



NEWSLETTER

May 2023

Dear Members and Friends of the Big Lake Improvement Association:

After surviving the never ending snow, the signs of spring have sprung, the sun has peeked out, the lake level is brimming. Ready, set, go...summer can show up anytime.

PONTOON TRAILER: The pontoon trailer is available to BLIA members at no cost. The trailer is located at Joe and Arlene Kelley's back lot, 3144 Magney, and can be picked up when available. Please be sure to sign in and out on the provided clipboard, including your phone number, return within two hours. When the weather is good, others may be waiting.

CALENDAR PICTURES: We will select pictures for next year's Big Lake Calendar in early July. We must have your pictures by July 15. Send to Kurt Besser (besserk1511@aol.com). Identify with your name, date of picture and location. Please put "Big Lake Calendar" on the subject line. We have certainly had the time to take some fantastic pictures, so send them in. Reminder: use landscape orientation and best quality to avoid blurring when enlarging.

PONTOON BOAT PARADE: We will have the pontoon parade on Tuesday, the 4th of July. Pontoons will meet at the north end of the lake near the public landing at 3:00 PM. Prizes will be awarded with first place having their name engraved on the plaque. Second and third places will get prizes also. Please vote for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places online on the Big Lake Improvement Association Facebook page on July 4th.

ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER: will be held at Big Lake Golf Course on August 12, 5:00 cocktails, 5:30 Dinner and speaker, Deserae Hendrickson, DNR Fisheries at 6:15. More information to come.

ROAD CLEAN-UP: Walkers, help us clean up. Just carry a bag on your daily walk and pick up some trash. There seems to be a lot this spring. Thank you.

WATER SAFETY: This year registration and reflectors are required on anchored swim rafts. There is no fee for registration, can be obtained at the Carlton Sheriff's office, ID and street address needed. Buoys are in place again thanks to Kurt Besser, Cameron Nelson and Paul Carpenter. We have 11 buoys on the lake marking dangerous rocks, sandbars and passages in the narrows.

Please familiarize yourself with safety rules for jet skis, power boats, fishing boats, etc. Always have life jackets on children and at the ready for all boaters. You can pick up a water safety booklet with your fishing license or boat registration. Jet skis must be under 5 mph within 150 feet from shore, other boats, people, rafts, etc.

CHINA MYSTERY SNAILS: were found in the lake last year. As a reminder, if you find them, remove them from the lake and smash them on dry land.

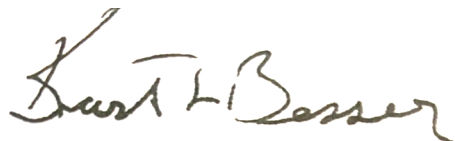
2023 MEMBERSHIP: Your dues invoice is included with this letter. Please mail your 2023 membership dues to BLIA, PO Box 3, Sawyer, MN 55780 as soon as possible. Dues are \$20 per family, \$10 per single, and a special rate of \$10 for new members.

The BLIA Board is always welcoming to new board members. We meet only from May through September, possibly 5 or 6 times for about an hour. Some of us have been on the board for way too many years and we need a younger crew with new ideas. If you are interested, please contact a board member or attend a board meeting. Board meetings are open to all BLIA members.

The next BLIA Board meeting is Wednesday, June 14th, 7 PM at The Lounge.

Reminder that the Facebook Big Lake Improvement Association page is a great place to share information.

Sincerely yours,



Kurt Besser, President



Jen Owens

BOARD MEMBERS:

Kurt Besser, President	218-391-3821	Tom Martinson	391-9088
Laurie Bennefeld, Secretary	878-0848	Carol Nelson	218-251-1471
Josh Rostollen, Treasurer	391-3434	Jen Owens	218-428-5392
Jen Behrens	879-6805	Mark VanderMeiden	218-390-3522
Joe Kelley	879-6171	Sarah Wefelmeyer	591-7606
Paul Randolph	651-208-2438	Ray Worgren	879-7084
Lynn Stoyhoff	218-391-5912		

Big Lake Improvement Association
PO Box 3
Sawyer, MN 55780