

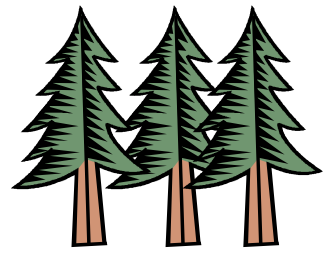
# PINE VIEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE BIG PINE LAKES ASSOCIATION

February, 2014

P.O. Box 190 Finlayson, MN 55735

[www.minnesotawaters.org/group/big-pine-lakes-association](http://www.minnesotawaters.org/group/big-pine-lakes-association)



## *BPLA Board of Directors*

- Dwight Benoy, Chairman** (1)  
 dbenoy@comcast.net, Pine Lake
- Dave Schinkoeth, Co-Chair** (1)  
 651-777-5714, Big Pine Lake
- John Mueller, Treasurer** (4)  
 612-790-5795, Big Pine Lake
- Joe Rudich, Secretary** (2)  
 joe@rudich.com, Pine Lake
- Bob Hemming, Director** (4)  
 Hemming11238@gmail.com,  
 Pine Lake
- Bob Palmer, Director** (6)  
 320-233-6109, Pine Lake
- Gary Reimann, Director** (6)  
 763-753-1566, Big Pine Lake

(Years of service noted in parenthesis)

## *BPLA Committee Leaders*

- Boat Parade** Lisa Drake, Bob Hemming
- Fireworks** Gary Reimann
- Logowear** Joe & Margaret Rudich
- Membership** John Mueller
- Merchant Directory** Bob Hemming
- Newsletter** Margaret Rudich
- Picnic** Gary Reimann
- Projects / Road Cleanup** Joe Rudich
- Volunteer Committee** John Mueller
- Water Quality / Fish Habitat**  
 Dwight Benoy
- Website** Cathy Stevenson

## **Board Member Needed:**

The Board has only 7 Directors, with one position from the South lake unfilled. BPLA Directors meet 4 times per year and get a chance to work with and for their neighbors. Anyone from the North Lake interested in this position should contact any Board member for info.

## *Membership Committee*

John Mueller

During 2013, BPLA enjoyed a great year with over 220 participating members. Our membership contributed \$18,000 through membership fees and donations throughout the year. Almost \$1,900 of these contributions were directly earmarked to the Sandstone Food Shelf, managed by Family Pathways, to help needy families in the area. Additional funds were designated to support water quality improvement projects around the lake, our annual July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend fireworks, and other BPLA activities.

BPLA is hosting the Independence Day fireworks display on Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup> as voted on during our Labor Day association meeting by the attendees. Please plan your holiday travel accordingly.

This issue of *Pine Views* is distributed not only to current members, but to all other families living on the lakes. This is a great time to join the BPLA, and current members should encourage your neighbors to continue (begin??) to support the BPLA so that we can continue to enjoy the activities around the lake and also invest in the water quality improvement efforts that are currently under way and planned for the future.

Thank you for your continued support and confidence in BPLA!

## *Membership Survey*

Joe Rudich

The board members of the Association work to represent the interests of our members and lake property owners, but we are always trying to better understand what all of **YOU** think about issues on our lakes, and how we should be acting on **YOUR** behalf.

To help us better understand members' interests and to make plans for BPLA activities, we are conducting a survey of members' opinions on a variety of topics. A printed copy of the survey is enclosed with this issue of the newsletter, which we encourage you to complete and return with your membership.

- If more than one person in your household wishes to complete the survey, please make a copy and do so.
- Please feel free to include any further thoughts or comments; we are always eager to hear more from our members!
- Contact Joe Rudich ([joe@rudich.com](mailto:joe@rudich.com)) if you lose the printed copy or would like the survey emailed to you for any reason.

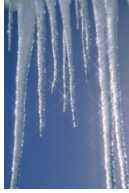
We will discuss the results of the survey, and related issues, at our Spring Membership meeting. Thanks for your help!



# Pine Views

## *Ice Out Contest Rules*

John Mueller



### **Win \$25 or a BPLA sweatshirt!**

The ice out date is determined by when the ice is completely melted on both the North and the South lake and confirmed by the BPLA. With the early submission of your 2014 membership dues, you are allowed one ice out guess. If you also choose to donate to the Fireworks fund and pay your dues, you get two guesses. Early donations to the fireworks fund help us plan the show!

Submission steps:

- 1) Submit your membership and or Fireworks contribution.
- 2) Write your ice out guess date(s) on your membership form and return no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>.

If more than one member submits the correct ice out date, a drawing will be held at our Memorial Day weekend Membership meeting.

## *Merchant Directory*

Bob Hemming

My son and his wife had their wedding reception at our cabin a few years ago and our family was reintroduced to small town word of mouth business practices. I stopped at a couple of local businesses and asked, "Can you recommend someone local for a pig roast?" Sure enough, the same name came up a couple of times and after tracking down the phone number, we set up the pig roast and it turned out wonderfully. This same process got us the side dishes, wedding flowers, and wedding cake. Both Marce and I grew up in small towns and the "word of mouth" business directory was comfortable for us. Our sons were not so sure. One of our sons wondered about the wisdom of getting a pig roast referral from the lumber yard!

The Big Pine Lakes Association publishes a yearly directory of businesses serving our lakes area. For a nominal fee, the business gets their name and contact information on a printed handout available at annual meetings and is listed on the association's web site. Here are my two requests: first, our members share their knowledge of local businesses and second, my suggestions for local businesses.

### First - members sharing their knowledge of local businesses:

There are a number of small businesses that provide services to association members who do not work out of traditional storefronts. Maybe you know someone who does welding, bakes wedding cakes, fixes small engines, plows snow, mows lawns, or other services. Or someone who spends summers at the lake or from the community that is looking for part time income. Please contact me (Bob Hemming) soon by email - [pinelake11238@gmail.com](mailto:pinelake11238@gmail.com) with name(s) and contact information for local business people. I will contact them about being in our "business directory" publication. Thanks for your help.

### Second - thoughts for local businesses:

Having grown up in a small town, I understand that some local business people are "independent" people and place a high priority on doing business on their terms. However, most of the lake owners are from the Twin Cities and are accustomed to businesses giving written estimates and being available evenings and weekends. In addition, many of the lake owners are weekend cabin users and are not available during the week to meet someone about fixing a garage door or a furnace that is acting up. Here are some suggestions for local businesses:

1. Respond to telephone calls for supplies and services in a timely basis.
2. Offer your products and services weekend days and evenings without extra charges.
3. Develop a web site. "Word of mouth" advertising is great but the trend is for people to "shop" first via the web and then contact the person. It can be a basic site with just contact information and services offered.
4. Storefront business should consider extended Saturday hours and limited Sunday hours during the summer season. If the lake owner is involved in a home maintenance project and needs supplies, local businesses that close at noon on Saturday & are closed Sunday only encourage lake owners to buy their supplies before coming to the lake.
5. Lake cabin owners and local businesses both benefit from a stronger business community. Each group should continue to treat the other with respect and friendliness.

February, 2014

*Cabin Connections*  
*Arlene Hammond, guest writer*

Our cabin is located on Big Pine Lake land with a long history. A land patent was granted to Frederick Nelson on October 9, 1895. The abstract has numerous documents from 1897 to the 1950s involving the Nelson family. Frederick's wife, Anna, was born in 1862 in Sweden. Anna died in California in October of 1941. Frederick and Anna had five living daughters and two deceased children, Herman who died in 1894 when he was about five years old, and Mabel who died in 1900 at the age of five weeks. The story was that they were buried somewhere on our land.

There were many legal transactions, law suits, etc. over the years with various people buying parcels of the land. My husband, Darrell, actually lived in the house in the winter of 1938-1939 when he was six years old. His Dad worked in the area, and his family lived there over one winter. My aunt, Gertrude Nelson, lived there in the mid 1920's while she was teaching at the Pine Lake School. The foundation of that school can still be found just off the gravel road which runs past Francis Laska's former home off Highway 18 on the old Pine Lake Road.

This buying and selling of pieces of land continued into the 1950s when the Robinsons became owners of the property. It was during these years, that the top story of the house was removed leaving a flat roof and a basement was dug out. The haphazard buying and selling resulted in more legal actions for the next twenty years continuing down into the time Jerry and Pat Heagerty bought the house from Gene Robinson in 1969. It had stood empty for a time, and it was sold to them as a cabin. These problems continued during the time they owned the cabin, finally coming to an end a few years after we bought it, when a legal agreement removed a taxable 30-foot strip of land from two sides of the cabin boundaries.

The Haegerty's, and their two children, David and Vicki, enjoyed a great cabin life—swimming, fishing, bonfires with the neighboring kids, etc. Pat, along with David and Vicki, would spend the summers at the lake with Jerry coming up over the weekends. Jerry and David were both avid fishermen. When Jerry developed health problems, he was forced to take an early retirement from the Minneapolis Police Force. Eventually it became necessary to sell the cabin because Jerry's health continued to deteriorate.

David remembers driving by the old cabin occasionally fishing the lake. It brought back a lot of memories:

*"Spending many hours catching walleyes with his Dad and relatives. The walleye fishing in the early 70s was great on Big Pine. Hanging out with all the friends along the east side of the lake, endless camp fires. Swimming across the lake with his sister. Riding mini bikes, hanging out at the rope swing. Planting a couple hundred tiny pine seedlings, now over 30-40' tall."*

Pat had called us a couple of times over the years, and told us what a great time David had at the cabin. David remembers stopping by our neighbor's cabin. It was for sale, but the phone had been disconnected. When we were ready to sell last spring, I remembered my conversations with Pat, and I decided to call her. Pat and David had been living in Grand Forks, ND, but had been back in Minnesota for fifteen years. It turned out David and Pat, Noel, and son, Matt, along with Beau, their family dog, lived only about three miles from us. They were interested and drove up to see the property. Of course, it had drastically changed over the last 36 years, but David spotted his Dad's old fishing boat down by the lake and also a couple of items in the cabin that he remembered, including the big kettle used for cooking sweet corn. I promised to leave the picture of Gainsborough's Blue Boy with the plastic frame, which he did not remember. We left it there for Noel to decide its fate. I believe it had been hanging in that same room for more than forty years.

We closed on August 23, 2013, and David and Noel are now the owners of the cabin his parents owned over 36 years ago. They have two daughters, their son Matt, a son-in-law and two grandkids. As they said: *"The whole family is excited, and looking forward to many years of enjoying the cabin, making many more memories."* Noel says: *"Beau really enjoys jumping off the dock, but became a bit confused when we pulled it onto the shoreline in October."*

What would have been a sad circumstance for us turned into a happy occasion as we handed over the keys to the new owners of our cabin! Thanks to David and Noel Heagerty and Darrell Hammond for their input!

# Pine Views

## *Local Merchants*

|                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| A&M Pumps                    | 320-676-3386   |
| All That Floral and Gift     | 320-245-3181   |
| American Septic              | 320-384-7300   |
| Ausmus Furniture & Carpet    | 320-384-6101   |
| Bella Salon & Boutique       | 320-245-0301   |
| Chris' Food Center           | 320-245-2229   |
| D.B. Window Washing          | 320-233-7484   |
| East Central Energy          | 1-800-254-7944 |
| Federated Co-ops             | 320-245-5576   |
| Geise Bed & Breakfast        | 888-220-0234   |
| John Andreason Heating       | 320-233-6068   |
| Lampert Lumber               | 320-245-2276   |
| LaRose Greenhouse & Nursery  | 320-233-7455   |
| Mans Mowing                  | 320-630-5336   |
| Matt's Sanitation            | 320-384-7137   |
| MJC Equipment, Inc           | 320-245-5127   |
| MPJ Enterprises              | 320-245-5127   |
| Moose Lake Implement & Sport | 218-485-4486   |
| Mora Marine                  | 320-679-1262   |
| MPJ Enterprises Landscaping  | 320-245-5127   |
| Northview Bank               | 320-233-7575   |
| On A Cloud Massage           | 320-216-5369   |
| Peterson's New & Used        | 320-233-6429   |
| Pine Lake Electric           | 320-233-6127   |
| Pine Lake Mini Storage       | 320-233-6394   |
| Purple Pumper                | 320-384-0655   |
| Quarry Greenhouse            | 320-245-0561   |
| Rapit Printing               | 651-633-4600   |
| Rosga Well Drilling          | 320-384-6103   |
| Sandstone Ace Hardware       | 320-245-2235   |
| Sandy's Salon                | 320-233-6192   |
| Schoenrock Construction      | 320-233-6192   |
| Sebald Motor Sales           | 320-838-3141   |
| Septic Check                 | 320-983-2447   |
| Town & Country Insurance     | 320-233-6684   |
| United Country Real Estate   | 320-245-2502   |
| Waldheim Resort              | 320-233-7405   |

*Please  
patronize  
the  
merchants  
who  
support  
the BPLA!*

*They are  
important  
to our  
success!*

## *Pine Lake Cabin Owner Publishes Novel*

Interested in a great novel that describes time spent at a lake which will remind you of our own? Read Susan Schussler's "Between the Raindrops". Susan has been coming to the lake for over 20 years and owns a cabin on the South lake with her husband and two of his brothers. Go to [www.SusanSchussler.com](http://www.SusanSchussler.com) for details.

February, 2014

*A Snowy Retreat for Grandkids*  
Bob Hemming

Marce and I went up to the lake recently to check on things after one of this winter's never ending cold snaps. Is the furnace working OK? Are all the windows and doors OK? Is the septic system working or frozen? Does turning on the well sprout any leaks from water lines? Does the driveway into the garage need light shoveling or a serious shoveling or a age reminding shoveling? Has the roof line developed any unappealing curves after snow fall after snow fall? We hit the jackpot!!! All systems passed with a green light. With the "hauling in" stage done, the wood stove started sending flicking light and warming air currents throughout the cabin as we settled into our favorite chairs with a glass of wine, herring, and crackers.



Next morning after breakfast, I casually mentioned going outside to do a little roof raking. Seemed like a good idea with the snow piled well above the top of the roof ridge and ocean waves of snow along the roof's edges. Things went well the first hour of roof raking. Heck, this is what manhood is all about! The arms and shoulders started to show fatigue and signs of "first stage pain" at the end of hour two. Marce opened the front door and called out, "Interested in lunch?" Trying to show some level of interest in continuing roof raking in spite of the lunch offer I said, "sure." My entire body sang relief as I nestled up to the bowl of steaming soup set before me. The first question was my ability to lift my arm off the table to spoon the

amazing smelling soup into my watering mouth. The second question came after lunch - my ability to make my body move from a sitting position to a standing one. Marce cheerfully said, "I am ready to help out." Some time later with her able help, both of us came inside tired and the trophies of our efforts were the piles of snow from the roof.

We all know the special rewards and concerns that go hand and hand with Minnesota winters and lake homes. There certainly are times we all question the wisdom of owning a lake home with its extra expenses and needed efforts no matter how lovely a setting sunset across the lake or a glass of wine before a light show from a wood stove on a winter's night. Since purchasing our lake home on Pine Lake in 2005, our first grand child arrived in 2009. Cabin life for us took an amazing turn. It was followed by four more "amazing" turns with one more "amazing" turn sometime near the end of February. It is experiencing our grand kids' joy of being at the "lake" that lifts our spirits, eases aching muscles, and makes lake chores a way to set the stage for the arrival of the grand kids. Laughter, smiles, limitless energy, rides on swings and boats, climbing trees, digging for worms, throwing stones, getting dirty, staying up late, eating grandma's home cooking including caramel rolls, and the list goes on. And, during winter, our lake home on Pine Lake becomes a winter "grand kid" retreat. I hope they grow fast and strong - there must be future roof rakers and driveway shovelers among them!

