

Still working to keep zebra mussels out of Bay Lake

Beginning in 2015, the State of Minnesota committed \$10 million annually to local counties to support their prevention and education efforts about invasive species. With this funding Crow Wing County expanded its key program and provided trained AIS (aquatic invasive species) inspectors on the many “at risk” lakes and waterways.

For 2017, Crow Wing County will monitor about 50 bodies of water. While we applaud the county’s expanded effort, protection for so many has spread the county resources thin.

Generous Bay Lakers continue to help pay for inspectors on our access ramp all season long. It is a luxury many lakes do not enjoy.



This year, our challenge is not funding but finding inspectors. The county projects a shortfall of summer workers who can be hired and trained.

Just as we have in the recent past, we requested daily coverage from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. mid-May through late September. Our request has not been confirmed, and given the number of lakes

now in the county program and the projected personnel shortage, I am not hopeful that we’ll get what we’ve asked for. We may have to rely on our own DNR-trained AIS volunteers, as we have in the past. Stay tuned.

All Bay Lakers: **Please remember to drain, clean and dry any watercraft coming into or leaving Bay Lake and insist your guests do the same.** As reported last fall, no evidence of zebra mussels had been found in Bay Lake, and we’re working hard to keep it that way.

Additional information about our ramp monitoring program will come through BLIA e-mail blasts and on the website.

Phil Rollins

Give “new-to-you” equipment a 3-week dry period

Twenty-one (21) days. That’s the minimum number of days the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) requires boat lifts, docks, swim rafts and associated equipment be kept out of the water after moving from one lake to another. This “dry time” will destroy any invasive species hiding in nooks and crannies, especially on boat lifts.

Rumors are flying that a number of new lake service providers are operating in the Bay Lake area and that all may not be licensed or trained by the DNR. If you work with someone new to Bay Lake or are buying equipment that has been used in another lake, please insist that it be left to dry for at least 21 days. And if you observe any of this equipment heading for Bay Lake,

please ask the operator if it has been out of water for the required 21 days. Finally, feel free to report any suspicious activity to the DNR in St. Paul (651) 259-5706 or to me.

Phil Rollins
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Here's to another great season at Bay Lake!

Docks are being put in. The buoys are in place, and everything is getting greener. We're ready for another wonderful summer at Bay Lake!

As part of that, we once again thank everyone for your continued support of the Bay Lake Improvement Association and

look forward to receiving your 2017 membership dues.

There are two easy ways of sending us your dues. You can either fill out the membership card when you receive the letter from the president, or you can join online. I have to admit that more of you are joining online,

and I have found that that is the easier way to go. Needless to say, however you decide to join, we welcome your membership. You can join at any time until the end of the year, but we encourage you to do so sooner rather than later. The website is www.baylake.org.

Once again, thank you for your membership. Last year our total membership was close to 600. Can we reach that number this year? Your pets are welcome to join, too, you know. And don't forget to support the fireworks!

We'll see you at the lake!

Betty Marquardt
 Membership Chair
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 (651) 730-1045
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Editor.....Bobbie Keller

Remembering

We lost several present and former Bay Lakers over the winter. Our sympathy to the families and friends of:

Marilyn Anderson
 Hugo Baversjo
 Robin Burns
 Jack Dyste
 Julie (Pfeifer) Haben
 Joan Hodges
 Wendy Hunt
 Judy Knieff
 Gale Laasch
 Glen D. "John" LeClaire
 Elaine Lidke
 Dorothy Mickelson
 Bob Mundt, Jr.
 Inez Olson
 Linda (Bolduc) Peterson
 Muriel Peterson
 Nancy (Cornelison) Roberts
 Dean Swanson
 Dennis Watson

Water quality sampling shows concerns; you can help

The Bay Lake Improvement Association (BLIA) typically performs monthly water quality sampling during the summer (May-September) each year, and does a single round of winter sampling every other year. Summer sampling provides information on water quality during the times when the lake is in heavy use and is susceptible to sudden changes in water quality from short-term events such as extreme weather. Winter sampling is performed when the lake is iced-over and stable, which provides the best indicator of long-term trends by eliminating the influence of short-term weather events. All sampling is conducted by our consultant, AWRL, with assistance from BLIA volunteers to reduce the cost.

2017 was a winter sampling year, so in February water samples were collected through the ice at various depths at four designated locations around the lake. We just received the data report, and the results are not as good as we would like.

Total Phosphorus (TP) had increased significantly in 2017, almost 39 percent above the previous high year (2012), and a whopping 268 percent (that's right, more than two and a half times!) over 2015 levels. The reasons for this jump are not clear. Phosphorus levels can be influenced by natural factors such as seasonal rainfall and changes in lake water pH, as well as shoreline and watershed land management practices.

As you've heard us say before, high TP is a concern because it leads to more aquatic plant growth, and when that plant growth dies and decomposes it can

lead to low oxygen levels harmful to fish. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) identified the following things cabin owners can do to reduce phosphorus loading to lakes:

- Shop for low- or non-phosphorus dishwashing liquids and soaps, and use only non-phosphorus laundry detergent.
- Wash boats and cars on the lawn to prevent soap and rinse water from running into lake.
- Collect organic material (leaves, grass clippings, etc.) from shoreline, street drains and gutters to keep out of the lake.
- Use only phosphorus-free lawn fertilizer, and use mulching mowers to chop up grass clippings and leave them on the lawn to reduce the need for fertilizer.
- Restore natural shoreline habitat to prevent phosphorus-laden runoff from entering the lake.

The 2017 winter sampling data also indicated that chloride levels had increased 10 percent from 2012. Chlorides are entirely a man-made pollutant attributed mostly to road and driveway/sidewalk salt. The *StarTribune* recently posted an informative article on the chloride problem in Minnesota. You can find it at <http://www.startribune.com/rising-salt-levels-threaten-twin-cities-lakes-by-2050/419088124/>. You can find more information on the MPCA website at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/environmental-concerns-about-road-salt>. I'll be talking to the

association board about possible outreach to the county and township road maintenance departments before next winter to make sure local government is aware of this concern.

We will be keeping a close eye on future water quality sampling results to see if these trends continue.

Have a safe summer!

Terry and Debbie Coss

EWM control

We continue our plan to control EWM (Eurasian watermilfoil) in Bay Lake. Last year we treated approximately 51 acres, 11 in the spring and 40 in the fall. This spring we will start with a survey of the lake around Memorial Day and will treat necessary areas in the third or fourth week of June, weather depending. We will repeat the process around Labor Day, chemically treating sites approximately Oct. 1.

This year we will not be collecting signatures authorizing treatments along your shore. Rather, we will assume everyone approves unless we are notified that you do not approve of BLIA chemically treating with liquid 2,4-D within 150 ft. of your shoreline if needed.

To opt out, please call, e-mail or write me and say so, describing your property by address, fire number (if you know it), photo from the water and/or neighbors on either side of you, so we can properly identify your property.

We will notify everyone of treatment times as soon as we can with a Bay Lake Blast e-mail and a website post.

You do not need to send anything saying you approve of treatments.

Thank you.

David Devins
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6th Annual Amazing Race Saturday, July 22

In 2016 the fifth annual Bay Lake Amazing Race was again a fun-filled event on the lake! Nineteen boats stopped at 12 challenge stations and the Totem Pole for team pictures. Challenges ranged from gunny sack races (including 82-year-old Joan Perlach) to quickly eating a popsicle, minnow races to a word game.

Approximately 45-50 volunteers timed and ran the challenges, with the winning total of 9.21 minutes by the Victorious Secret team.

A huge thank you to Brenda Olson and The Church Olson for offering a take-off site! We also extend thanks to our 1)Teams, 2)Volunteers, 3)ChiChi for the Totem Pole photo shots, and a special shout-out to 4)Josh, Karen,

11th Annual Golf Scramble and Picnic Saturday, Aug. 12

Plan to join your Bay Lake friends at the 11th annual Golf Scramble and Picnic at Ruttger's on Saturday, Aug. 12.

Golfers will tee off in foursomes for an afternoon of fun, and non-golfers will join



Save these dates for special fun

Fireworks Sunday, July 2

**Join us for the annual
fireworks display
beginning at 10 p.m.
(dusk) Sunday, July 2,
from the east end of
Ruttger's.**



Kara and Jennifer for providing and serving 35+ pizzas at the Lonesome Pine for the Awards Ceremony.

Be sure you start early to form a team of four to participate this year. Watch the Bay Lake Blast for updates. Also, the sixth annual Bay Lake Amazing Race is on Facebook.

them at the end of the day for the annual picnic. There'll be the usual fellowship, golf and door prizes and of course plenty of good food.

Watch for registration information in July. Plan to bring your family and friends and support the Bay Lake Improvement Association Environmental Protection Fund. Everyone's welcome!



BLIA Holiday Party Saturday, Dec. 2

We are back to a Saturday evening. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Last December, our Bay Lake favorite memories were well received, and two of our attendees even had to share the prize.

Thank you to Ruttger's for the GREAT BUFFET, to Ann Ruttger on the piano, Jerry Henricks for leading us in singing and the table flowers giveaway, Paul Erickson for his Blasts, and registration persons: Ellen Brandt, George and Mary Lou Hansen, and Tom and Margaret Luneczek, and to all in attendance.

Thank you to all who supported my 10-year BLIA Holiday chairmanship. Ruttger's is so important to our lake and so easy to work with. It is not possible to thank each of you personally, but know I value your warm calls and friendship. I will miss chairing the party, but now I will be a guest in attendance and look forward to communicating with you.

Our new chair is Louise Sorenson (507-219-8338). Assisting her is Ellen Brandt (218-678-2230).

Again, Thank You and see you on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017, at Ruttger's.

Sylvia Graff

Ruttger's to host new events

When you've been in business for 119 years, it's not too often you get to say that you are introducing something brand new, but that's exactly the case this year at Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge.

A live Summer Concert Series, a traditional walleye shore lunch and a milestone anniversary celebration for Jack Ruttger are among the new events in 2017.

Summer Concert Series

Entertainment has been a big part of the Ruttger's experience dating back to the days of Joseph and Josephine Ruttger, including the legendary skits performed by Zig Ziegler himself back in the 1920s. This year Ruttger's is taking it to the next level with a Summer Concert Series.

Local and regional bands will perform on the shores of Bay Lake on select weekends throughout the summer. For two concerts, Ruttger's will transform a portion of the resort into a street dance setting. All concerts are open to the public. Admission is \$5.

"There is something magical about good live music on a sunny, warm summer night," Ruttger said. "We are happy to provide a family-friendly, high-quality entertainment option for our guests and members of the community. Everyone is invited to enjoy the shows."

Food and drink will be available. See Page 8 for the concert schedule. For more information, go to ruttgers.com/summer-concert-series. The series is sponsored by Viking Coca-Cola and Cuyuna Brewing Co.

A "new" eating experience

The latest dining experience at Ruttger's is about as old as time itself. Ruttger's "introduces" the Thursday Walleye Shore Lunch Supper — fresh walleye, served with tasty side dishes and s-mores for dessert. Add a live campfire singalong, and it might be the most deliciously traditional Minnesota dining experience.

The Thursday Walleye Shore Lunch Supper is 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. every Thursday evening between June 22 and Aug. 31. Indoor and outdoor seating will be available, and other non-walleye entrees will be served. Reservations are recommended at (218) 678-4644.

Jack's anniversary celebration

Few, if any, have had as big an impact on the resort industry in Minnesota. 2017 marks Jack Ruttger's 65th year as a leader in the resort business. In celebration, the resort is throwing a party from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge. Everyone is invited to share in food and memories.

When asked about the celebration, Jack said, "It's actually 87 years. After all, I was born on the resort, but it's as good a reason as any to eat some cake with friends."

"We hope you all can come out and enjoy some old and new traditions at Ruttger's this year," Chris Ruttger said. "Because the oldest tradition we have is opening our doors to friends and neighbors for good food and fun."

33rd annual Runtilla is Aug. 5

Keep your running and walking shoes handy for the 33rd annual Runtilla Aug. 5.

Bay Lakers will assemble by 9 a.m. (when the starting gun sounds) near White Hawk to run, walk, bike or skate 1.55 miles down Brighton Point Road and back, while their families and neighbors cheer them on. Fastest male and female runners in each of nine age-group categories will receive awards. Registration begins at 8:15 a.m.

The traditional picnic, with hosts Dennis "Charlie" and Jackie Charles, will again top off the day.

Bay Lakers age 20 and under and 70 and over are invited to submit an original design for the front of the

t-shirt, which will also list Runtilla sponsors. The back of the shirt will list \$50 donors, while \$250 donor names will appear on a sleeve and names of those donating \$1,000 or more will appear on the front. All proceeds go to the BLIA Environmental Protection Fund. A sponsorship at any level is welcome.

Sponsorship and registration forms will be available at Hansen's and online at www.baylake.org. Completed registration forms, sponsorships and t-shirt design drawings are due at Hansen's by Saturday, July 22.

Runtilla coordinator Jim Bye thanked all the volunteers who help the event run smoothly every year.

"The Runtilla has more of a community feeling now than ever; it gives people a chance to connect with their neighbors," he said. "Bay Lake is really a community."

Bay Lake Camp welcomes Wayzata Community Church campers

As Bay Lake Camp begins preparations for hosting its 91st year of summer camping, we are excited to announce a significant addition to our roster of diverse organizations bringing young people and families to experience our unique island wilderness setting. As we emphasize the stewardship of all creation, Bay Lake Camp continues to be a place identified by our welcome and hospitality for all people. I know each of you will make our new neighbor, Wayzata Community Church, feel especially welcome to the Bay Lake community!

During the summer of 2017, Wayzata Community Church will lease eight weeks at Bay Lake Camp, hosting children, youth and families from the beginning of June through the end of July. Their highly concentrated schedule will allow for a maximum number of campers to participate throughout their program, making room for other longstanding Bay Lake Camp groups to be accommodated in April, May, August and September. We are eager to welcome everyone throughout the summer, and we are confident you will assist us through this transition by noting some important changes to our common commitments of safety and security for everyone who spends time on the island!

Summer Worship

Summer worship continues on Sundays at 10 a.m. from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, but to ensure a completely safe camping

experience for Wayzata without public interruption, we will host worship at the Outdoor Chapel with dock parking for boats west of the chapel and coffee hour at a variety of locations throughout the summer. Schedule information can be found on the Bay Lake Camp website (www.baylakecamp.com), BLIA website (www.baylake.org) and the Bay Lake Camp Facebook page. Check these for updates, featured worship preachers and other important details.



Wayzata Community Church camp eager to come to Church Island

We are enthusiastically preparing for our seventh consecutive year offering outdoor ministry opportunities to children, youth, individuals and families. Our summer camp is focused on building relationships and sharing the inclusive love of Jesus. We do that through keeping campers safe, having outrageous fun, affirming each camper for who they are, building community with each other and sharing God's love.

Two years ago we outgrew our original camp ministry home. Dozens of faithful leaders began to look for a new camp property to accommodate our growing attendance. This year we are thrilled to be coming to Church

Island Cafe and Community Pizza Nights

Thank you for your support of the Island Cafe and Community Pizza Nights as a wonderful way to interact with friends, neighbors and guests to the island. These family-friendly events will continue on a limited basis. As with worship, please check for scheduling on websites and Facebook. The Island Cafe was open Memorial Day weekend on Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., and we hosted our first Pizza Night on Saturday, May 27, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Through First Lutheran's stewardship of island resources, we welcome thousands of guests to the island and the Bay Lake community on an annual basis —

Bay Lake Camp, cont. on Page 7.

Island (during June and July) and the Bay Lake community. Our campers will love the island setting, updated facilities and the beauty of creation.

We are aware that the length of our stay, schedule of our sessions and the number of our campers may represent a change from past years. We know you all understand the significance of being trusted with people's children. Our absolute priority on safety will necessarily limit visitors from the wider community to the Bay Lake Camp property while our groups are in session.

We are eager to be wonderful neighbors this summer. We love the worship service that has

Wayzata Church camp, cont. on Page 7.

Bay Lake Camp, cont. from P. 6.

countless churches and organizations, individual guests and families, as well as your friends and neighbors at community events throughout the season. Whether through summer worship, at weddings or baptisms, the Island Cafe, or our newer community pizza nights, we remain thankful for your continued partnership and support. Be sure to check out our website for a complete listing of the summer schedule 2017. If you have questions, of course you can always call me directly at (651) 247-0360.

In the meantime, thank you for your prayers as we prepare for the summer of 2017.

See you on the Island!

Peace,
Brenda Olson Bingea
Camp Director
Bay Lake Camp

Wayzata Church camp, cont. from Page 6.

shared the island for so many years. In fact, Bay Lake is a beloved setting for many in our church who have attended worship there, have visited and vacationed for years and even have residences on Bay Lake. They are universally excited for this lease relationship for 2017 and the possibility of a future beyond that!

If anyone from the Bay Lake community has questions about our camp ministry, or interest in attending camp, I invite you to contact us by e-mail at camp@wayzatacommunitychurch.org or by phone at (952)473-8877. In addition, you can reach me, Hilary Flynn, by phone at (763)258-9388 during our time on the island, June 5 to July 31.

We already have more than 500 campers registered for camp, and room for more. We are thrilled to be bringing a joyful noise to Bay Lake Camp and hope you all find us to be great neighbors! Our Senior Minister, John Ross, and others are excited to visit, to offer any support for worship on the island and to help our congregation in forming relationships in the Bay Lake area.

In the meantime, thank you for your prayers as we prepare for the summer of 2017.

Blessings,
Hilary Flynn
Camp Director
Wayzata Community Church

Looking forward to another good summer

Welcome back to Bay Lake. Although there was an inch of snow on the ground yesterday, I really do believe that spring is here. Warm weather came early again this year, and then a dose of reality was delivered the end of April; but docks and boats are going in daily and I hope all of you have plans in place to get here soon.

I would again like to take this opportunity to introduce the board members of your Bay Lake Improvement Association. I'm Bruce Johnson and will be serving as president of the association for the next couple of years. The other officers are Phil Rollins, vice president; Jennifer Qualen, secretary; and Chris Gondeck, treasurer. Sylvia Graff is now

serving as our transitional treasurer as we move forward in converting to a fully automated accounting system.

Additional members of the Board of Directors are: Dominic Ciresi (past president), Terry Coss, David Devins, Amy Grady, Josh Goolsbee, Bobbie Keller, Chris Ruttger and Steve Souder. As you know, these volunteers, along with many others, are working diligently to make sure your association continues to run smoothly as it serves our Bay Lake families and community.

The Bay Lake Improvement Association offers many opportunities for our community to come together and meet new friends, socialize, participate in a host of activities and in general,

be a part of something special. Your association continues to be in excellent shape, both financially and organizationally, thanks to the leadership and hard work of so many volunteers. I encourage all of you to join in and participate in some fashion and enjoy the many benefits your association has to offer. I also want to thank those of you who have already participated and given so generously in the past; my sincere thanks to all of you for your continued membership and donations.

If you have questions, comments or suggestions for your association, please contact me.

Hoping to see you on the lake soon,

Bruce Johnson, president
[bruce @baylakerealty.com](mailto:bruce@baylakerealty.com)

Bay Lake Breezes
 Bay Lake Improvement Association
 P.O. Box 461
 Deerwood, MN 56444-0461

July 1 Music on the Lake, Church Island
 1 p.m. (Rain Day July 3)
 July 2 Fireworks, east end of Ruttger's
 Dusk
 July 15 BLIA Annual Meeting, Ruttger's
 9 a.m. Continental Breakfast
 9:30 a.m. Meeting
 July 22 Amazing Race, Church Island
 10 a.m.
 Aug. 5 Runtilla, near White Hawk
 8:15 a.m. Registration
 9 a.m. Race start
 Aug. 12 BLIA Golf Outing and Picnic, Ruttger's
 3:45-6 p.m. Golf
 5:30-9 p.m. Picnic
 Aug. 27 Trivia Night, Ruttger's
 7 p.m.
 Dec. 2 BLIA Holiday Party, Ruttger's
 4 p.m.

BLIA Board Meetings

June 24, 9 a.m. Ruttger's
 July 15, 11 a.m. Ruttger's
 Aug. 19, 9 a.m. Ruttger's
 Sept. 16, 9 a.m. Ruttger's
 Dec. 16, 11 a.m. Lonesome Pine
 Everyone is welcome at all BLIA Board meetings.

Ruttger's Summer Concert Series

June 17, 6 p.m. Alpensterne
 July 1, 6:30 p.m. October Son
 July 8, 6:30 p.m. Shane Martin Band
 STREET DANCE
 July 14, 6:30 p.m. Ipso Facto
 Aug. 26, 6 p.m. King Wilkie's Dream
 STREET DANCE
 Sept. 2, 6:30 p.m. Copperhead Creek

Jan. 1, 2018 Winter Fireworks
 8 p.m. & Fun on the Lake
 Ruttger's

Word has it that we may be in for a big tick season. With warmer winter weather, fewer ticks have been killed by cold temperatures. Most people know that a bite from a tiny deer tick can transmit Lyme Disease. But a rare and more troublesome disease, Powassan, is also possible.

To prevent tick bites, avoid high brushy areas, wear long sleeves and pants, use insect repellent with DEET or picaridin or IR3535, and do tick checks after being outdoors. Ticks are most active in late spring, early summer and mid-fall. Have a safe, tick-free summer!