



Bay Lake Breezes

Bay Lake
Improvement Association Inc.



www.baylake.org

Fall/Winter 2007-2008

We prevailed in a rough year for Eurasian watermilfoil

After two of the most difficult years we have experienced for EWM (Eurasian watermilfoil) growth conditions in Bay Lake, I suggested to our board that we use a variance to a state rule written in our Lake Vegetation Management Plan and treat in excess of our 152 acres maximum. Agreement was unanimous, and this fall we treated 202 acres at a cost of approximately \$165,000.

We have had two consecutive winters with very little or no snow cover, allowing the EWM to grow under the ice. These warm winters with additional plant growth have been followed by hot, dry (severe drought in '06), sunny conditions, leading to low water levels and then early and continuous warm water all season. These conditions created a perfect growing environment for Eurasian watermilfoil.

Treatments the last couple of seasons did work, but with perfect growing conditions and extremely dense existing EWM, the plant grew in other areas faster than we could address it. I decided to go to the Bay Lake Improvement Association and ask for approval to treat additional acres for two reasons. For the first time I honestly felt that we needed it, and secondly,

the money was available. We had the money only because of the generosity of you, the members, who have recognized that if we don't help ourselves on this issue, no one else will.

With that being said, we are spending more than we are bringing in for the second year in a row and have made a dangerous dent in our Environmental Protection Fund reserves, which I feel are critical for the association to maintain.

Thank you for all the cards and samples you sent in. I did look at every sample (and there were a lot of them) and tried to get back to as many of you as possible. I have to admit I was a little overwhelmed and apologize

if I did not get back to you. Once again I did find several sites that without your help we might not have treated.

Without everyone's contributions and our program, Bay Lake would be in real trouble. I had the opportunity to fly over the lake and see the EWM from a different vantage point this summer. It was a real eye opener and along with new mapping was a validation of why what we have been doing is working. By treating the EWM the way we have, we keep it broken up along the shore. We give the native plants a chance to regrow, and they do. From the air it was very clear to me that **EWM**, cont. on Page 7

Here they come!

Bikers, skaters, runners and walkers of all ages were part of the 23rd annual Runtilla. All proceeds from the 5K race go to the Bay Lake Environmental Protection Fund. Story and more pictures on Pages 6-7.

It's never too late to become a BLIA member

A sincere thank you to everyone who has sent in their \$30 annual membership dues for 2007.

As you are aware, this money helps pay for the publication of the Breezes, other mailings, letters, postage and the upkeep of our buoys. It's not a

lot of money, but it plays an important part in supporting the Bay Lake Improvement Association with all our yearly expenses.

For those of you who have not yet sent in your dues for this year, it is never too late to do so.

Just make the check out to the Bay Lake Improvement Association and mail it to:

P.O. Box 461
Deerwood, MN 56444

Your interest, support and check are always greatly appreciated! Thanking you in advance,

Betty Marquardt
Membership chair

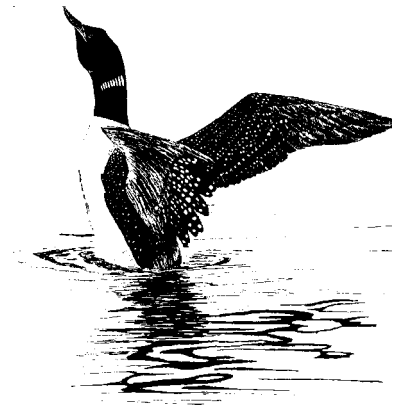
Holiday fun

The 2007 Bay Lake Holiday Party will be held at Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge on Saturday, Dec. 8.

The social hour will begin at 4 p.m., with Ruttger's Traditional Holiday Buffet at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$25.50 per person inclusive.

A Holiday registration form was sent out in October, with an e-mail reminder in November.

Sylvia Graff
phone 218-678-2543 or
e-mail graffbay@mlecmn.net.



LARRY THE LOON says, "Please donate to the Environmental Protection Fund and help keep our Bay Lake beautiful!"

Bay Lake Improvement Association

Officers

President.....	Patricia Jespersen
Vice President.....	Chris Ruttger
Secretary.....	Jim Ysseldyke
Co-Treasurers.....	Chris Gondeck, Sylvia Graff

Directors

David Devins, Chris Gondeck, Patricia Jespersen, Mark Jessen, Bobbie Keller, Gary Malek, Mark Roloff, Chris Ruttger, Steve Souder, Jim Ysseldyke

Committee Chairs

Aquatic plant management.....	David Devins
Audit.....	John Parrish
Beach captains.....	George Hansen
Breezes.....	Bobbie Keller
Church camp liaisons.....	Gary & Carol Malek
Conservation.....	Chuck Albertson, Steve Souder
Continuity.....	Ruth Hansen
Env. Protection Fund.....	Rick Bale
Fireworks.....	Gregg Orwoll
Fishing contest.....	Joel Kraft
Fishing resources.....	Gary Malek
Government.....	Jerry Poland
History.....	Paul Erickson
Legal advisor.....	Mike Kelly
Membership.....	Betty Marquardt
Access Monitoring.....	Sylvia Graff
Nominations.....	Mark Roloff
Programs/social.....	Open
Runtilla.....	Jim Bye
Security.....	Jim Nelson
Shoreline Protection.....	Tori Peterson, Tiffin Souder
Taxes.....	Open
Water quality.....	Mark Roloff
Water safety.....	Kevin Krueger
Web site.....	Scott Shekels

Bay Lake Breezes is published twice a year by the Bay Lake Improvement Association, P.O. Box 461, Deerwood, MN 56444-0461.
Web site: www.baylake.org

Editor..... Bobbie Keller

BLIA to offer online payment option on Web site

by Rick Bales

Environmental Protection Fund

For some time, Bay Lake Improvement Association (BLIA) Board members and others have been talking about ways to use the baylake.org Web site to bring us together as a lake community. Thanks to Scott Shekels, the baylake.org Web site already has the world-famous Bay Lake webcam, loads of beautiful pictures of the lake and information on the BLIA.

Even with all this, the Web site has a vast untapped potential to improve how we get information to our members and neighbors on events and meetings, and to reduce the expenses associated with mailings. After careful consideration, the board has decided to take an important step toward realizing this potential.

Soon, the BLIA portion of the Web site will include an **online payment option** for BLIA membership dues, contributions to the Environmental Protection Fund and donations toward the Fourth of July fireworks. As soon as this feature is up and running, anyone with a computer and a credit card can go to **baylake.org** and pay their membership dues, make a contribution to the Environmental Protection Fund or send in money for the fireworks.

The online payment option also will allow anyone including non-BLIA members to make a memorial donation. This feature even includes a place to indicate who should be notified of the memorial donation. When we

receive a memorial donation via the Web site, we will be able to notify the family of the gift.

Now, whether sitting on the patio in Arizona or sipping coffee alongside the canals in Amsterdam, members in a single visit to baylake.org can easily take care of their BLIA membership renewal while they check out the webcam and look at the recently posted photos of

*As soon as this feature is up and running, anyone with a computer and a credit card can go to **baylake.org** and pay their membership dues, make a contribution to the Environmental Fund or send in money for the fireworks.*

family and friends. They can protect the lake with a donation to the Environmental Protection Fund and look forward to a great Fourth of July celebration on the lake by helping out with the cost of the fireworks display.

There are other benefits besides the convenience. Members can earn miles and rewards from their cards by paying BLIA dues and making donations with a credit card. Members also can immediately print out confirmations of their membership renewals and donations, and retain the confirmations of their tax-

deductible donations for their tax records. These printed confirmations will take the place of the acknowledgment letters we send out in the U.S. mail for tax-deductible donations to the Environmental Protection Fund made via regular mail. This way, the association will also benefit by saving the expense of postage and stationery for the acknowledgment letters.

It is important to remember that the online payment option is just that — **optional**. We will still send out all the usual material — membership, aquatic plants, Environmental Protection Fund letters — by U.S. mail. Members can still renew their membership and send their donations by U.S. mail, and for these tax-deductible Environmental Protection Fund donations we will still send out acknowledgment letters by mail. For those with no interest in using a Web site, there will be no change.

The company that we have chosen to handle the credit card transactions

— Vanco — is based in Minnetonka.

Vanco's costs to BLIA are modest and

competitive with other providers'. Credit card information will go directly to

Payment option, cont. on Page 7



Volunteer public access monitors make valuable contribution

by Sylvia Graff

Access monitor coordinator

As of Oct. 1, Bay Lake Improvement Association monitoring of the public landing stands at 724 monitored hours with 1,278 motorized water crafts checked. Motorized water crafts came from 98 Minnesota lakes and six other states.

We have trained 71 persons in the last two years, including members of the Deerwood Lakes Lions, Bay Lake residents and residents from several other area lakes. This is not just a Bay Lake problem — other area lake residents are becoming very aware and interested in our monitoring efforts to protect all lakes.

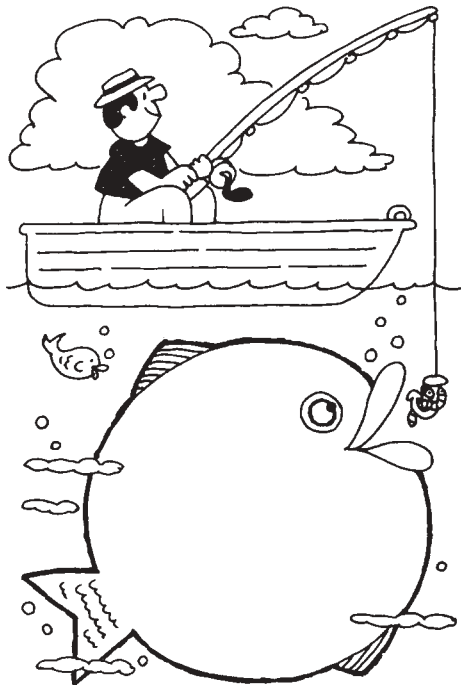
The persons with crafts that we monitored took informational material, were respectful and courteous, and in general thanked us for our efforts and information.

It has been my pleasure and it far exceeded my expectations in re-establishing the BLIA public landing monitoring system. I plan on setting up one or two additional, one-hour sessions to be given by the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) next season. Even if you do not plan on monitoring, please educate yourself and ask friends to attend. Please consider monitoring a couple of four-hour

sessions during the season, as the money saved your BLIA would be substantial. Also, if you have any evaluation sheets for 2007, please send them to me for the DNR and the BLIA to evaluate.

To those who monitored last year and this year, THANK YOU, as well as to those assisting me and to Ruttger's for accommodating the DNR sessions. Hope your experience of monitoring was as great as mine. Please contact me, and I'll see you next season.

Sylvia Graff
26167 Woodland Beach Trail
Deerwood, MN 56444 or
call 218-678-2543 or
graffbay@mlecmn.net



Nine Bay Lakers win fishing trophies

by Joel Kraft
BLIA Fishing Contest

Thanks to all who participated in the 2007 Bay Lake Improvement Association Fishing Contest! It was a beautiful summer, and I'm glad that you were able to spend part of it fishing the waters of Bay Lake.

The contest concluded on Labor Day, but will be up and running again next year. I hope that you have the chance to get out on the water again next summer and look forward to seeing your name in the registration book for the 2008 contest.

This year's winners are listed on the next page. In addition to trophies being awarded for the largest of each species in both adult and kids divisions, all entrants were included in a drawing for two gift certificates to Tutt's Bait & Tackle in Garrison.

Bay Lake Camp renovation begins

Greetings from First Lutheran Church and Bay Lake Camp! Refresh, Rebuild, Renew — our motto this year as we move forward with our mission to preserve Church Island, rebuild our infrastructure and update our facility for years to come.

What a year this has been. The Conservation Easement was signed and sealed this spring, and we celebrated Memorial Weekend with our first worship service of the season, a ground breaking ceremony and a picnic (compliments of Josh and his Lonesome Pine team). Representatives from Nor-Son and The Minnesota Land Trust, state representatives, a bus load of First Lutheran members, and hundreds of you helped celebrate this long awaited event. Final permits were obtained and land cleared, and work finally began in August. We are on our way!!



It is quite a sight to see the many loads of building supplies, trucks, excavators, etc. being transported across the water. A special thank you to George Jukish (Weekend Extensions), who designed and supplied the barge to make this possible. Come on over and check it out.

As of Oktoberfest weekend the wells and septic systems are done, the new kitchen and dining hall are framed in, the block work is complete for the new lodge and a new foundation is being put under the manager's cabin. A special thank you to Nor-Son and our project superintendent, Paul Wagner, for all of your hard work.

Our campers enjoyed another great summer at Bay Lake. We had grade school and junior high kids, men and women's retreats, family camps,

service groups and a theater camp (did you get to attend one of the performances of Aladdin?). The Sunday worship services continue to be well attended, averaging more than 220 per Sunday! What a ministry we have here at Bay Lake Camp!

Our annual New Year worship service is planned for Sunday, Dec. 30 at noon, weather and ice conditions permitting. Check with Hansen's Store or Maleks to confirm. We'll have a bonfire, music and fellowship.

As the holiday season approaches and we think of gift giving, we remind you of our ongoing Campership program. A gift of \$200 will send a camper to BLC for a week next summer. Thank you for helping us serve campers who cannot afford this experience without our help. Questions? Call us at 218-820-33292.

Lastly, we want to thank all of you who volunteer each year in so many ways. We couldn't do it without you!

See you on the island,
Carol and Gary Malek (218-820-3329)
and
Brenda Olson, Camp Director (218-678-2271)

Congratulations to the following 2007 Bay Lake Fishing Contest winners!

Kids Division

Jonathon Burk – Sunfish, 10 inches
Taylor Koetsier – Crappie, 13 inches
Ethan Burk – Largemouth Bass, 18 inches
Touria Techam – Northern Pike, 32.5 inches
Jonathon Burk – Walleye, 18.5 inches

Adult Division

Ronald Mathees – Crappie, 13.25 inches
Christopher Burk – Largemouth Bass, 17.25 inches
Julie Dibble – Northern Pike, 34 inches
Karen Calvin – Walleye, 28.25 inches

Winners of \$15 Gift Certificates to Tutt's Bait & Tackle: Ryan Paul & Matt Hopkinson

Thanks again to all who participated in the 2007 BLIA Fishing Contest!

Runtilla sparks record participation, sponsorship

Bay Lakers' love of exercise and the out-of-doors showed more than ever at the 23rd annual Runtilla, with a turnout Runtilla chair Jim Bye described as "overwhelming."

Runners, walkers, bikers and skaters of all ages rounded the 5K course as friends and family members cheered them on. At least five families had four generations participate in the event.

Ricky Aulie was the overall winner, with a time of 17 minutes, 19 seconds, while Julie Maus took the spotlight in the women's division with a time of 22:03.

For the third year, a young Bay Laker provided the t-shirt design. Missy Rose, 11, was the 2007 artist, following Kelsey Rose in 2006 and Alison Bye in 2005.

"This year 15 designs were submitted, and it was extraordinarily hard to pick the winner," said Bye. He encouraged Bay Lakers under age 20 and over age 70 to enter next year's design competition.

With more than 60 sponsors, the 2007 Runtilla raised a record \$16,085, every dollar of which will go to the Bay Lake Improvement Association Environmental Protection Fund.

"A million thanks to all our sponsors, including the Murphy and Ratliff families, our two biggest givers," said Bye. "Contributions of any size are welcome and of significant value."

Bye also gave special thanks to local businesses that support the event, including Hawk on

Bay, Lonesome Pine, Hansen's Store and Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge, plus the volunteers who make the event run smoothly.

"It was a nice day," said Bye of the event. "Each Runtilla is special and memorable. Our goal is to bring people together for a Bay Lake wellness day. When as many Bay Lakers come out as did this year to enjoy the event and do something good for their bodies — it's fun."

Missy Rose, 11, who designed the 2007 Runtilla t-shirt, posed with Jim Bye, Runtilla chair.

Here are the 2007 winners and their times in minutes:

Age 0 to 10

- 1 - Emily Rose, 10, 27:29
- 2 - Ali Munson, 8, 29:04
- 3 - Natalie Maus, 9, 32:13
- 1 - Nathan Johnson, 10, 26:58
- 2 - Zach LaCombe, 10, 26:58:5
- 3 - Adam Rurand, 10, 31:08

Age 11 to 15

- 1 - Shelby Vukelich, 13, 23:31
- 2 - Kirsten Midthun, 15, 25:51
- 3 - McKenna Parent, 13, 25:59
- 1 - Justin Edmundson, 15, 20:22
- 2 - J.P. Rose, 15, 20:25
- 3 - Henry Jessen, 11, 22:35

Age 16 to 20

- 1 - Kelsy Rose, 17, 28:16
- 2 - Caitlin Enright, 16, 32:21
- 3 - Chelsea Hannum, 17, 43:40
- 1 - Pete Vukelich, 17, 17:54
- 2 - Rob Wroblewski, 17, 23:20
- 3 - Vance Yudell, 16, 25:45

Age 21 to 30

- 1 - Brooke Sorensen, 28:16
- 2 - Betsy Baldwin, 29:55
- 3 - Morgan Kerfomann, 37:38
- 1 - Ricky Aulie, 17:19
- 2 - Bob Wilcox, 18:15
- 3 - Mike Sittfel, 22:55

Age 31 to 40

- 1 - Julie Maus, 22:03
- 2 - Carrie Nydahl, 23:44
- 3 - Tracy Burke, 24:16
- 1 - Todd Maus, 19:40
- 2 - Jeff Konen, 22:28
- 3 - Eric Baldwin, 23:07

Age 41 to 50

- 1 - Jeannie Sonotegard, 24:29
- 2 - Kim Wroblewski, 24:57
- 3 - Lisa Mrozek, 25:25
- 1 - Rudy Reydudo, 17:57
- 2 - Scott Beaupre, 20:46
- 3 - Jeff Swartz, 20:59

Age 51 to 60

- 1 - Bonnie Clementson, 30:14
- 2 - Laurie Ogard, 30:22
- 3 - Colleen Yudell, 32:57
- 1 - Marcus Johnson, 21:38
- 2 - Dan Midura, 30:28

Age 61 to 70

- 1 - Mary Maus, 26:23
- 1 - Greg Garmer, 23:07
- 2 - Art Erdman, 26:37
- 3 - Jim Connors, 27:36

All aboard, mates!

A floatload of “pirates,” aka Josh and Amy Goolsbee and the Lonesome Pine crew, provided plenty of fun along the Runtilla route.

Even canine family members joined in.

Payment option, from Page 3

Vanco and be processed through Vanco’s secure bank card system. Vanco’s security is good enough for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans (the financial-services fraternal association formed when Lutheran Brotherhood and Aid Association for Lutherans joined together), and many churches and non-profits use Vanco for their online charitable giving. Scott Shekels also knows how secure the Vanco system is because he works with the people at Vanco to keep it that way.

We are working to have the online payment option set up sometime soon, so check it out — along with all the other great stuff — at baylake.org.

EWM, cont. from Page 1

without the treatments the shoreline would most likely become a very dense, matted band of EWM from about 25 feet to 300 yards or more wide around about 90 percent of the lake. There are also a number of areas in open water that would become very heavy and matted. The lake would become unusable as we know it. We can’t let this happen, and we will keep controlling it.

Our fund-raising efforts are unprecedented in the state, which goes to show the value we all put on our little corner of the world called Bay Lake. I am going to increase my contribution this

year, and I would like to ask all of you to consider giving a little more to the Bay Lake Environmental Protection Fund in 2007. Any extra contribution would be greatly appreciated. We need to have a record fund-raising effort in 2007 to build up our reserves going into 2008. We have no idea what to expect going forward, but have to be prepared for more of the same, hoping for a return to normal weather patterns.

Thank you for caring.

David Devins
Aquatic plant management

Hunter's Bay Point history

Land was home to four generations of Hunts

Here is another story of true Bay Lake pioneers. Four generations of the Hunt family lived on what we now call the Hunter's Bay Point area. Many of you will remember Hunt's Cannery, and some likely came by boat to buy their sweet corn and berries. This is a condensed version of the background story in our Hunter's Bay Point book.

In 1883, George Albert Hunt and his wife homesteaded an area between Hunter's Bay and the main part of Bay Lake. The shoreline ran from Birkeland's Point to the southeast shore of Hunter's Bay. Their original home was located on the shore between two points (Birkeland's on the south and Erickson's on the north).

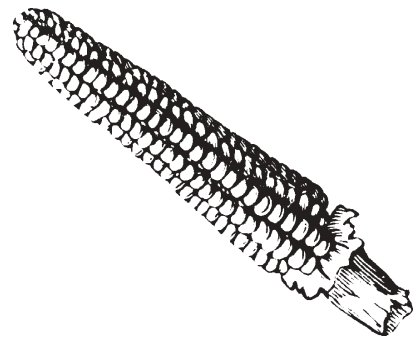
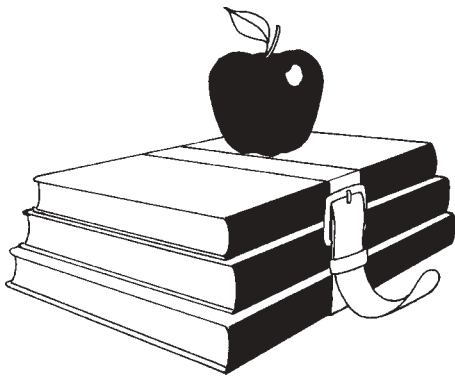
According to one of their granddaughters, they moved to Bay Lake from Duran, Wis., shortly after getting married. "They had both been married previously, and grandfather had three sons, and

grandmother had four daughters and three sons. So, the first necessity was a home to shelter them. An old log house on the property, abandoned by an earlier homesteader (or perhaps a trapper's shack, as there is no record of homesteading prior to 1882) was their home while their permanent home was being built...(It was one of the earliest frame houses built in Bay Lake Township, most of the previous homes being of logs. There was no school within miles, the first being built in 1894. So an upstairs room served as a schoolroom where serious classes were carried on each day under Grandmother's supervision, with the older children acting as student teachers. There were no roads, or practically none, and most of their household goods were transported by flatboat on the waters of Bay Lake. A team of oxen furnished the means for hauling wood,

hay and everything else, I guess. Grandfather was a bricklayer by trade and spent the summers following this trade."

One of their sons, George Wilber, who was known as Wilber and as "GW" (and later as "Grandpa Hunt"), eventually took over the original homestead..."For many years Wilber served as the boiler engineer in one of the local sawmills, but his abiding reputation was as an agronomist. His flowers and vegetables were admired throughout the neighborhood."

Additionally, GW served as a Lay Minister. He was the first pastor when the Deerwood United Methodist Church was started in 1889, and he also served at the church in Vineland on Mille Lacs Lake. This went on for at least several years, during which time GW walked from Bay Lake to both Deerwood and Vineland to conduct services. After retiring in approximately 1909, Wilber and his wife started Hunt's Cannery. In 1909 he joined with 21 other farmers to create the Bay Lake Fruit Growers Association, which ultimately grew to 300 members and in excess of \$300,000 of transactions. Shipments of berries were made by boxcar from Deerwood.



Hunter's Bay history, cont. on Page 9

Hunter's Bay residents find history fun, rewarding — you can get 'hooked' on your history, too

by Paul Erickson
History Committee

The Hunter's Bay Point shoreline history project is now complete. Sixteen current families (and two families that used to call Bay Lake "home") submitted their stories, which were then compiled into books along with maps, abstract information, property ownership records, etc.

In June approximately 60 current and former residents and

special guests gathered for a "history party." As the books were distributed the recipients were asked to share an interesting Bay Lake story...**and they were wonderful!**

So our "pilot project" was a complete success! And our residents will tell you that it was an enjoyable, interesting and worthwhile investment. The books will be treasured and the

information will serve as a foundation for ongoing efforts.

Similar projects are now underway on Battle Point, North Shore East of Ruttger's, Doty's Addition, Echo Bay NE End, Echo Bay West End and Woodland Beach. And residents on four other shorelines are thinking about getting into the act.

My advice: Look at the "Current Projects" page in the History section of the Web site (baylake.org). Then contact me if you want to review our books (Copies of the Hunter's Bay Point book and of a "Guide to Coordinating a Shoreline History Project" are available for your guidance). I promise not to push, but I'm confident that you'll get "hooked." ***Winter is a perfect time to get started.*** And BLIA will share the cost of printing, mailing and materials up to a maximum of \$10/cabin (i.e. Woodland Beach has 40 cabins and if their costs equal \$20/cabin or less, BLIA will reimburse half). Believe me, ***this is something you want to have happen on your shoreline...maybe you're the one who will have to make it happen.***

Paul Erickson
History Committee
(efiman@aol.com)

Hunter's Bay history, cont. from Page 8

When GW Hunt retired, Ralph Hunt (a son) took over Hunt's Cannery, which he ran with his wife, Alisemon. They built their home on Hunter's Bay (approximately 100 yards west of the original homestead home) in 1946 (current Don & Jeanne Swenson home). The original homestead home was torn down in 1963 (except the second floor, which was relocated and still sits between the Tighe and Tutt properties facing Hunter's Bay). For many years Ralph maintained a boat dock on the shore where the original home had been. It was used by many lake residents who came by boat to purchase the fine products sold at Hunt's Cannery. And one of Ralph Hunt's brothers, Art,

had a home on the western portion of the homestead, where his wife sold baked goods.

The southern half of the Hunter's Bay Point area (from Birkeland's Point to the Posthumus home) was homesteaded by GA Hunt in 1892. The northern half (from the Parrish home to the narrows) was given to the Northern Pacific Railroad "in consideration of railroad costs" in 1864, and it was purchased by GW Hunt in 1902. In the '40s, '50s and '60s, the Hunts sold the lakeshore lots, and when Ralph & Alisemon retired in the '70s they sold their fields to Bob & Marian Erickson, Gretchen Pracht and Ed & Audrey Holbert.

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

