



Bay Lake Improvement Association

P.O. Box 461 • Deerwood, MN 56444-0461

May 2013

Fellow Bay Lakers,

I am certain that you are excited to get your dock and boats in the water. Summer will soon be upon us and BLIA has a full schedule of events planned for this summer. These events build the strong sense of community on the Lake, and I'm excited to share them with you.

- **The Plant and Tree Giveaway** will take place at the Lonesome Pine, as usual, on Saturday May 25th from 10AM to noon. Please stop by and pick up some plants for your lakeside enjoyment and some trees for your property.
- The weekend of the 4th of July is again a busy time on the Lake: **fireworks** at dusk off Ruttger's docks on the 5th, the **BLIA Annual Meeting** on the 6th (Continental Breakfast at 9AM followed by the meeting at 9:30), and a band on Church Island the afternoon of the 6th.
- **The BLIA Children's Party** will continue, thanks to Brenda and the staff at Church Island Camp, on the island from 10AM to noon on Saturday, July 13th. Please bring your kids, grandkids and young houseguests for exciting games and a chance to meet other junior Bay Lakers.
- The 29th Annual **BLIA Runtilla** will take place the following weekend, July 20th, starting near the White Hawk at 9AM. This annual event brings together multiple generations of Bay Lakers for a fun and competitive morning while raising much needed reserves for the Environmental Fund.
- The 7th annual **BLIA Golf Outing and Picnic** is on August 10th. Bring all of your golfers to Ruttger's Lakes Course for a fun afternoon followed by door prizes and a picnic open to all.
- **Oktoberfest** brings an end to the season on October 19th from 9AM to 4PM.
- I hope that you will join me to celebrate the Holidays with our friends and neighbors at the **BLIA Holiday Party** December 14th at 5PM at Ruttger's.

All of these events help build the vibrant community on the Lake.

BLIA exists not only to strengthen our community but also to help preserve and protect the beauty of **Our Lake**.

Zebra Mussels are now in over 100 Minnesota lakes and at least 12 in Crow Wing County, including Mille Lacs and Gull. BLIA, under the direction of Jane and Phil Rollins, continues to do everything possible to keep Zebra Mussels out of our Lake. Quagga Mussels are in Minnesota waters as well; if you were at the Annual Meeting last year you know that we will continue to battle Aquatic Invasive Species for the foreseeable future. The current plan is to have Class 1 inspectors at the ramp Thursday thru Sunday, sunup to sundown. The county will help us organize this process, but we will have to pay for the inspectors. The cost per day for inspectors is approximately \$150. Please consider increasing your Environmental Fund donation by \$150---your additional \$150 donation adds a day for our efforts, and countless summers for you and your family. If you haven't given in the past, please consider a gift. We will rely on volunteers to help monitor the public access Monday thru Wednesday.

If you are interested in volunteering for one or more shifts, please contact:
Phil Rollins (philfishing@gmail.com or 415-497-2838).

A membership form is included in this mailing. Please join again this year either by returning the form or by visiting **BayLake.org** and joining securely via the web. Please encourage younger generations to join BLIA, it **IS** okay to have multiple memberships per cabin and family. Many frequent houseguests are also members. The strength of our community is represented by the number of our members. This year we hope to increase our member base from 500 to 600 in order to better reflect the depth of our roster.

Also enclosed you will find a list of the BLIA Board and Executive Committee and a calendar of the aforementioned events. Last, but not least, you will receive a mailing from the BLIA Board soon asking for a donation to the Environmental Fund; please give generously.

Have a safe, content and joyous summer with your friends and family on the Lake where I hope to see you soon.

Best,

Dominic Ciresi

President