



# PINE VIEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE  
BIG PINE LAKES ASSOCIATION

**August 2017**

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

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## 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

Picnic: Ken & Ardie Johnson

Projects / Road Cleanup:

Roger Olson

Volunteer Committee:

Don Fornell

Water Quality: Dwight Benoy

Fish Habitat: Dave Schinkoeth

Website: Cathy Stevenson

## Chairman's Column

Jim Stevenson

As I write this column it's mid-August and there is still plenty of summer left. It looks like we will make it through this summer without any major weather issues or floods. From what I've experienced and what I've heard from others it's been a good summer for fishing and enjoying the lake.

Once again we had incredible participation in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July boat parades this year and I'm always amazed at the creativity and the amount of work that goes in to the decorating of the boats. A big thank you goes out to Lisa Drake and Rick Meier for a job well done in coordinating this event.

Another long standing tradition enjoyed by many was the fireworks on July 1<sup>st</sup> thanks to the generosity of the BPLA members. A special thanks goes out to Don and Pat Makela for the use of their property as a launch site. I also would like to thank Mike and Rich Karel and their families for all the years of lighting the channels with tiki torches. I put a call out on Nextdoor and Facebook this year seeking help with the clean-up of the launch site the following morning and thank you to Mike Maier, Lou Beardsley, Liz Murray (and her dog Emma) and Cathy,

Jennifer and Matt Stevenson for showing up on short notice and getting the job done very quickly.

Another great event this summer was the annual BPLA picnic that was held on July 15<sup>th</sup>. What a great way to meet your neighbors around the Lake. Thank you to Ken and Ardie Johnson for hosting it for the second year in a row in their spacious yard. Thanks also to Ron and Sue Redding for coordinating the picnic and standing over the hot grills cooking the burgers and hot dogs.

A reminder that our fall membership meeting will be on Saturday September 2nd at 10:00 AM at the Finlayson Community Center. Donuts and Coffee will be served at 9:15 so come early to greet your neighbors and buy your raffle tickets. The fall membership meeting is when we typically elect board members. On the north lake there is only one board position expiring this year (Dave Schinkoeth) and he is eligible to run for one additional two year term. Further nominations for this seat will be accepted at the meeting. There is also one open seat on the south lake and nominations will be accepted for that seat as well.



# Pine Views

## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parades

Cathy Stevenson / Rick Meier / Lisa Drake

Wow what great weather for a parade this year. It was a perfect Minnesota summer afternoon with lots of sun and fun on lakes. A big thank you to all of the families and friends who make this parade a great BPLA tradition. The level of creativity and enthusiasm of the parade participants is really amazing. Thanks to our participants and also for everyone who cheered them from shore to make this a fun event on the Big Pine Lakes. See you next year!

### South Lake

1<sup>st</sup> Place Winners: **Plasek Family**- This group had a very enthusiastic group with the theme of The Pine Lake Monster (there actually is a legend to that effect). They engendered a great deal of fear with the animation and the actions.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winners: **Beane Family** – This group had Batman himself and his friends from the superheroes. The theme was well represented!

Other South Lake participants included:

- Beardsley Family – Boat Patrol
- Mackemie Family – Stars and Stripes
- Shirley Family – Animal Floatilla
- Dexter Family – Cubs Fan Club
- Dejno Family – Old Glory
- Kneissel Family – Hula Dancers
- Schussler (Don) Family – Party Boat
- Schussler (Josh) Family – Stars and Stripes
- Onischuk Family – Flag on Pontoon
- Johnson Family – Red, White and Blue
- Olson Family – Splish Splash

### North Lake

1<sup>st</sup> Place Winners: **Zack Family** and the crew of the Mighty Jungle. This VERY lively group had lots of music and participation by the jungle inhabitants on thier palm-tree covered boat. Thanks for bringing the sunny tropical jungle to Minnesota!

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winners: **The Sorenson and Collova Families** and the FourthTober Fest themed wagon. They thought of everything including leiderhosen, BIG steins of beer, and a donkey pulling the beer wagon.

Other North Lake participants included:

- Hall Family – Getting' Sporty MN Style
- Corbo Family – Uncle Sam
- Lee Family – Bass Pro/Filet O' Fish
- Mueller Family – Castle Mueller
- Shinkoeth Family – America

*For additional pictures and details on the boat parade, check out Events tab on the BPLA Website!*



August 2017

## Best Management Practices to Enhance and Protect Our Lakes

Ron Redding

As members of the BPLA we all have a responsibility to protect and enhance the quality of our lakes. We have seen improvements in many areas, but can continue to make gains by following some of the best management practices that are listed here.

1. Septic systems should be up to code with local ordinances and properly maintained.
  - Do not dispose of paint, solvents, pesticides or household cleaners down the drain.
  - Minimize the use of antibacterial cleaning products.
  - Practice water conservation.
  - Have your septic system pumped at least every three years, more often if heavily used.
  - Systems with garbage disposals should be pumped every year.
2. Maintain or establish a buffer zone between your yard and the lake.
  - Limit fertilizing.
  - Slow shore land runoff by terracing your landscape.
  - Establish buffer zones of woody vegetation, tall grasses and native plants to prevent erosion and nutrients from reaching the lake.
  - Minimize the removal of aquatic plants since they help to stabilize shorelines and provide habitat for fish and other wildlife.
3. Maintenance of your lawn.
  - Limit fertilizing and don't fertilize within 50 feet of the lake.
  - Use zero-phosphorus fertilizer if possible.
  - Keep grass clippings, leaves and pet waste out of the lake.
4. Prevent the spread of exotic and invasive species.
  - Check your boat and have your guests check their boats before and after launching in the water. Encourage others at the landings to do the same.
5. Get involved.
  - Get involved with the BPLA.
  - Join us on our volunteer days as we clean up around the lakes and work on other projects.
  - Provide the BPLA with your thoughts and suggestions on how we can continue to improve our lakes.



### Upcoming Events

September 2, 2017 | Membership Meeting

September 16, 2017 | Project Day

September 23, 2017 | Roadway Clean-up



# Pine Views

## Lake History and Heritage

Jeff Lindgren

My wife and I have greatly enjoyed living at the lake year round since 2010 after buying our place in 2003. There are more year round people and getting to know who they are and spending time with them is always interesting. I'm not sure though if we have quite reached the point where we are considered a "local" yet! One local we have talked to is Ethelyn Kaeder who lives across the lake from us. Recently she has been relating stories about the dance halls that used to be in her neighborhood and around the lake. Another person was relating how they could hear the music coming across the lake from the halls as they fell asleep.

We, my wife Gail and I, were introduced to Big Pine Lake by the son of one of the long time owners on the lake at the Pine Roost. He called one day and said a new house had come on the market and we should stop by and see it on our way home to the cities. We stopped and looked and put an offer in the same day. Since then I found out that in the late 30's and early 40's my dad used to come down to the lake with HIS dad and catch minnows that they would then sell to bait shops in and around McGregor where they lived. It was fun to learn about the connection we have to Big Pine Lakes!

If anyone else would like to share their story of how they came to Big Pine and Pine Lakes I would be interested to hear them and perhaps share them in the newsletter. It is one more way to learn about your friends and neighbors. You can send your stories to JeffreyD@Frontier.com.

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

## Roadside Clean up – Sept 23

Jim Stevenson

BPLA has volunteered to be responsible for cleaning several miles of Roadway along County Roads 37 and 38 twice a year. Our next road clean-up day will be September 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you have not previously volunteered for this, please consider meeting us at the public landing at 9:00 AM on Saturday September 23<sup>rd</sup>. If we get enough people involved in this it only takes about an hour to complete the entire project.

### Local Businesses

A&M Pumps	320-676-3386
Aitkin County Sheriff	218-927-7435
American Septic	320-384-7300
Chris' Food Center	320-245-2229
D&E Heating/AC	320-384-0066
DB Cleaning	320-233-0878
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 Orchard	320-279-1306
Matt's Sanitation	320-384-7137
Moose Lake Implement & Sport	218-485-4486
Northview Bank	320-233-7575
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