



## Briggs Lake Chain Association

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

## AUGUST 2023 LAKE REPORT

### THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brad Kipp email: [bradkipp1@gmail.com](mailto:bradkipp1@gmail.com) cell: 612 810 6738

Greetings and Happy August,

As I write this I think back to a song by the Lovin' Spoonful called " Summer in the City" . The first few lines are " Hot town, summer in the city ... Back of my neck gettin' dirty and gritty ... Been down, isn't it a pity? Doesn't seem to be a shadow in the city ... All around, people lookin' half dead ... Walkin' on the sidewalk, hotter than a match head". Ok, I am dating myself. The song was released in July 1966. The good news is we are not in the city and things are much cooler at the lake.

**A reminder that everyone is welcome to attend our monthly board meetings on the 2nd Saturday of each month starting at 8:30 in the Palmer Town Hall.**

**The August general membership meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August 12th at 9:30 am in the Palmer Town Hall.**

We are required by our by-laws to have a membership meeting in August. This is a review of the finances, membership and activities. The budget for 2024 will be presented at the meeting. We are looking for input from the membership on how we manage and use our resources. You may make suggestions at the meeting, however, if you would call, text, or email me in advance we would really appreciate it.

**Board of Director nominations:** We will present current board members volunteering for another 2-year term. Adele Munsterman on Rush and Rosalie Musachio on Briggs are staying on the board for another term. Three long term board members are retiring this year. **A BIG THANKS** to Scott Ruiter, Deb Affeldt & Deb Stacey for their service, time, energy and commitment to our organization. Their contributions are many and we will miss them at the monthly meetings. No worries, they are not going away. We will see them continuing to volunteer at our activities and events.

Adele will be on the board but retiring as Vice President. **Tom Nordin on Big Elk has volunteered to be nominated as Vice President.**

Deb Stacey is retiring from the board and the secretary position. We are looking for a **volunteer to be nominated as Secretary.**

After two terms as President I am retiring. I will stay on the board as past president for a two year term and volunteer

to do membership and the newsletter. **Shelly Alger - Peyton on Briggs has volunteered to be nominated president.**

Also, we will take nominations from the floor for new board members. New board members will attend the September meeting as guests. Their two-year term will officially start at the October meeting. If you want to know about being on the board, contact any board member. We will have openings from each of the four lakes. At this point there will be 3 people representing Briggs, 2 representing Julia, 1 representing Rush, 2 from Elk and 1 not on a lake for a total of 9. We really should have at least three more volunteers on the board.

**Guest Speaker at the meeting will be Steve McComas the "Lake Detective"** and owner of <https://www.facebook.com/BlueWaterScience> . Steve is an expert on Minnesota lakes. He is also known for his appearances at the State Fair and other events educating people on the good and not so good things affecting our lakes. **This is a "big deal" having Steve as a speaker. There are more details in the newsletter and on Facebook & Instagram posts.** He is well known and respected in Minnesota and a frequent guest on some radio talk shows. I met him once at the State Fair. **If you have questions about our lakes or want to learn more about lake management, this is a must see presentation.**

The Membership meeting starts at 9:30. After that around 10:00 "The Lake Detective" will have a presentation and educational seminar on subjects relevant to our lakes. There will be time for some questions from the audience.

**Email list for newsletters and other events.** You do not need to be a member of the BLCA to be on our email list. However, we do encourage you to join. Recently we have had some people let us know they are not getting the newsletter but have sent in the form and paid dues. We did some research and found we had a typo on the email address we have on file. We were missing a dot or a dash, so the email was invalid. In a couple other cases we figured out the newsletter emails we were sent from our email address [blca@briggslakechainassociation.com](mailto:blca@briggslakechainassociation.com) were going to people's spam folder. If you know of someone who is not getting the newsletter and other alerts tell them to contact me [Bradkipp1@gmail.com](mailto:Bradkipp1@gmail.com).

**Palmer Day is Saturday, September 9th.** This is the township's biggest event of the year. The BLCA sponsored food booth will be back again. We need volunteers to make this a success. There will be a signup sheet at the August meeting. You can contact Shelly Alger- Peyton, our volunteer coordinator, to sign up. Her email is [sdreimer@frontier.com](mailto:sdreimer@frontier.com) or you can phone or text her at 612-283-8362. We need help for the booth set up Friday afternoon, for several shifts to cook and serve on Saturday, and on Sunday to do the cleanup work.

It's August. Summer's not over. Enjoy, have fun and be safe..... Brad

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**With mixed emotions I am resigning from the board. Right now I have many family obligations to take care of and can't dedicate the amount of time I have been.**

**It's been an interesting 6 years and lots of fun.**

**I encourage all of you to get involved. The more people who participate, the better our lakes will be.**

**I will still be around and volunteering for various things so I will still see all of you.**

**Well wishes to all .....Deb Stacey**

**FINANCIALS THROUGH MAY 2023**

With the transition of the treasurer position there are no new financials to present at this time. Updates financials will be at the August membership meeting and also in the next newsletter

**Income to date:**

24,571.47

**Expenses to date:** 8,135.73



**Operating checking:** 21,905.60

**Money market:** 103,506.34

**Total Cash:** 127,176.94

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**BOAT PARADE WINNERS**

**Big Elk –**

1<sup>st</sup> place - Deb and Jake Affeldt

2<sup>nd</sup> place – Roberta Clifford and family

3<sup>rd</sup> place – Dave and Kelly Lillback

**Big Elk honorable mention**

Janet Deppa

Nancy and Todd Saterbak

**Upper 3 lakes –**

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Sara Tufto

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Shelly and Rick Peyton

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Zach Halvorson

**Upper 3 lakes honorable mention**

Katie Reber

Michelle Zins

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**Memberships are still coming in**

**If you have not sent yours, please do so as soon as possible. Please make sure to fill them out totally. If you did not get a form, please let us know. You can contact Brad at [bradkipp1@gmail.com](mailto:bradkipp1@gmail.com)**

**IF you have a new mailing address, please let Brad Kipp know that also. We need to keep our database up to date.**

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**MINUTES FROM THE JULY HEALTHY LAKES MEETING**

Healthy Lakes Committee

July 6, 2023

**BLCA:** Shelly: The annual meeting was held las month, Cole Petrosky presented on water safety. There have been increased patrols on the water, with multiple reports of stops/monitoring. The new treasurer was voted in and is functioning in that role.

BLCA is hoping to secure Steve McComas the Lake Detective for the August meeting. Several of tonight's attendees have heard him speak and agree that he provides great information in an interesting manner.

**TLID:** Prepping for the annual meeting on Saturday August 19. Residents will have the opportunity to provide input and a vote will be held on the budget.

Purple loosestrife: removal continues, much less growing compared to 2022, plans are in place to continue monitoring and removal.

Water testing continues as prior years. Additional testing for oxygen content at varying depths and phosphorus content is also being done in preparation for possible alum treatment including a carp study and core sample testing.

**Gentle footprints/ Plant Grants:** The same projects are under consideration and planning. PG received multiple applications that would use funds but follow up by applicants has been slow. There may be more applications considered if the current ones don't complete the process, a deadline for resident completion will be set by Bre.

**EWM:** James Johnson from Fresh Water Scientific reports, following his survey, that all four lakes are free of EWM.

**The Youth Paddle** Event was held on June 3. It was a small turn out but everyone who attended had a great time with kayaks, paddle boards, paddle boats, and canoes. Everyone agreed that it's worth doing again next year and marketing to the greater community to increase participation. Benefits include getting kids comfortable on the water, allowing families to try equipment before investing and deciding what kids will use safely and enjoy. The remaining bills were submitted to present to the BLCA for reimbursement, approximately \$175. It was recommended that we purchase two more banners for the YPE.

**Personal Watercraft:** PWC safety concerns were raised regarding speed, proximity to boats and swimmer safety. BLCA/Healthy lakes will post education/laws to remind riders of the safety rules and etiquette.

**New Business:** HLC will research talking points regarding septic systems around the lake. We would like to request that the BLCA and TLID coordinate with the county commissioners, especially Gary Gray to increase frequency of testing, especially around the waterways, to improve lake, river, and stream health. Mike Flannery from the TLID has already done work regarding this. HLC will further discuss drafting a letter to BLCA and TLID to pursue this more aggressively through the county to develop ordinances for inspection and repairs, especially for older systems.