structure, buoy, or sign in public waters within Sherburne County, between sunset and sunrise,

which does not extend from shore, you are required to obtain a permit from the Sheriff of Sherburne County. (MN Rule 6110.1800 & MN Statute 86B.111 Sub. 1)

There is no fee for this permit.

To help expedite the issuance of your permit, please familiarize yourself with the following procedures and applicable regulations for the structure you intend to place in public waters. Accurately and completely fill out the application and accompanying page that diagrams your structure and its location.

After completing the application and diagram, submit all pages to the Recreational Enforcement Division via in-person, mail, fax, or e-mail. Upon review you will be notified of approval or denial. Approved applications will be signed by the Sheriff and have a permit number listed in the upper right corner.

Requirements for all structures:

- 1) Structure must not create a hazard to surface use of the public water.
- 2) Permit number must be displayed on the structure at all times it is on public waters.
- 3) Permit numbers must be 2 inches in height and contrast the background.
- 4) Structure must have a light or reflective material visible from all sides that identifies the size of the structure.
- 5) Anchoring system must not create a hazard to surface use of the public water.
- 6) Anchoring system must not be detrimental to fish or wildlife habitat.
- 7) Structure must be removed by November 1st every year (March 15th for ice rink equipment).

Additional regulations for slalom courses.

- 1) Permit number must be displayed on both ends of the course.
- 2) Course area may not exceed 900 feet in length.

Additional regulations for private swimming areas. (MN Rule 6110.160)

- 1) Area may not exceed 2500 square feet (example 50'x50').
- 2) Area may not exceed 50 linear feet along lake frontage.
- 3) Markers must be placed no more than 15 feet apart along the perimeter.
- 4) Markers must have no less than six inches but no more than 14 inches showing

above the waterline. Markers in the form of a cylinder must have a diameter of at least five inches and not larger than nine inches. Markers with a shape other than a cylinder may not have a length or width greater than 14 inches. Each such

marker shall bear on opposite sides a one-half inch wide band of international orange color forming an upright diamond at least five inches in outside width, dissected vertically and horizontally by a one-half inch wide strip of international

orange color. The border of the diamond and cross outline shall not be less than one-half inch in width. These markers may not be spaced more than 15 feet apart and must outline all of the swimming area.

## FIRST COUPLE APPETIZER RECIPES

### Sausage Cups

1 package Jimmy Dean Sausage, browned  
1 Red Pepper, Chopped  
1- 8 ounce Cream cheese  
1/4 onion, chopped  
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce  
1 package won tons

Brown sausage, Mix in cream cheese, chopped red pepper, onion and worchestershire sauce.

Line Mini muffin tin with won ton wrapper. Fill wrapper with mixture and bake at 400 for 15 minutes.

### Homemade Cheese Ball

1- 16 ounce Cheddar Cheese, grated fine  
1--3 ounce Blue Cheese  
1- 8 ounce Cream Cheese  
dash of worchestershire sauce  
1/4 c minced onion  
dash of garlic powder  
chopped parsley  
chopped walnuts

Mix and roll in ball  
Roll in chopped Parsley  
Roll in nuts

cover with saran and refrigerate for 2 hours  
Serve with crackers





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