

BLACK OAK LAKE PRESERVATION FOUNDATION, INC.

FALL 2014 NEWSLETTER



A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT JIM FLEMING



This has been a summer to remember – maybe not for the weather, but certainly for the generosity and dedication of Black Oakers to our precious resource. We have an enviable history of volunteerism and financial generosity – all for the preservation of Black Oak Lake, but this summer, we seemed to carry it to an even higher level.

Once again, folks generously donated their time to monitoring the Lake and public beach, to keeping the grant dollars and contributions flowing, and to organizing and financially supporting numerous successful fundraising events, including the Progressive Dinner, the picnic and auction, clothing sales, herbal oils and vinegar sales, clam bake and, yet to come, Survivor Dinner. All of these things take time and effort to organize and implement. The extraordinary generosity of our folks was no more clearly demonstrated than at this summer’s auction, which raised very close to \$6,000 (a new record), not including the more than \$2,000 raised that day for dollars for hours (thanks in large part to our anonymous donor’s matching gift). Of course, 100% of the auction proceeds go to BOLPF, thanks to our members providing all the auction items, at no cost to BOLPF. Again this year, folks were extraordinarily generous in donating auction items. The auction committee doesn’t ask local merchants for donations, knowing how thin a margin our local businesses operate on, but Mark, at the Country Store, voluntarily donated several bottles of wine, in appreciation for BOL business this summer.

It’s also worth noting that, other than some minor costs, all funds raised through our various efforts go to our goal of protecting and preserving BOL. Our social events carry themselves and, further, provide a source of funding for BOLPF.

The bottom line: Our total assets increased over \$12,000 from this time last year (even with two full-time paid beach monitors for most of the summer). I wonder if there is any other lake organization in the State as fiscally responsible (or that has as much fun being fiscally responsible). So, a little pat on our collective backs.

Still, we cannot rest on our laurels. It’s laudable to be building a war chest, but when we hear John Annin and Bob Pierce tell us the costs facing other lakes to fight EWM (more than \$100,000 a year for John’s former 240 acre lake in MN), it’s clear we need to keep up the effort to sock away funds and to diligently try to prevent EWM from taking hold in BOL. I’ve heard recently that Forest Lake’s problems are worse than some had thought – so the problem is close by, unfortunately.

With the higher lake levels, it seemed that folks were able to enjoy the lake more this year. Good to see young folks skiing, tubing and having fun, as many of us did not so long ago. I hope everyone has a good winter, and let’s all return next year for another great summer!

It’s a pleasure being president of an organization in which so many members express their love and respect for BOL in so many ways.

Thanks.

Jim





SAVE THE DATES!

**LAST PONTON PARTY
8/31**

**SURVIVOR DINNER
9/15**

**WHO'S WHO?
DIRECTORY TIME AGAIN!**

WALT BATES

Keep your camera handy around the lake because there will be another cover photo contest next winter for the upcoming new 2015 Black Oak Directory. Photos that did not win previous contests may be resubmitted and I have some already. Please email any to me at :

waterbirds@aol.com. Over the winter I will send out the most current data spreadsheet for your perusal and ask for any corrections. This will contain all contact data you have listed on your property page on the website. Though the most current and accurate info is always available on the

lake website that little directory booklet still comes in handy in many locations.



**JOIN YOUR FELLOW BLACK OAKERS FOR
THE ANNUAL SURVIVOR DINNER**

September 15th at Twilight Supper Club 5 PM
Cost is \$25. Choice of prime rib, baked chicken or broiled walleye.
Includes appetizers, salad bar, sides, dessert and tax and tip.
Please let Bonnie or John Clarke know your menu selection and pay now or then.
Bonclarke@gmail.com or 312.961.8060 or 5556 County Rd B
Hope to see everyone who is still here there!

OUR BULK EMAIL LIST EXPLAINED

WALT BATES

The Black Oak Lake bulk email list currently has just over 300 addresses on it. To be on it a person must be in the immediate family of a Black Oak waterfront owner or be a BOLPF member. We do have about ten in that latter category identified on the lake map as "Off-Water". Anyone on the bulk list has access to the Property Directory on the lake website. Recall that you were given a username which is the owner's name (ie, jdoe). Your password was initially that same username but you can change it using the HELP tab above. Both the spring



and fall newsletters and the periodic lake-wide emails are sent to that list. As you know, once you are signed on you can alter all your contact data, add up to six photos, write a family tree or history, etc, etc, and many people have done that. Any changes to your contact data automatically propagate to the respective bulk list. We also have 11 properties for which we have no email address for the owner. For

these we use snail mail or telephone for important news. Though you can alter existing data, adding a new resident such as an adult child onto your property residents list has to be done by me. Simply send me as much data as that person wishes to be posted and it will be done. Regarding security, many people provide that contact data on the assumption that it will be used only for sharing lake news or for communication with other lake residents. Please do your part to keep the access codes out of the hands of telemarketers, etc.

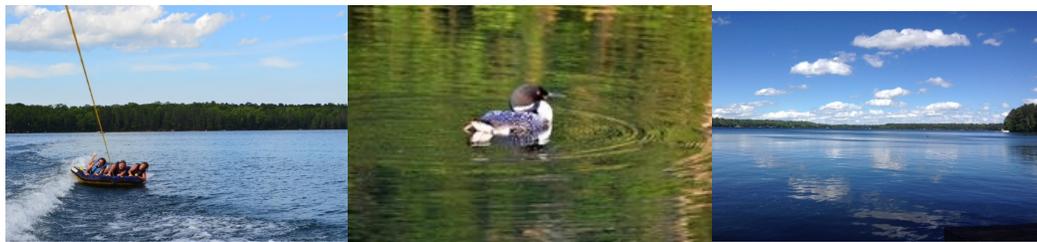
WHAT HAPPENED TO BLACK OAK'S CLARITY? WALT BATES

Since 2005 our clarity has followed basically the same annual cycle. At ice out, spring turnover would bring nutrients to the surface which fertilize algae growth. This would put the clarity in the mid-teens followed by a sharp increase into the forty to fifty foot range by mid-June as zooplankton eat up all that algae. Then it would taper back down to about 30 feet in mid-July and stay there until late fall. But in 2014 that June hump did not happen. The clarity struggled up to 30 feet by late July and has stayed there. Keep in mind that almost every other lake in the state would love to be in our shoes as the statewide average

Secchi is under 10' but what happened here? According to DNR and UWEX experts it was due to the sharp rise in our water level. For seven years, large shoreline areas have been exposed and grew all manner of mostly terrestrial plant life. Suddenly this was all submerged resulting in an approximate doubling of the Chlorophyll concentration in our water. Phosphorous has remained very low but Chlorophyll does fertilize algae growth. Again, keep in mind that even this higher amount would be the envy of most other lakes. To be more specific about this the DNR cut the state into five "georegions" for lake

comparison purposes. The five are basically the four corners of the state plus a central section. We are in the northeast georegion where the average Secchi is the highest of the five at 10.6' and the average Chlorophyll is the lowest of the five at 12.4 milligram/liter. Our chlorophyll has always been about 1mg/L and this spring jumped to 1.84mg/L.

So, will we again be the clearest lake in the state for 2014? We won't know that until next spring but it certainly will be closer than in previous years.



CLEAN BOATS AND CLEAN WATERS

CHERYL MITCHELL

Thanks to paid inspectors Jeannie and Bob, as well as volunteers Bob Barnum, Walt Bates, Sara Beedie, and John & Bonnie Clarke. With more than 700 paid hours and over 100 hours of volunteer hours, hopefully, we're well aware of the condition of our lake.

Thanks to all who have donated to dollars for hours which helps greatly to continue with our much needed paid inspectors.

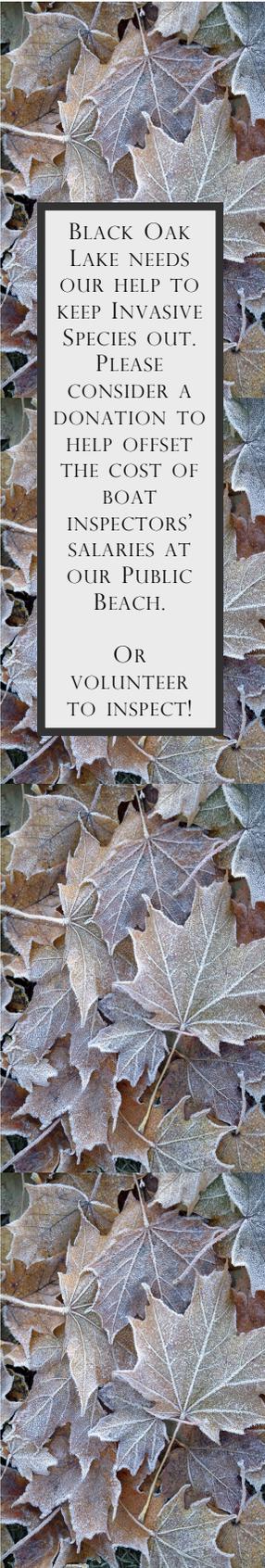
With increased information now required for reporting boat inspections, it was surprising how many areas our visitors come from. There was even a boat from Lake Michigan! I wish I knew how he navigated there on a boat that was happy here.

We still have two months of inspecting to go, ending October 31st if the snow doesn't fly! Thanks, again to all of you who have generously helped with time

and/or financial donations.

Have a safe and enjoyable off-season and we'll be ready to start again after next ice-out!





BLACK OAK LAKE NEEDS OUR HELP TO KEEP INVASIVE SPECIES OUT. PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION TO HELP OFFSET THE COST OF BOAT INSPECTORS' SALARIES AT OUR PUBLIC BEACH.

OR VOLUNTEER TO INSPECT!

LIKE THE LAKE?  **STEFAN ANDERSON**

Facebook Users – You are invited to join the Black Oak Lake Community Facebook group which can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/603917789628159/>

This is what Facebook calls a “closed group” so anyone can see who the members are, but only members can post and see the posts. The group was created for Black Oak Lake homeowners, friends and family to share ideas, photos, stories and memories of their experiences on the lake.

Go to the link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/603917789628159/> and click on the “Join Group” button and you will soon be a member.



While Black Oak Lake is always near in our hearts, at times we are far away. The Facebook page gives a glimpse into what’s happening at the lake throughout the year and members are encouraged to share photos (and videos).

It also provides a venue for all members to share other items of interest related to the lake with the Black Oak Lake community.

FULL LAKE AIS SURVEY THIS FALL **WALT BATES**

As in the past many falls, we will again hire Dr. Susan Knight to spend about twelve hours meticulously combing Black Oak Lake for any form of AIS. Fall is the best time for this as most other plant life has died back leaving only

EWM exposed. This survey is a tense time for us lake monitors. A lake monitor’s worst nightmare is that AIS will be found in the area you were supposed to be monitoring! This survey usually takes two

days and the first day will be September 15th.



\$\$\$ TREASURER'S REPORT

JEANY CUTTELL

BOLPF YTD REPORT 8-16-2014

2013 Dues	\$750.00
2015 Dues	\$25.00
2014 Dues	\$2,754.44
BOLPF Picnic Income	\$1,561.00
CBCW 2013 Grant	\$3,000.00
CBCW 2014 Grant	\$1,000.00
Directory, Maps, etc..	\$3.00
Dollars for Hours	\$5,925.00
Fundraising - Auction	\$5,997.00
Fundraising - Clothing Sales	\$1,857.00
Fundraising - Progressive Dinner	\$555.00
Fundraising - Survivor Dinner	\$175.00
Gifts, Memorials	\$10,067.06
Grant 5 - Reimbursement	\$0.00
Interest Income	\$593.80
Fundraising - Clambake	\$240.00

TOTAL Income \$34,503.30

Unassigned

2014 Inspector Payroll	-\$2,770.50
2014 Inspector Payroll (2)	-\$1,907.03
Tax:Fed payroll	-\$508.36
Tax:State (Corp. annual)	-\$10.00
AIS Lake Plant Survey	\$0.00
Annual WI Lakes Dues 2014	-\$380.00
BOLPF Boat Parade	-\$17.63
BOLPF Clothing expense	-\$1,355.25
BOLPF Directories expense	\$0.00
BOLPF Glassware expense	\$0.00
BOLPF Insurance	-\$522.00
BOLPF Picnic Expense	-\$1,682.50
BOLPF Survivor Dinner Expense	\$0.00
Development	\$0.00
Membership	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	-\$91.29
Newsletter	\$0.00
Phase 6 Grant	-\$10,775.00

Total Outflow-\$20,019.56

Net Inflow / Outflow \$14,483.74

As of August 16, 2014, the BOLPF balance sheet consisted of \$56,507.46 in cash and \$55,612.96 in certificates of deposit.

TOTAL ASSETS EQUAL \$112,120.42

We've been blessed with many people contributing to our Lake!

Some highlights:

- **\$\$\$ for Hours**
- **Gifts and Memorials**
- **BOLPF made \$5,257.00 from the picnic's silent and live auctions**



So far this year we've received \$116.90 from TRIG'S. Just write "58 S" on your Trig's receipt, drop it in the receptacle on your way out of the store and Trig's will donate 1% of your purchase to BOLPF.





WHY DO WE CARE ABOUT EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL?

MARY DAN BINA



Why do we worry, preach, stay vigilant? Invasive species can wreak havoc in a lake such as Black Oak. The reality? Many lakes in Vilas County neighboring Black Oak are already dealing with the problem. How big of a problem? Read on...

WHERE DID EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL COME FROM?

- EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL WAS INTRODUCED TO THE UNITED STATES IN THE 1940s AS A DECORATION IN AQUARIUMS. IT MAY HAVE BEEN DUMPED INTO A LAKE OR POND WHICH STARTED THE SPREAD.
- IT IS NATIVE TO EUROPE, ASIA AND NORTH AFRICA.

WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

- EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL GROWS SO FAST THAT IT CAN REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF LIGHT IN A LAKE OR POND, AND THIS WILL SHADE OUT THE OTHER NATIVE AQUATIC PLANTS.
- DENSE BEDS OF EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL CREATE MORE HIDING SPACES FOR THE SMALL FISH, SO THEY ARE HARDER FOR THE LARGER FISH TO CATCH. WHEN THERE ARE LOTS OF LITTLE FISH, THEY MAY NOT HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT SO THEY STAY SMALL, CALLED STUNTING.
- EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL CAN REPRODUCE VERY FAST, AND ALL IT TAKES IS A TWO-INCH FRAGMENT OF A BROKEN STEM TO START A NEW PLANT.

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

- WHEN REMOVED FROM THE WATER, EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL IS LIMP AND SOFT, WHILE NORTHERN WATERMILFOIL, A NATIVE PLANT, IS HARD AND BRISTLY
- EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL HAS 12-21 LEAFLET PAIRS, WHILE NORTHERN WATERMILFOIL ONLY HAS 5-10 LEAFLET PAIRS.

HOW DO WE CONTROL IT?

- THE NORTHERN WATERMILFOIL WEEVIL USUALLY EATS NORTHERN WATERMILFOIL, BUT IT LIKES EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL MUCH BETTER.
- HERBICIDES CAN BE USED, BUT THEY WILL ALSO KILL THE NATIVE PLANTS.
- IT CAN ALSO BE CUT, BUT ALL OF THE PLANT MUST BE REMOVED FROM THE WATER OR IT WILL COME BACK VERY FAST. ALL IT TAKES IS A FRAGMENT OF A STEM TO SPREAD.
- INSPECT BOATS, TRAILERS, MOTORS, AND NETS FOR EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL.
- NEVER TRANSPORT BAIT OR WATER FROM ONE LAKE TO ANOTHER.
- LEARN TO IDENTIFY EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL.

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SEA GRANT INSTITUTE

A CHRISTMAS STORY

OF THE INVASIVE SPECIES KIND

JOHN ANNIN



As you know we continue to be vigilant in our quest for early detection and removal of Aquatic Invasive Species. So far our Clean Boats Clean Waters, lake shore monitoring and annual full lake survey have been successful. These programs are possible because of your continued generosity with your time and dollars.

I would like to share with you why we need to continue these programs and, if anything, increase our efforts.

As many of you know, in the late 80's and early 90's Marilyn and I lived on Christmas Lake in the southwestern suburbs of Minneapolis. Christmas Lake is a little jewel of a lake: 265 acres, 87 feet deep with Secchi reading regularly in the 20 foot range. The local Watershed annually ranks all the

lakes in the watershed and Christmas Lake consistently scores the top rank of A. The lake became infested with Eurasian Milfoil 7 or 8 years ago. To protect the lake, boat inspectors are working at the boat landing from 6 AM to dusk seven days a week. This year they will monitor from May 6 to the end of October. They are currently controlling the infestation by using hand-pulling services and mechanical harvesting. Although they do have access to multiple grants, their annual Lake Homeowners Organization dues are \$300 per property and their annual budget for milfoil removal is in excess of \$100,000 not including the grant funding.

“An ounce of prevention...”

IT'S HERE!

Eurasian Milfoil is present in the following:

Forest Lake, most of the Cisco Chain including Big Lake where the Marina is located, Lac Vieux Desert, North Twin, South Twin and Palmer Lake.



Please monitor your shoreline for any evidence of this destructive invasive plant!

***Eurasian Water-milfoil** can form huge, weedy mats that clog channels and boat motors, ruin water sports such as waterskiing, wakeboarding and sailing, out-compete native water plants, and wash up along shores to create a cleanup nuisance.*

Winter-hardy, able to overwinter in frozen lakes and ponds in northern states and Canada; also able to grow in shallow, over-heated bays.





2014 DUES DUE?

No problem. There's still time!

Your dollars help preserve the best kept secret on earth. Anyway, that's how most "Black Oakers" feel. The BOLPF funding contributes to continuing efforts to ensure that our lake stays pristine and free of invasive species and provides the foundation for all of our lake-wide programs. We had nearly 150 dues paying members in 2013.

It's not too late to pay your \$25 dues and make your contributions. Mail your check payable to BOLPF to :

BOLPF
PO Box 151
Land O' Lakes, WI 54540

Please indicate the purpose(s) on your check. You can designate Dues, Dollars for-hours, Donations, etc. For a \$2 fee, you may use PayPal instead of a check.

See the BOL Website for details.

www.blackoaklake.com





A SHOUT OUT TO ALL WHO GIVE SO MUCH TIME AND TALENT!

DOLLARS FOR HOURS

Adams, Dan & Stacy
Annin, John & Marilyn
Annin, Michael & Barbara
Anonymous Donor
Barnum, Bob & Shirley
Barnum, Deb & Scott
Barnum, Jack & Elizabeth
Beedie, Bob & Sara
Bina, Mary Dan
Erickson, Al & Darlene
Frawley, Nancy
Frenzen, Darold &
Melinda
Hattenhauer, John & Sally
Hattenhauer, Matt & Lori
Hesselman, Parry &
Cathy
Hinze, Dot
Hostetler, Martha
Hunt, Monty & Pam
Kelly, Kathy & Peter
Krans, David W.
Lauer, Rob & Kathryn
Leininger, Liz & Bill
MacDonald, Molly
McElmeel, Chris & Mike
Meyer, Dirk
Mitchell, Cheryl
Morrison, Ray & Judy
Shely, Bill & Ann
Smith, Betsy & Doug
(Knecht)
Spinner, Jerry & Joanne
Surpless, Jim & Jane
Trenary, Barb
Vieth, David & Amy
VonEstorff, Holly
Zane, Dan & Mary Jo

THANK YOU!

- ◆ The organizers of the Progressive Dinner – Elizabeth Eaton, Cathy Hesselman and Sandy Seymour, and all who made it a success by opening their homes and furnishing the delights.
- ◆ Kathy Gelb and Cindy Miller for organizing the annual picnic.
- ◆ Walt Bates and team for monitoring and reporting on BOL ecological news, and Walt and family for all the great news via email and Web-site.
- ◆ John Annin for his continuing efforts to keep the grant requests and dollars flowing.
- ◆ Stefan Anderson and the Conserve School – great neighbors – for hosting the picnic and many other good deeds.
- ◆ Cheryl Mitchell for her tireless devotion to the beach monitoring effort, including finding and managing two great paid monitors this summer.
- ◆ Elizabeth Eaton and Sarah Beedie for managing the clothing and other BOL-themed items once again.
- ◆ Cherry Lommen, Cathy Hesselman and Kay Fleming for the very successful auction.
- ◆ Elizabeth Eaton for her herbal oils and vinegar production and sales, all for the benefit of BOLPF.
- ◆ Ray Arpke and the organizers of the Clam Bake fundraiser.
- ◆ Joe Beers and his team of Lake monitors for their continuing valuable work.
- ◆ John and Bonnie Clarke for organizing the Survivor Dinner (9/15).
- ◆ The Board and all the Committees who carry out the work of BOLPF.
- ◆ Julie Tryczak for helping with our payroll and payroll tax filings.
- ◆ All the many, many other Black Oakers who give their time, talents and money.

DONORS

Anonymous Donor
Arpke, Ray & D'arcy
Beers, Sherry & Joe
Clarke, John & Bonnie
CONSERVE SCHOOL
Crass, Everett
Cuttell, Jean & Chuck
Duff, Turney & Penny
Duff, William
Eaton, Elizabeth & Woodrow,
Rick
Fleming, Jim & Kay
Foreman, Bill & Diane
Frawley, Nancy
Gerich, Carol
Gostisha, Mark & Chris
Hesselman, Parry & Cathy
Hinze, Dot
Hook, Barb & Ed
Horton, Michele & Scott
Hostetler, Martha
Kelly, Kathy & Peter
Kistler, Rob & Celia
Lommen, Cherry & Dick
Meyer, Dirk
Miller, Cindy
Paton, David & Sondra
Peterson, Ward & Kay
Pierce, Helen Jo & Bob
Senechalle, Nancy
Seymour, Rob & Sandy
Spaulding, Liz & Dick
Steiner, Mike & Judy
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Walsh, Ken & Brawn, Jessica
Welsh, Chris & Robert
Whipp, Suzie
Woltman, Wayne & Suzanne

WWW.BLACKOAKLAKE.COM

**BLACK OAK LAKE
PRESERVATION
FOUNDATION, INC.**

PO Box 151
Land O Lakes, WI 54540

PRESERVING AND PROTECTING
BLACK OAK LAKE



SURF BLACK OAK!

WWW.BLACKOAKLAKE.COM

Our web site is filled with information,
pictures, and all the news that's fit to print!

You can also customize your own page
and buy/sell on the classified page!

Surf's Up!

