



PINE VIEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE
BIG PINE LAKES ASSOCIATION

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P.O. Box 190 Finlayson, MN 55735
<http://minnesotawaters.org/bigpinelakes/>

Chairman's Column

John Mueller

Welcome to 2019! As we start the new year, Mother Nature continues to dazzle us with her diversity. We started December with some of the earliest ice on the lake in recent history which generated more than a few early season ice fishing enthusiasts. The holidays remained relatively snow free until early January when we finally started seeing the white stuff accumulate with a vengeance. We then had the opportunity to experience how our cold weather gear worked as the bottom fell out of the thermometers and we had a streak of days below zero. We now seem to be drifting into a "normal" winter pattern if there is such a thing anymore. As I thought back to 2018, I remembered our late ice out and for all practical purposes a "non-spring", I hesitate to wonder what's in front of us for the next couple of months, hopefully more sunny days than cloudy.

I do look forward to another great year around the lakes. BPLA continues to remain strong in our lake community and the lakes appear in great shape. Our Loon nesting platform projects in 2018 were a success with support from all our volunteers throughout the year. We will be moving forward with our deployment plan for this year in the upcoming months, as we prepare for the loons return. We had another great fireworks display over the 4th, good participation in our boat parades, a fun filled picnic in July and many participants attending our activities over the course of the year. I'm sure 2019 will hold many similar events and great memory making days.

We do have one opening on our 8 person BPLA board for a resident of the North Lake. Rich Helms announced his resignation from the board last fall and we did not have anyone appointed at the Labor Day meeting. If you are interested, please contact one of our current board members. I do want to extend a big "THANK YOU" to Rich for his time and energy supporting BPLA. Rich has been a long time advocate of BPLA and its efforts.

Thank you to all for supporting BPLA and our efforts to make the lakes a great place to make memories. I look forward to seeing you on the Lakes.

John

BPLA Board of Directors

John Mueller, Co-Chair (2)
Johnmueller17@gmail.com, Big Pine Lk

Jim Stevenson, Co-Chair (5)
stevensonjc@comcast.net, Pine Lk

Jeff Lindgren, Secretary (5)
jeffreyd@frontier.com Big Pine Lk

Roger Olson, Treasurer (5)
rbolson55@gmail.com, Pine Lk

Dave Schinkoeth, Director (6)
651-777-5714, Big Pine Lake

Ron Redding, Director (5)
randsredding@frontier.com, Pine Lk

Rick Meier, Director (2)
rmmeier46@gmail.com, Pine Lk

(Year of service noted in parenthesis)

BPLA Committee Leaders

Boat Parade:

North lake - Lisa Drake

South lake - Rick Meier

Fireworks: Jim Stevenson

Logowear: Roger Olson

Membership: John Mueller

Merchant Directory: Roger Olson

Newsletter: John Mueller/Rick Meier

Picnic: Ron Redding

Projects / Road Cleanup:

Roger Olson

Volunteer Committee:

Ron Redding

Water Quality: Dwight Benoy

Fish Habitat: Dave Schinkoeth

Website: Cathy Stevenson



PINE VIEWS

Volunteer Project Days

Ron Redding (randсреdding@frontier.com)

I would like to thank all of the BPLA members that have volunteered their time assisting with our Project Days in the past. We have set aside three Project Days for 2019. Those dates are as follows; Saturday, May 18th, Saturday, August 17th and Saturday September 21st. All BPLA members and friends are invited to join us for a few hours on these days to help with projects that are intended to improve on what our lakes have to offer. We meet on Project Days at 9:00 AM at the boat landing on the South lake.

Over the last few years we have accomplished quite a bit and with your help we can continue to do much more. Here are a just few of the things that have been done. We have built four floating loon nests that are placed in the water as the ice comes off the lakes; maintained walking trails around the lakes and informational kiosks near both boat landings; managed the removal of beaver dams that have restricted the water flow out of our lake; and installed and maintained a buffer zone of native plants at the BPLA picnic area on the South lake

If you have any ideas for additional projects please let me know at 404-433-7396 or by email at randсреdding@frontier.com. I look forward to seeing you at our next Project Day Saturday, May 18th

2018 Water Quality Update

Dave Schinkoeth, 651-777-5714

This past summer the St. Croix River Association did AIS testing on various bodies of water that are part of the St. Croix River watershed checking for indications of Zebra Mussels infestations by completing veliger tows. Veligers are the planktonic larval life stage of Zebra Mussels. Both Big Pine and Pine lake were tested as part of this process. The final results were shared in late October by SCRA and indicate there were no positive findings during the testing on either of the lakes. In the 33 bodies of water surveyed in the St. Croix watershed, the only positive results were recorded in Comfort Lake, which is located in Chisago County.

BPLA Nextdoor

Roger Olson

We now have 174 families that have signed up for Nextdoor.com. That is 23 more than we had in August, so people continue to join which helps everyone stay connected. Nextdoor is a great way for neighbors to find services or communicate activities on the lake, summer or winter. This past season we had people looking for snow plowing references, had extra materials they were trying to sell, and people looking for fire wood sources.

Please encourage your neighbors to sign up if they haven't already and be part of the growing network on Nextdoor. It really is a great way to connect and communicate with other cabin owners! Check out Nextdoor.com and join the Big Pine lakes site.



BPLA Logo Wear

Roger Olson

BPLA logo-wear continues to be a hit with families around the lakes. Whether it's for wearing when you're at the lake, or for friends as gifts, BPLA logo wear is a great solution. We have the BPLA logo wear and other BPLA articles available for purchase at our annual picnic and at our association meetings on Memorial Day and Labor Day. Over the past couple of years we have added some additional BPLA logo'd products to our selection to include tote bags, key ring floats and boat coolers. If you have other ideas of products that you'd like to see made available, please drop me a note. (rbolson55@gmail.com)

Membership Committee

John Mueller

Calendar of Events

Roadway Clean-up Saturday May 4, 2019 @ 9:00 AM, meet at South Lake Public Landing, snack & beverage provided.

Project Day Saturday May 18, 2019 @ 9:00AM, meet at South Lake Public Landing, snack & beverage provided

Membership Meeting Saturday May 25, 2019 @ 10:00 AM, coffee & rolls service starts @ 9:15 AM, Finlayson Community Center

Boat Parade Saturday July 6, 2019 – Register at 4:30 PM, parade starts at 5:00 PM

Fireworks Saturday July 6, 2019 - South Lake at 10:00 PM

Fireworks Clean-up Sunday July 7, 2019 @ noon, meet at Makela's to help clean up the firework debris, 30 minutes

Project Day Saturday August 17, 2019 @ 9:00AM, meet at South Lake Public Landing, snack & beverage provided

Annual Picnic Tentative date Saturday July 20, @ noon. Location and details to be announced at a later date.

Project Day Saturday August 17, 2019 @ 9:00 AM, meet at the South Lake Public Landing, snack & beverage provided

Membership Meeting Saturday August 31, 2019 @ 10:00 AM, coffee & roll service starts @ 9:15 AM, Finlayson Community Center. Annual election for Directors

Project Day & Roadway Clean-up Saturday September 21, 2019 @ 9:00 AM, meet at South Lake Public Landing, snack & beverage provided

With the distribution of our first newsletter of the year, the BPLA membership drive has started. In the past couple of years, our membership has continued to remain strong with in more than 200 families joining each year. The membership fees collected help support activities around the lakes. In addition to the annual membership fees, members also donated over \$2500 to the Sandstone Food shelf managed by Family Pathways. These donations will help many families in need. Additional donated funds were also earmarked for water quality projects and for our annual July 4th Fireworks display. In 2019 we will be hosting the fireworks display on Saturday, July 6th. Please plan your holiday travel accordingly.

This year's membership forms are included with the mailing of our first newsletter of the year which is sent to all current BPLA members and other families living on the lakes. To join the BPLA, please complete your registration form and return it in the envelope provided. For those who act early, you have the opportunity to participate in our annual **ICE OUT CONTEST**. To participate, simply identify the "official" date that the ice will be gone. If you donate to the Fireworks fund with your submission, you'll have the opportunity to submit 2 date submissions. All Ice Out entries need to be post marked prior to March 31, so act fast. If the Ice goes out prior to March 31, only entries postmarked prior to the official Ice Out date will be considered. The Ice Out "official" date will be determined by BPLA. If multiple submissions are received for the "official" Ice Out date, a drawing will be held to determine the winner. The winning submission will be identified at the BPLA Memorial Day meeting with the winner being awarded \$25 in BPLA logo wear. For those keeping track, in 2018 the Ice Out date was May 2, which was one of our latest dates in history.

Please encourage your neighbors to also support the BPLA so that we can continue to enjoy the activities around the lake and invest in its future. For additional information regarding BPLA, check us out on our website at:

www.minnesotawaters.org/bigpinelakes/

Thank you for your continued support of BPLA!

Local Businesses

**Please patronize the businesses
that support the BPLA!
They are important to our success!**

A&M Pumps_____	320-676-3386
Ace Hardware Sandstone_____	320-245-2235
Aitkin County Sheriff_____	218-927-7435
American Septic_____	320-384-7300
Brett Paige Construction_____	320-630-6270
Chris' Food Center_____	320-245-2229
D&E Heating/AC_____	320-384-0066
East Central Energy_____	800-254-7944
Finlayson Ag & Hardware_____	320-233-7372
Finlayson Storage_____	612-229-9205
Geise Bed & Breakfast_____	888-220-0234
Hayland Woods Native Nursery_____	320-983-2584
Lake State Federal Credit Union_____	320-245-5251
Lampert Lumber_____	320-245-2276
LaRose Greenhouse & Nursery_____	320-233-7455
Man's Mowing_____	320-630-5336
Maple Run Apple Orchard_____	320-279-1306
Matt's Sanitation_____	320-384-7137
Member's Co-op Credit Union_____	320-245-5251
Moose Lake Implement & Sport_____	218-485-4486
Northview Bank_____	320-233-7575
Old & New Property Services_____	218-341-0870
Paul's Portables_____	320-245-6802
Peterson's New & Used_____	320-233-6429
Pine County Sheriff_____	320-629-8380
Pine Lake Mini Storage_____	320-233-6394
Purple Pumper_____	320-384-0655
Rapit Printing_____	651-633-4600
Round and Round Farms_____	320-233-7234
Sandy's Salon_____	320-233-6192
Sandstone Ace Hardware_____	320-245-2235
Schoenrock Construction_____	320-233-6192
Town & Country Insurance_____	320-233-6684
United Country Real Estate_____	320-245-2502