



Big Pine Lake Fall
2017 Report Greg Sol



PINE VIEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE
BIG PINE LAKES ASSOCIATION

May 2019

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

Chairman's Column

John Mueller

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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:

Don Fornell

Water Quality: Dwight Benoy

Fish Habitat: Dave Schinkoeth

Website: Cathy Stevenson

Welcome to Spring! Over the past weeks many of us have been active around the lakes as we prepare for the upcoming warmer weather. Docks have been deployed, boats are now in the water and properties are starting to shape up. The BPLA volunteers have been active also this year, deploying the loon platforms and conducting our first roadside clean up event. Thanks to those who volunteered their time to help in those efforts. As you are looking forward to your summer schedule, I encourage you to set aside time to participate in the BPLA activities as it is a great way to meet your neighbors and to give back to your community. This upcoming season we will again be sponsoring several family activities and volunteer project days; check the schedule inside the newsletter for dates and times.

BPLA has continued to be active in building connections within our lake community while caring for the lakes through our volunteer efforts. Through the various meetings, lake activities and volunteer days we strive to make our community a great place to live. As mentioned in our first newsletter this year, we do have an open position on the 8 member BPLA Board for a resident on the North Lake. If you're interested in helping BPLA make the lakes a great community, reach out to one of our current board members to learn more.

One open area that we are investigating is communication regarding a "No Wake Zone" in the event of high-water levels as experienced in the past couple of years. We will have more information to share at our upcoming Memorial Day meeting.

Thanks again for your support of BPLA and making the lakes a great place to live. I look forward to seeing you at our spring Membership meeting on May 25th at 10:00 at the Finlayson Community Center. Come early to enjoy the coffee and donuts and to meet your neighbors.

I look forward to seeing you at the lake! *John*

As a reminder, our Memorial Day Membership meeting is right around the corner. The meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 25th at the Finlayson Community Center. Social time starts at 9:15 with donuts and coffee, the actual meeting starts at 10 am.



PINE VIEWS

2019 Project Days and BPLA Picnic

Welcome to another summer at the lake to spend with family and friends. For those of you interested in meeting others on the lake we have several ways you can do that through the BPLA. We have three Saturdays that are designated as Project Days around the lake and we also host our annual BPLA picnic.

Project Days - this year are the following Saturdays; May 18th, August 17th, and September 21st. Anyone interested in volunteering a few hours can meet at the south Lake Public Landing at 9:00 AM. Our Project Days this year will include repairing the fence and cleaning debris and overgrowth from our BPLA buffer zone located near the BPL picnic area on the south lake by the boat landing. We also have kiosks on both lakes that need to be repaired and updated with new material, as well as hiking trails to clear. Anyone with additional ideas for projects around the lake should pass that information on to the BPLA through one of the Directors at our annual meetings.

BPLA Picnic – Much thanks to Ken and Ardie Johnson who have hosted the BPLA picnic for the last three years, your hospitality and ability to put on a great picnic has been truly appreciated. This year we will host the picnic on Saturday, July 20th at the BPLA picnic area on the south lake near the public boat landing. BPLA to provide meat, buns, condiments, soft drinks and water. Bring a dish to share with family, friends and other association members.



One last item to bring to the attention of the members is regarding the BPLA dock that was near our picnic area on the South Lake. The dock had to be retired due to safety concerns and continued repair issues. If anyone has a dock that is in a good, safe, working condition and would like to donate it as a replacement please let us know.

Next Door, Logo Wear and Roadside Cleanup

Roger Olson

For our Nextdoor update, we are up to 174 people on the lake that have signed up for Nextdoor.com. That is 23 more than we had in August, so people continue to sign up which helps everyone stay connected. It is a great way for neighbors to find services or communicate activities on the lake, summer or winter. Please encourage your neighbors to sign up if they haven't already and be part of the growing network.

Logo wear will be available at the Memorial weekend lake association meeting. If anyone has ideas on new items we should have available please let one of the board members know.

September roadside cleanup had 13 people turn out, in addition to roadside cleanup, we were able to clean up the BPLA picnic area, cutting down the small trees that were overgrowing the area. For our Spring clean up day, we had 11 volunteers on hand to police the roadways. Thank you to all who participated!

Membership

John Mueller

Our 2019 Membership campaign is well under way. As a member of BPLA, you will be eligible to receive a listing of all our association members, a business directory of local businesses that can help you find contractors in the area, and copies of our 3 newsletters distributed during the year. We also host various events around the lakes that members are encouraged to participate in.

To-date, we have 187 families who have submitted their association fees. In addition to their annual membership fees, members have also helped by making contributions to our Water Quality Projects fund, 4th of July Fireworks fund (to be held Saturday, July 6) and the Food Shelf fund.

Thanks to each of you for your contributions and commitments to-date. For those who have yet to renew/join the 2019 BPLA family, you can find our annual membership form on our web site. Please complete the form and mail it with your check to Big Pine Lakes Association, PO Box 190, Finlayson, MN 55735 or bring it with you to the May membership meeting.

ICE OUT 2019

Jeff Lindgren

July 4th Celebration



The fireworks display on the Big Pine Lakes this year will be on Saturday July 6th at 10:00 PM on the south lake near the boat launch.

We heard a lot of positive comments the past few years about the fireworks display. Because of the generosity of the membership and your donations, we are able spend more to increase the intensity of the display. We believe this is what you would want for this great celebration on our lakes.

Please stay behind the buoys which are placed in the water to keep boats at a safe distance from the launching site. Please also remember to have the proper lighting on your boats when navigating back to your home after the show.

Boat Parade

Rick Meier

This year, the annual 4th of July boat parade will be held on Saturday July 6th. Over the past several years we have had great participation for the boat parades. Let's keep up the good work!

Registration for the parade begins at 4:30 pm with the parade beginning at 5:00pm. North lake registration is held at Drakes' dock which is on the last point on the NW bay going south to the narrows. South Lake registration is held at the boat landing by the Narrows. You must register before entering the parade to become eligible for the prizes. A prize package is provided for each boat registration. Cash prizes are awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Creativity and Enthusiasm hold equal weight in the judging. The judges will be stationed at docks along the route so keep up the efforts.

We have had excellent participation over the past several years; we hope you can join us! Please direct any questions to me at rmmeier46@gmail.com.



The official ice out date on Big Pine Lake and Pine Lake this year was April 21st. At sundown on the 20th there was significant ice on both lakes but overnight the wind switched directions from the south to the east and by morning the ice had disappeared. This was the fourth time ice out has been on April 21st but the first time it has been on Easter Day since records of the BPLA have been kept starting in 1965!

For the record, the earliest ice out was on March 24, 2012, and the latest date was on May 8, 2013, which is a span of 44 days. That is a quite a time span! FYI, there has never been an ice out on April Fool's Day!

The most common day the ice went out is April 23 with five occurrences in '67, '74, '79, '82, and '95. It looks like dates between April 19th and the 25th are the ones to pick.

There were fourteen people who picked April 21st this year. Their names will be put in a hat and a winner will be drawn at the meeting on May 25th. You MUST be present to win! The meeting starts at 10 AM with coffee and rolls starting at 9:15.

Good luck to the rest of us next year!

Calendar of Events

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, 30 minutes

Annual Picnic Saturday July 20, @ noon, BPLA Picnic Area

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

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

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

BIG PINE LAKE AREA HISTORY

Jeff Lindgren

The Big Pine Lake area is well known to have been named for the huge forests of white pine and red pine, also known as Norway pine, that were so prevalent before being logged and burned decades ago. Pine County was also named for the abundant pine forests.

In our immediate area, in addition to our two lakes, Big Pine and Pine, named after the pine forests, there is also the Pine River, which begins as a creek entering Pine Lake on the southern end and after exiting Big Pine Lake at the north end at the dam, runs a very crooked route to the Kettle River on the east side of Rutledge. There is also Upper Pine Lake which is located about a half mile south of Highway 18 and Hannu Lane, and Little Pine Lake, located east on Pine Lake Road, about a half mile north of Highway 18 and County Road 36 or Norway Spruce Road (also named after a pine tree!).

Pine County was established in 1856 and organized in 1872. Finlayson was organized in 1895 and is named in honor of David Finlayson, the former proprietor of a sawmill in town. Finlayson had a station of the Northern Pacific Railroad, a sawmill as noted, a pickle factory, and two potato warehouses among its early businesses; the post office was established in 1887. (There won't be a test!)

A couple anecdotes from the three-book series entitled Long Winters and Other Short Stories, available in various places including Northview Bank in Finlayson, include a raid at Rhine Lake, just north of Big Pine Lake, on a large-scale moonshine operation involving the manufacture and transportation of illegal liquor. The still operated around the clock and trucks transporting the liquor were camouflaged with canvas and signs marked Childrens Hospital Supplies or something similar.

Another story is about Dosch's Pavillion on Pine Lake. In 1928 Tony Dosch built the new, much bigger dance pavilion next to Jamison's Pine Ridge Resort, across from Bowser's Store at the northeast corner of Big Pine Lake.

Bands playing there over the years included The Nelson Twins Orchestra, Whoopee John and Slim Jim and his Roughriders. Admission was 25 cents in the early days and girls had an indoor restroom, but boys had to go outside!

Local Businesses

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

Aitkin County Sheriff	218-927-7435
Pine County Sheriff	320-629-8380
A&M Pumps	320-676-3386
American Septic	320-384-7300
Brett Paige Construction	320-630-6270
Brown's Beans and Greens	320-245-0329
Chris' Food Center	320-245-2229
Complete Cabin Care	320-237-3496
DB Cleaning LLC	218-341-9935
East Central Energy	800-254-7944
Finlayson Ag & Hardware	320-233-7372
Finlayson Storage	612-229-9205
Hayland Woods Native Nursery	320-983-2584
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
Members Cooperative Credit Union	320-245-5251
Moose Lake Implement & Sport	218-485-4486
Paul's Portables	320-245-680
Pine Lake Mini Storage	320-233-6394
Purple Pumper	320-384-0655
Rapit Printing	651-633-4600
Sandy's Salon	320-233-6192
Schoenrock Construction	320-233-6192
Town & Country Insurance	320-233-6684
United Country Real Estate	320-245-2502