Briggs Lake Chain Association September 2023 Lake Report



The President's Report

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Greetings and Happy Labor Day Weekend.

This is my last letter as President. After two 2-year terms I am retiring. I am staying on the board as past president and newsletter editor. So, you haven't heard the last from me yet.

We want to welcome Shelly Alger-Peyton our new President and Tom Nordin our new Vice President as the leadership team starting October 1st. We have one more officer position to fill. We are looking for a volunteer to be BLCA secretary. The main part of the job is to take the minutes at board meetings, write them up for the next meeting and get them to the newsletter editor. Time wise it is a few hours a month time commitment. Let me know if you are interested or have questions.

In Minnesota I guess the unofficial start of fall is Labor Day weekend or maybe the State Fair. Here in Palmer, the real start of fall is Palmer Day. Yea, always a fun day and weekend.

Palmer Day is Saturday September 9th. Due to the date conflict, the September BLCA board meeting is rescheduled for Saturday the 23rd.

The BLCA has a food booth in the pavilion as a fundraiser. We can use some help setting up on Friday, workers in the booth Saturday, and clean up Sunday morning.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4dabaa28a7f49-palmer2#/

Please contact Shelly Alger-Peyton via email <u>sdreimer@frontier.com</u> or call or text her at 612 283 8362 to volunteer. It is not too late to join the team.

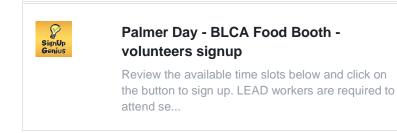
In closing, I want to say a big THANK YOU to all of those who contribute their time, money, and extra effort to, as we say in our lake association mission statement, *Remembering the Past - Improving the Future ... promoting the care, improvement, and general welfare of the Briggs Lake Chain (Julia, Briggs, Rush and Big Elk) and adjoining and connecting watershed.*

Thank You for being good stewards of our lakes and supporting the BLCA.

Enjoy the nice Labor Day and Palmer Day weekends. I hate to say it, but some leaves are already changing color.

Brad

Palmer Day - BLCA Food Booth - volunteers signup



Greetings from the BLCA Board!!!

We need an Executive Board member (Secretary), a website advisor, directory advisors, Instagram co-advisor and lake representatives for all 4 lakes. We need volunteers to help communicate lake steward information, raise awareness about lake management efforts and assist with various ideas for fundraising for our lake chain management.

Current openings are:

Secretary position - sending out and handling annual membership applications, take monthly meeting minutes and assisting with emailing out the monthly newsletter and high-water alerts when needed. Time commitment is approximately 6-10hrs monthly.

Website & Instagram advisors - This positions time commitment is a few hours a month and this person keeps our BLCA website up-to-date with various postings and meeting time/date updates.

Directory Editors - This position handles the updating and advertising sponsorship requests for our annual directory. Time commitment varies and is more active in the winter months in preparation for Spring printing of the directory.

Lake Representatives - These can be any BLCA sponsors from any of the 4 lakes or the Palmer area. These representative positions are needed to help with membership drives and informing members on the lakes/in their area of conservation, fundraising and volunteering efforts.

All board members/advisors/representatives are encouraged to attend the BLCA monthly meetings the 2nd Saturday of each month for updates/suggestions/solutions.

Shelly Alger-Peyton DM/PM me with interest and/or questions. We would LOVE to have a full board and representative count to strengthen our lake stewardship efforts for our chain of lakes!!!



.... Overview of the Briggs Chain of Lakes Steve McComas Blue Water Science

September 12, 2023... The "Lake Detective" gave an excellent presentation on the health of lakes in Minnesota. The article is on the website. It is 24 pages. We also included it in the newsletter as a separate pdf attachment.

Follow the BLCA on Instagram
Briggs Lake on Instagram • Photos and videos

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A beautiful morning on the lakes.

BLCA Financials through August 8th, 2023



Income to date: \$23,232.19 Operating checking \$21,902.60 Expenses to date: \$23,590.04

Money Market/ rapid response fund: \$103,494.43

Outstanding deposits: None

The 2024 budget was presented and approved at the August general membership meeting. You may request a detailed year to date 2023 budget or the 2024 budget. Email your request to bradkipp1@gmail.com . Include your name, email address, lake address and phone number.

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Summary of Health Lakes August 3rd, 2023 Meeting

Reports:

BLĊA

- out of over 600 properties around the lakes, only 224 are currently BLCA sponsors(members), encourage neighbors to join, helps with grant money
- The next BLCA meeting will be Sat. Aug. 12th. Board meets at 8:30, general meeting at 9:30, speaker at 10:00. Steve McCommas, The Lake Detective, comes highly recommended, with expertise in water quality management. Bring your questions.

TLID

• The annual meeting is Aug. 19th, much work has been done to make sure properties are assessed correctly. Contact a TLID board member if you think your tax statement has an error. The proposed budget for next year will be approved at the meeting.

ALUM feasibility study grant

• Water testing and monitoring is underway. Water temperature (at 3 levels), phosphorus (at 2 levels), and oxygen are being monitored. There is no oxygen at the bottom of Julia Lake. Discussion and speculation as to the cause took place. Core samples of the lake bottom and a carp survey are yet to come. Final signatures on the work plan are expected soon and then the first grant money from the state will arrive. Data will be analyzed in the fall/winter, and a feasibility report is expected next spring (where we find out if our lakes are candidates for an alum treatment to bind the phosphorus at the bottom of the lake)

Gentle Footprints/HL Plant program

Several projects are in the process of using grant money from the SWCD and the BLCA for shoreline restoration, run-off/erosion control, and adding more native plants.

New Business:

Concern over increase in filamentous algae

- Might be caused by two years of heavy spring flooding (increasing nutrient load), current heat helps algae grow, more people living on the lake year-round, heavier use of our lakes in the last couple of years, Aqua Thruster misuse.
- Recent study by MN Lakes and Rivers points to decrease of natural shoreline around the state. The report states that lawns that are mowed to the shore contribute 7-9 times more pollution than properties with natural shorelines.
- Things we as individuals can do: reduce/eliminate fertilizer/chemicals on our lawns, don't blow grass clippings/leaves toward the lake, pick up trash/dog poop when ice fishing, add native plantings at our shorelines, make sure septic systems meet code
- Things HL team will explore: possibility of UV treatments for controlling algae, contact PLM and other companies regarding algae treatment costs/effectiveness, find out how much the Curly Pond Leaf treatment affects phosphorus load.
- We discussed working on an Ice Fishing education initiative–flyers to fish houses, provide access to dog poop bags, etc..

Reviewed HL Annual goals and reassigned Cameron's responsibilities.

Action items for next month: report back on UV treatments, algaecides, Aqua Thrusters

Palmer Day 4 years ago



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