

Spring 2008

Little Birch lake Association

Presidents Letter

As April starts, I am looking outside at fresh new snow and what is guessed at as 3 feet of ice. It seems like this winter has been here for a long time and we should be looking at the color green and it does not look like it will happen for a few days yet. I just hope it happens soon as I really do not want to take my ice auger out for the opening of the walleye season.

The spring holds all the problems that we had last year. The weeds that were a problem last year will again be our first concern. Each year the Board of Directors believes the work we are doing is the right thing for the lake and with each new season we think that the job is as time consuming as ever. We will continue working hard with DNR and professionals that are spraying the weeds to come up with the best plan for Little Birch Lake. With your help, our job will become easier. Lets all work on this project together.

Over the course of the winter I have had several phone calls from different lake associations asking me on what we did and what we are doing to combat the milfoil problem. Most of the conversations last a half hour or better and at the end everyone I talk to says that we are lucky to have a board that works as hard as we do but more importantly how the residents on the lake all come together for the common good of the lake. They all ask, what is our secret to getting as many of our residents to join the lake association? They seem to have a problem getting on the same page. Nobody I talked to does as many events with the association as we do. I just keep telling them that our secret is that all the people on the lake care about the lake and that if we do not take care of the lake nobody else will until it is to late. I hope that you will read all the articles in this newsletter and try to join your friends and neighbors on some of the events we have scheduled this year.

Projects have already started with the Lake Association and a thank you goes out to all who have helped. We all hope to see you on the water and hope you have a safe summer. If you have any questions, please contact a Board Member.

Daniel J Goihl President LBLIA

2007 LBLA Annual Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Dan Goihl at 9:30 AM on Saturday, June 2, 2007. Approximately 70 people attended the meeting.

President Goihl welcomed everyone and thanked LBLA members for becoming members and for their donations. He also thanked members for signing spraying cards.

President Goihl introduced Board of Directors and thanked them for all their hard work.

President Goihl thanked his wife Char and son Matt for all their help on the newsletter and on the computer.

President Goihl asked everyone to identify themselves when making motions and seconding them.

Gene Sullivan moved and seconded by Mike Schlicht to approve 2006 annual meeting minutes as printed in the 2007 Spring Newsletter. Motion passed

President Goihl thanked all the businesses for becoming sponsors and invited any one there who has a business to join the club.

Treasurer Dennis Wessel read and explained the current treasurers report. Jon Brophy moved and seconded by Don Haller. Motion passed

President Goihl gave loon report as Bud Moening was out of town. there are 6 baby loons on the lake. It was asked that boaters steer clear of the loons. Water clarity seems to be pretty good.

The upcoming 2007 calendar of events was read by President Goihl:

Boat Parade - July 4 at 3:00 PM in front of the public access

Golf Tournament - July 28 at 10 AM at Melrose Golf Course

Roadside Clean up - Sept. 1 at 1:00 PM

Fishing Tournament - Sept. 8 at 6:30 AM rolls & regs. 7 AM fishing

Dinner Dance - Sept. 8 - 5:30 PM social hour at the Hub Supper Club

2008 Annual Meeting - June 7 at 10:30 at Grey Eagle Catholic Church

President Goihl thanked all who helped with roadside clean up and asked that the west side could use a few more to help with clean up.

President Goihl asked if anyone would like to help with water sampling. Bridgett Salzman volunteered. He also gave a dinner dance pitch. A profit of \$4400-\$4500 was made. Was a success again this year. We are looking for someone to chair the fund raiser as Jody Wessel would like to step down.

Director Don Haller gave a report on Curly leaf Pondweed and Milfoil. They found a lot of Milfoil. Don introduced Patrick Sellter of Professional Lake Management. Patrick said they sprayed for Curly leaf early in May and had great success. He is going to aggressively treat the milfoil. He also asked people to report any sightings of Curly leaf and Milfoil to a Director or himself.

Gene Sullivan gave a talk on the Aquatic Vegetation Plan and stated that the Plan is ready but the DNR has not given final approval on it yet.

President Goihl reported that Don Haller, Gene Sullivan and Tom Jacobson will not be running as Directors. The nominating committee enlisted Marc Brinkman, Butch Haider, and Todd Bussmann to run for those three positions. Gary Toenyan made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot. Dan Praska seconded. Motion passed. President Goihl reported that Randy Killian had resigned from his Director position and asked for

anyone interested in the position. Bridgett Salzman volunteered and was appointed as Director to finish Randy's term.

Pete Linsner gave the fishing report. Fishing has been good. Pete recommended that we mark pan fish spawning beds and ask people to not fish there while the pan fish are spawning. He suggested that we purchase spawning bed buoys at a cost of \$250 a piece to mark those spawning beds. The DNR will also purchase a buoy to match each one we buy. Don Salzman moved to buy two buoys. Don Haller seconded. Motion passed. Pete will put buoys in and take them out. Pete also reported that Little Birch Lake will receive 800,000 fry every other year. Pete also recommended that LBLA draft a letter of support for Brady Becker to replace Jim Lilienthal, DNR Fisheries Director. Brady is very supportive of Little Birch and very knowledgeable. Dan Praska moved and Mike Schlicht seconded. Motion passed. Pete will draft the letter of support. Pete also asked what members thought of putting a well in at the public access so people could clean off boats and trailers. Not much support of that right now.

Steve Gudgell talked on the program with SCSU. SCSU students will help test water and take data to help us on Little Birch Lake. They will also work with Sauk River Watershed. Steve had a lake-shore picture show going on during the meeting. These pictures can be used as reference for work on the lake etc. These pictures of the lakeshore were taken by SCSU students and Pete Linsner.

President Goihl asked for any new business. Carol Kraemer reported that tent caterpillars are back in certain areas. Everyone is asked to monitor the worm situation. If spraying is needed it will be done by individual property owners in their area.

Gene Sullivan recognized Don Haller for all the hard work he has done for LBLA. Don received a loud applause and a standing ovation.

Don Salzman moved and seconded by Gary Toenyan to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted

Sam Schnell, secretary

Web Site

The lake association with the major work being done by diversiCOM of Melrose has opened a new web site. You will be able to track all the lake activities and projects that are in the works from the comfort of your home.

This is open to all residents of the lake so if you have an article or some pictures that you want to share with the other residents of the lake or the rest of the world contact a Board Member and we will see about getting it on the web.

Our new site is www.littlebirchlakeassociation.com. Check us out and let us know what you think. Thanks again to diversiCOM. A job well done.

Frig Magnet

As you have found in your envelope, there is a frig magnet enclosed with the newsletter with some important information on it. The Board hopes that you put it in a place that you will see often, and that you will use the web site and have our address on hand as well as a reminder as to when our annual meeting is.

If have another frig for the important things like minnows, night crawlers, or fishing fluid and would like another magnet please contact a Board Member and we will get you one.

ATTENTION FISHERMEN

The Little Birch Lake Association in conjunction with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has placed several "Critical Habitat Buoys" on the lake. The purpose of the buoys is to mark areas that are being used by pan fish to spawn.

Though there are no restrictions on fishing over these spots the lake association and the DNR suggest not fishing in these areas to ensure a healthy pan fish population on Little Birch Lake.

• • • • The Little Birch Lake Association Board of Directors would like to "Thank You" for helping us • • to maintain a good quality fishing lake. Have a great day on the water!

2008 Events

Road Clean-up	April 26	1:00pm	Annual Meeting	June 7	10:30 am
Boat Parade	July 4	3:00pm	Golf Tournament		TBD
Road Clean-up	Aug 30	1:00pm	Fishing Tournament	Sept. 6	6:30 am
Dinner Dance	Sept. 6	5:30pm			

Little Birch Lake Book

Just a reminder that Doris is still looking for information on Little Birch Lake. Anything that you have on the lake will be appreciated by Doris and her team. Please feel free to send her whatever you find. Thank you.

Doris Sackett

2018 Garden Ave.
Falcon Heights Mn.55113

FISHING REPORT

As far as stocking goes, the DNR put in 477.5 pounds of fingerlings totaling 5,836 fish last fall. None of the fingerlings were OTC marked because the ponds they used to raise marked fingerlings were total busts. This spring DNR will be stocking 800,000 OTC marked fry. They will electro fish this fall to collect fish for mark detection. Last spring they completed a pan fish assessment and last summer they conducted a lake survey. According to DNR... this shall be a banner year for BIG sunnies and a fin-tastic year class of 16-18" walleyes..... I CAINT WAIT! Pete Linsner

Milfoil Update

Once again the Board of Directors has set aside \$7500 for the fight of milfoil as well as curly-leaf pondweed. All the permits are in place and we are just waiting for the right time to spray the weeds. You can watch future newsletters for spraying times or it will be posted at the public access.

You can be a large help in the fight on these weeds just by contacting any of the "Weed Captains" any time you think that you have spotted some milfoil. Even when you are out with your friends or just fishing please keep your eyes open. The more people watching the easier it will be to control the weeds.

Here is the list of the "Weed Captains" that were trained by the DNR last summer. Please call one of them if you think that you have spotted some milfoil and we will try to get out there to take a look as fast as we can. Mike & Carol Kramer 256-3818, Jim Ricklick 256-7448, Gene Sullivan 256-3838, Dennis Wessel 256-7969, Gary Toeyan 285-7222, Pete Linsner 256-5046, Steve Gudgell 285-2039, Mike Haller 285-2515, Dan Gohl 256-7352, Sam & Betty Schnell 256-4939, Don & Bridgett Salzmann 256-3749, Mike Schlicht 285-5544.

SPONSORS

Bitz Plumbing, Grey Eagle	Boomerang Sports, Melrose	Centre Sports, Sauk Centre
Ellingsons Plumbing, Htg, AC, Freeport	Ernies Foods, Melrose	Melrose Lions Club
MN Darkhouse Association	Outdoor News, Glen Meyer	Remax, Jon Brophy
Snyder VS Variety	Southtown Builders	Stearns Electric Association

2007 DINNER DANCE

A special thank you to all who attended the Little Birch Lake Dinner Dance, its sponsors, and all who helped and donated silent auction items. The event raised over \$5,000 to be used for projects around the lake including the control of Eurasian Water Milfoil and Curly Leaf Pond weed. It's a great time for everybody to get together and meet our neighbors and fellow Little Birch Lakers. Our dinner dance and silent auction for 2008 will again be at the Hub Supper Club and will be on Saturday, September 6th. Look for more details to follow and check out our website for events and announcements. If you would like to help with this event, and we could always use the help, or you have a silent auction item to donate, please feel free to call or email. Thanks again for coming, and next year, bring a friend. It really is a good time. Jon Brophy jonbrophy@remax.net 320-290-7625

Treasurers Report

Summary of Accounts

Balance 4/18/08

Assets

Cash and Bank Accounts

5 Month CD	\$10,499.32
9 Month CD	\$33,361.52
Checking	\$11,608.39
Savings	\$50.88
Money Market	\$2.78
Water Test	<u>\$5.19</u>

Total Assets **\$55,528.08**

Liabilities

Filter Strips	<u>\$7,500</u>
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Total Liabilities **\$7,500**

Net Equity **\$48,208.08**

Year to Date:

Income	\$7,518.49
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$2,841.81</u>

Net Income YTD: **\$4,676.68**

CARP SEARCH

On March 20 Dan Gohl and Pete Linsner joined Rex Cambell at the public access to start a hunt for Little Birch Lake's carp schools. Rex is the owner of Nancy's Bait which is located just east of the Rock Tavern and he has the sonar equipment for locating schools of fish through the ice.

After drilling a few holes and taking more than 10 different readings we were only able to spot one group that may have been big enough to be a school of carp. Even at that Rex could not say for sure that the school was carp for sure as the school was not large enough to be a definite school of carp. It could have been tullipe or even a school of crappies.

Rex has lived here all of his life and knows Little Birch Lake and he believes that we do not have a carp problem. This is also the findings of the DNR. Rex informed us that as carp grow and age they become sterile. He also said that some carp are good for the lake.

Rex agrees with the DNR with the fact that because we have an increase of aquatic vegetation on the lake that the carp numbers are not something that is a problem for the lake.

Little Birch Lake Table

Our lake association has an unique opportunity this year at our annual meeting in June. There is a company from near St. Steven that is producing a coffee table out of pine that has a carving of Little Birch Lake in the middle of it. In fact if you look at a map of Little Birch with the lake depths on it, that is what is cut into these tables.

This is a very sharp looking table and will make a great addition to your home or cabin. You will be able to fine all the points and humps on the lake and show anyone in your home just where you got "the big one" without going to the boat to get your lake map.

There is also the opportunity of customizing your table with your home place or even your favorite fishing spot. There are many different things you will can do so come out and let your imagination help design your own table. Part of the proceeds from the sale of these tables will go the Lake Association.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Every year we have at least 3 board members who's term is up. Most of the time we are looking for some new blood as this comes with some new ideas. If you have some ideas and want to join a really good organization please come to our annual meeting and summit your name to join the board. You will be able put in as much time as you feel comfortable with and it could really help the lake.

2008 MEMBERS AND SPONSORS

ANDERSON, DICK & LANITA
ARCHAMBAULT, MICHELLE
AUSTING, CAROLE
BEBUS, LARRY & JILL
BERSCHIED, ARNIE & CLARA
BITZ, DAVE & LORRAINE
BITZ, KEVIN & NANCY

BJORLO, GERRY & JOANNE
BLAESER, DAVE & ERMINA

BLAIS, TOM & PAT DENNE

BLAKE-ANGEL, PHYLLIS
BORNEMEIER, KEITH & MARTHA
BOUCHER, DON & LAURA
BOWMAN, KIRK & EDITH
BREITENBACH, ROBERT & RHONDA

BRICKWEG, PAUL & DIANE

BRINKMAN, GENE & MARY

BROPHY, JON & HEIDE
• AMUNDSON, CHRIS & CAROL •
BRUGGENTHIES, ROMAN & JOAN
BUCHANAN, BRUCE & SHIRLEY

BUSSMAN, BRIAN AND KATHY
BUSSMAN, RON & MARY LOU
BUSSMAN, TODD & STEPHANIE
CARLBLOM, DAN & SUE
CARLSON, RODNEY & JENNIFER
CARSTENS, PATRICIA & RICHARD
CASEY, DONNA
CHOCK, TOM & DARLENE

COLLINS, MICHEAL & DIANE
CONLAN, TOM & DOROTHY
DAYTON, CHARLES & SUE

DELONG, AL & MARY
DOETKOTT, CHAD & VICKY
DUNLAP, DONALD & DARLENE

EKSTRAND, HOWARD & JUDY
• ERDMANN, MARK & SUMMER •
ETHEN, ALBERT & DORIS
FARLEY, MIKE & BETH
FASCHING, REX & LINDA
FORKRUD, GERALD & DOROTHY
FRIELER, CHAD & BECKY ROERING

FUCHS, LEON & JACKIE
FUECHTMANN, TODD & DONNA
GOIHL, DAN & SHARLENE

GRIDER, AMY & BOB

GRIFFITH, JOHN & LISA
GROVE, RON & VIRGINIA
GUDGELL, STEVE & MARY

HAIDER, TERRY & COLLEEN
HALLER, DON & GEORGIE
HALLER, MIKE & SUSAN
HAWKINS, GARRY & MARJ
HAWS/MCDERMOND
HEGLE, MIKE & CARMEN
HELLER, PAT & JULIE ANN
HELLERMAN, ROMAN & BERNICE
HENNEN, BETTY
HERZOG, WILFRED & SHIRLEY
HLEBAIN, RICHARD & BONNIE

HOMMERDING, KEN & GAIL
HRUSKA, JOE & LAVERN
JACOBSON, TOM & JANET

JAVES, JOHN

JOHNSON, EVONNE
KEDROWSKI, BARRY & JANET
KILLIAN, RANDY & GAYLE
MOLTZ

• KLASSEN, BOB & RITA • • • •

KLUEMPKE, JERRY
KOCH, ROB & CONNIE
KOCIEMBA, BRUCE & DEBBIE
KOCIEMBA, ERNIE & DENISE
KOCIEMBA, JOHN & LINDA
KOTTKE, DICK & SANDRA
KOYLIBYLSKI, ROBERT & ALICE

KRAKER, JIM & JANE
KRAMER, MICHAEL & CAROL
KRMPOTICH, PAUL
KRUIZENGA, KRAIG & JOLENE
KRYCH, JOHN
LANGLEY, DAN & DIANE
LEONHARDT, CHARLES & DIANE

LUETMER, AL & MAUREEN
LYON, DALE & RUTH
MAGNER, RONALD & DIANNE
• MASSMAN, FRED & BEA • • • •
MAUS, BOB & KRISTIE
MAYERS, ERVIN
MEHR, JERRY & CAROLE

MELLET, BOB & SUE

MELLING, CARL & KATHY

MEYER, MARK & KAREN
MEYER, TOM & LINDA
MICHAELIS, BILL
MIDDENDORF, BRIAN & JULIANN

MILLER, GORDY & THERESA
MOENING, BILL & JOAN
MOENING, BUD & PAT

MONROE, MARK & MARY
MUELLNER, RAY & BARBARA
MURPHY, PAUL & ROBERTA
NATHE, TOM
NELSON, CHARLES & LUCY
NOACK, JOE & RUTH
NOACK, MIKE & MARY

NOACK, TOM
PETERMEIER, BEN & MARY

PETREK, PAUL & RENEE

PFEFFER, DUANE

PFEFFER, LEROY & EMILIE
PRASCH, JIM & ELIZABETH
PRASCH, RAY & MARY

PRASKA, DAN & EDITH
PURINGTON, DARYL & ELIZABETH

RAUSCH, DOUGLAS & LORI

RAUSCH, JIM
• RAUSCH, PETER & SUSANNE • • • •

RAVELING, ARDYCE
REHFUS, JOHN & ELIZABETH

RICHARDSON, VIRGIL
RICKLICK, JIM & CAROL
RIELAND, RICK & AMY
RIES, DICK & MARILYN

ROSS, JIM / MARCIA VORONYAK

ROTHFORK, PETE & PATTI
RUDOLPH, ALICE
RUDOLPH, KATHLEEN

RUDOLPH, RODNEY
SALZMANN, DON & BRIDGETT
SAND, COREY & SARA

SAWYER, JEFF AND KAREN
SCHENEMANN, GARY & VICKI
SCHIMMEL, BETTY

SCHLICHT, MIKE & JULIE
• SCHMELZER, RICHARD • • • • •
SCHNEIDER, DALE & DIANE
SCHNELL, SAM & BETTY
SCHRUPP, LES & KATHY

SCHWIETERS, KURT & MARY

SCOTT, EARL & LINDA

SEANGER, KEN & CELESTE
SEANGER, TOM & PAT
SEXTON, JIM & YVONNE
SHANLEY, TOM & ANGIE (Holpit Prop.)

SHERIFF, MICHEAL
SIMMONS, LYNN & JUDY

SIMMONS, MIKE & JESSICA
SMITH, BARBARA
SMOLEY, ALLAN & JEAN
SNYDER FAMILY CABIN
SPICER, RALPH & JANE
STANGLER, MARK & CAROL
STROM, SHIRLEY

SULLIVAN, GENE & IRENE
SUNDQUIST, DON & DIANE

SWANSON, ERROL & JOSEY

TEASDALE, MIKE & NANCY

TENNEY, ARNIE & PEGGY
TERRY, YVONNE
TIEMAN, JOHN & LORI

TIEMAN, MELVIN

TIEMANN, PAUL & KAREN

TOENIES, ED & AUDREY

• FIELDER, MARK & LISA •
• TOENYAN, GARY & SANDY • • • • •

VAN BECK, DICK & ROSE
VOLKERS, JAMES & SHARON

WEBER, DAN & RHONDA
WEGLEITNER, DALE & JOAN
WEIDNER, HARRY & LOIS
WELLE, KEN
WENTLAND, GERARD & MARGARET

WESSEL, ANTHONY & DEB
WESSEL, DENNIS & JODY
WILSON, PETER & LUCIA

WOLLAK, ERNIE & TERRI
YOREK, KRISTY
ZITZOW, RON & JANET

LIFETIME MEMBERS

WESSEL, RALPH & MARLENE

• RUDOLPH, MARY •
• **ASSOCIATE MEMBER** • • • • •
MIKE & JEANNE GAIL

PAID MEMBERS AS OF 4-18-08