



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.

THE PRESIDENT IS ON VACATION SO THERE IS NO REPORT FOR THIS NEWSLETTER.....

HEALTHY LAKES REPORT

Notes from the Healthy Lakes February Meeting

Cameron Graber and Ruth Thom were introduced as the new co-chairs. The TLID update from Scott Ruitter included information on lake surveys planned for 2022, including early Curly Leaf Pondweed and early milfoil in Rush and Big Elk. A point intercept survey on Big Elk was discussed and the HL committee members recommended that the BLCA board pay for a baseline survey this year. The TLID has filed grant applications with the state to offset the cost of AIS treatment, as well as applied for a grant through the Sherburne SWCD to cover Purple Loosestrife pulling. Big Elk is working on similar grants. The BLCA will be using a new company this year for AIS treatment. The costs are higher up front, but the company has a better track record in reducing weeds, so the expectation is that within a few years we will be treating much smaller areas and therefore saving money in the long run (as well as better controlling weeds). Discussion was also held on how to educate residents of the importance of removing the dead weed bogs that result after spraying happens. If the dead weeds are allowed to decompose in the lake, they add to the nutrient levels. Steve Demueles reported that the county is also making plans to purchase a piece of property where residents could dispose of organic matter (lake weeds, as well as leaves, small branches, grass clippings, etc). Chuck Heinemann reported that there are 6 active Gentle Footprints projects on Briggs (four are cost-sharing with the BLCA and SWCD). Any new applications for projects will be for 2023. HL goals for 2022 were drafted and will be reviewed and finalized at the March meeting. In other business, the committee discussed ways to better educate new residents, lake visitors, and BLCA members regarding best practices for healthy lake use and shoreline regulations. Discussion was also had regarding law enforcement's availability and their difficulty in enforcing current lake regulations. Local township boards are currently working to rewrite ordinances so that they are enforceable.

Submitted by Ruth Thom, Co-chair

ICE DAY PHOTOS

Here are just a few ice day photos. A great time was had by all. Lots of participation, lots of great prizes.



UPCOMING MEETING AND EVENTS

- TLID Meeting Monday, 3/7 6 pm 1st Monday of month
- Healthy Lakes Thursday, 3/3 6:30 pm 1st Thursday of month
- Palmer Township Monday, 3/14 7:00 pm 2nd Monday of month
- Clear Lake Township Tuesday, 3/15 7:00 pm 3rd Tuesday of month
- BLCA Board Saturday, 3/12 8:30 am 2nd Saturday of month
- Board of Adjustments Thursday, 3/10 6:00 pm 2nd Thursday of month



B.L.C.A. FINANCIALS AS OF JANUARY 2022

Operating funds checking \$ 9,538.11
 Money Market Rapid Response \$ 101,695.16
 Total BLCA Cash \$ 111,233.27

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

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

Here is a short list of what the BLCA does for our lakes

THE NEW SPONSORSHIP FORMS HAVE BEEN MAILED OUT TO DATE I HAVE GOTTEN 27 BACK AS NO SUCH ADDRESS, NO FORWARDING ADDRESS, VACANT (SURPRISING SINCE NONE ARE FOR SALE) ETC.

Some people do not have mail receptacles at their lake property. If you do not receive your form it will be because we have a bad address or there was no access to the mailbox. In that case, please email Deb Stacey at debjs52@yahoo.com.

Be sure to fill out the form completely. Put your mailing address on the form in addition to the lake address. As stated on the form, the first phone number you use will be the one published in the directory

LET'S TRY TO INCREASE OUR NUMBERS THIS YEAR.....

IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE 4 LAKES, PLEASE CONTACT ME SO YOU CAN BE ADDED TO OUR DATA BASE SO YOU CAN GET A NEWSLETTER AND ANY HIGH WATER INFO

Also if you are new to the 4 lakes (and we know lots of properties have changed hands this year) please make sure to write NEW on the sponsorship form.

CRAFT AND BAKE SALE

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF A CRAFT AND BAKE SALE AS A FUNDRAISER FOR THE BLCA?

WE WOULD PLAN A DATE EARLY SPRING (POSSIBLY APRIL) AND SET UP IN THE PALMER TOWN HALL.

A table would cost \$35 plus 10% of your sales which would go to the BLCA

Please contact Debbie Affeldt at 320-249-7442 or email her at debbie.affeldt@gmail.com

or

Debbie Stacey at 651-226-4069 or email me at 19debjs52@yahoo.com



**IT'S A LITTLE CITY ON OUR LAKES
WITH ALL THE ICE HOUSES**

However, **PLEASE REMEMBER TO
CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELVES** when
leaving the ice houses or taking them
down for the season.

Any trash you leave on the ice falls to the
bottom when the ice melts so please,
please, please pick up your trash



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