



# Little Birch Lake Association

“An organization dedicated to water quality”

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## Presidents Letter

Though the summer has been a little warmer than some might want it to be the lack of mosquitoes more than made up for it. The lake was well used this summer even with the price of gas as high as it was. The fourth of July was a great day for the boat parade even though the lake was very busy. Every one I talked to had a great time on the lake and was impressed with the water clarity.

I have heard of only a couple of wrong doings on the lake. The only thing I witnessed was a lack of lights on the boats just before night fall. The lack of problems is something for the lake residents to be proud of.

As the board of directors has been doing for a long time, we have very busy with lake projects. Along with other volunteers we are still working on an aquatic vegetation plan. We hope to complete this project this fall. We are still working hard with PLM on the control of the Exotic weeds in our lake. There is more information in this newsletter on this subject and it is important that everyone reads those articles.

The board would again like to thank all of you who have become members of the lake association. We believe that is your way of saying that we are doing what you believe needs to be done to keep our lake in as good of shape as we can. Your membership fees and donations is the backbone that keeps this organization moving forward and keeping our lake beautiful.

We have our annual fund raiser coming up on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September. We like to call it our Dinner Dance. Talk to someone who has been there and they will tell you it is a pretty good time. Better yet come to the event and find out for your self. There are more details in the newsletter.

I hope that you will find time to help the lake in some way. Road clean-up, Dinner Dance, or just reporting that you may have found some Milfoil. Any one of these will help in keeping our lake and area in good shape.

Daniel J Goihl

President

Little Birch Lake Association

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Road Clean-up	September 1 2007	1:00 pm
Fishing Tournament	September 8 2007	7:00 am
Dinner Dance	September 8 2007	5:30 pm
Annual Meeting	June 7 2007	10:30 am

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## TREASURERS REPORT

### Summary of Accounts Balance 8/1/07

#### Assets

Cash and Bank Accounts

5 Month CD	\$10,260.64
9 Month CD	\$32,188.43
Checking	\$7,940.88
Savings	\$50.56
Money Market	\$2.78
Water Test	<u>\$5.19</u>

**Total Assets \$50,448.48**

#### Liabilities

Filter Strips	<u>\$6,000.00</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$6,000.00</b>

**OVERALL TOTAL \$42,653.81**

#### Year to Date:

Income	\$10,530.84
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$3,813.69</u>

Net Income YTD: **\$6,717.15**

Note: This does not include recent expenses for weed control treatments

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dan Gohl	President	Steve Gudgell	Mike Schlicht
Pete Linsner	Vice President	Todd Bussmann	Jon Brophy
Sam Schnell	Secretary	Butch Haider	Marc Brinkman
Dennis Wessel	Treasurer	Bridgett Salzman	Anthony Wessel

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## SCSU UPDATE

Our St. Cloud State summer students, Erin Basttyr and Andrew Dotseth have collected and processed water samples three times. All results have been within acceptable limits. The lack of rain this summer has again limited any testing for run-off chemicals or e-coli. The students plan to continue testing this fall and will resume testing next spring. We are working with Professor Bender to design a possible class project for LBLA during the upcoming school year.

Steve Gudgell

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## SPONSORS

ELLINGSON PLUMBING, HTG, & A/C  
MELROSE MARINE & SPORTS  
MN. DARKHOUSE, HARTLAND CHAPTER  
SOUTHTOWN BUILDERS  
BITZ PLUMBING & HEATING

MELROSE LIONS CLUB  
OUTDOOR NEWS  
STEARNS ELECTRIC  
SNYDER V&S VARIETY

## Eurasian Milfoil Update

There has been more Eurasian milfoil on the lake than in previous years. Trying to control this invasive weed has been one of the top priorities of the LBLA for several years. All of property owners need to help with identification and early control of newly established "strands or clumps" of Eurasian Milfoil.

### Habitat/Growth Characteristics:

Eurasian water milfoil is a highly invasive and aggressive species that colonizes reservoirs, lakes, ponds, streams, small rivers and brackish waters of estuaries and bays. As stems of Eurasian water milfoil near the water surface, they branch profusely and often form a dense canopy that reduces light availability for "understory" species. Spread of Eurasian water milfoil is primarily by asexual means. Long range dispersal is primarily by fragmentation that results from mechanical breakage or autofragmentation which occurs after flowering and at the end of the growing season. Fragments produced by either method may be transported over long distances by water currents. Fragments may also be transported from one water body to another when fragments become attached to boat trailers. Once established, individual plants may expand for distances of a few meters by the production of stolons. Although Eurasian watermilfoil produces large quantities of viable seed, very few seedlings have been observed in field situations, and seed are considered to be of minor importance in dispersal of *M. spicatum* (Smith and Barko 1990).

### Problems:

Eurasian Water Milfoil grows and spreads really fast. So fast, that it can choke out native plants and reduce the amount of light that reaches into the lake. This aggressive growth kills off other native aquatic plants. And when the native plants can't grow, other aquatic species that rely on the native plants for food and shelter have trouble surviving. Eurasian Water Milfoil's dense growth makes it difficult for invertebrates and other organisms that fish eat to survive. So, with less to eat and less open water, fish populations also decrease.

Have you ever tried to swim in weeds? Kinda' hard, isn't it. Well, imagine a whole lake full of Eurasian Water Milfoil – so full that it's almost impossible to swim in, fish in, or drive a boat through. If you were a fish it would be really hard to live in a lake so full of milfoil that you couldn't swim around and catch food.

This is a picture of lake of the Isle in the cities in 1991. If left alone this could happen to our lake . With your help we can prevent this from happening to Little Birch Lake.



### Board Actions:

A number of the board members routinely patrol the lake observing the shoreline and weed beds for milfoil.

On July 30, 2007, the following individuals were trained by the DNR to observe for milfoil and will serve as "captains" to help identify and relay the location of any new milfoil beds. Mike Kramer & Carole 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.

Professional Lake Management has treated the lake twice this year as part of our ongoing effort.

The DNR has participated in surveying the lake for Eurasian Milfoil and approved further treatment.

### Property Owners: Eurasian Milfoil has been found in numerous locations this year.

Become familiar with what Eurasian Milfoil looks like

Contact a captain if you need help.

Pull, dry and burn any milfoil you locate.

Help us control and contain this "exotic" weed.

Steve Gudgell

Pete Linsner

## LITTLE BIRCH LAKE 2007 MEMBERSHIP

ANDERSON, DWIGHT & SHARON	CONLAN, TOM & DOROTHY	HYSER, EDMUND	MONROE, MARK & MARRY
ANDERSON, JIM & HEIDI	DALY, DICK & BARB	JACOBSON, TOM & JANET	MOSSBERGER, LLOYD
ANDERSON, DICK & LANITA	DAYTON, CHARLES & SUE	JAVES, JOHN	MUELLER, RAY & BARBARA
ARCHAMBAULT, MICHELLE	DELONG, AL & MARY	JOHNSON, EVONNE	MURPHY, PAUL & ROBERTA
AUSTING, CAROLE	DOETKOTT, CHAD & VICKY	KEDROWSKI, BARRY & JANET	NATHE, TOM
BEAVER, LINDA & JIM	DUNLAP, DONALD & DARLENE	KERIN, PAUL	NELSON, CHARLES & LUCY
BEBUS, LARRY & JILL	EKSTRAND, HOWARD & JUDY	KILLIAN, RANDY & GAYLE MOLTZ	NOACK, JOE & RUTH
BERENS, MARK & LINDA	ELFERING, KELLY & LORI	KLAPHAKE, GILBERT & SALLY	NOACK, MIKE & MARY
BERSCHEID, ARNIE & CLARA	ELFERING, KYLE & AMY	KLASSEN, BOB & RITA	NOACK, TOM
BITZ, KEVIN & NANCY	ERDMANN, MARK & SUMMER	KLUEMPKE, JERRY	OJA, DARYL & NANCY
BITZ, LOREN & KELLIE	ETHEN, ALBERT & DORIS	KOCH, ROB & CONNIE	PERSON, JAMES & BECKY
BJORLO, GERRY & JOANNE	FAIRCHILD-EHM, JOHN & AUDREY	KOCIEMBA, BRUCE & DEBBIE	PETERMEIER, BEN & MARY
BLAESER, DAVE & ERMINA	FARLEY, MIKE	KOCIEBA, ERNIE & DENISE	PETERMEIER, MIKE
BLAIS, TOM & PAT DENNE	DASCHING, REX & LINDA	KOCIEMBA, JOHN & LINDA	PETREK, Paul & RENEE
BLAKE- ANGEL, PHYLLIS	FORKRUD, GERALD & DOROTHY	KOTTKE, DICK & SANDRA	PFEFFER, DUANE
BORNEMEIER, KEITH & MARTHA	FRANZ, TODD & ELLEN	KOYLINSKI, ROBERT & ALICE	PFEFFER, LEROY & EMILIE
BOUCHER, DON & LAURA	FRIELER, CHAD	KRAKER, JIM & JANE	PRASCH, JIM & ELIZABETH
BOWMAN, KIRK & EDITH	FUCHS, ELDRED	KRAMER, MICHAIL & JOLENE	PRASCH, RAY & MARY
BRAUN, ALAN & CHRISTINE	FUCHS, LEON & JACKIE	KRUMSIEG, JANET	PRASKA, DAN & EDITH
BRIETENBACH, ROBERT & RHONDA	FUECHTMANN, TODD & DONNA	KRYCH, JOHN	PURINGTON, DARYL & ELIZABETH
BREWER, STAN & ANNETTE	GOIHL, DAN & SHARLENE	LANGLEY, DAN & DIANNE	RAUSCH, DOUGLAS & LORI
BRICKWEG, GENE & MARY	GRIDER, AMY	LEONHARDT, CHARLES & DIANE	WEIDNER, HARRY & LOIS
BRINKMAN, GENE & MARY	GRIFFITH, JOHN & LISA	LINE, JERRY & DIANE	WELTERS, MARC & RITA
BRINKMAN, MARC & JULIE	GROVE, RON & VIRGINIA	LINSNER, PETE	WENTLAND, GERARD & MARGA- RET
BROPHY, JON & HEIDI	GUDGELL, STEVE & MARY	LOESCH, JUDY	WESSEL, ANTHONY & DEB
BRUESEHOFF, CAROL	HAIDER, BUTCH & MARGE	LUETMER, AL & MAUREEN	WESSEL, DENNIS & JODI
BRUGGENTHIES, TOMAN & JOAN	HAIDER, TERRY & COLLEEN	MAGNER, RONALD & DIANNE	WILSON, BOB & MARIAN
BUCHANAN, BRUCE & SHIRLEY	HALLER, DON & GEORGIE	MASSMAN, FRED & BEA	WILSON, PETER & LUCIA
BUSSMAN, BRIAN & KATHY	HALLER, MIKE & SUSAN	MAUS, BOB & KRISTIE	WOEBKENBERG, SHIRLEY
BUSSMAN, RON & MARY LOU	HAWKINS, GARRY & MARJ	MAYERS, ERVIN	WOLLAK, ERNIE & TERRI
BUSSMAN, TODD & STEPHANIE	HAWS/MCDERMAON	MEHR, JERRY & CAROLE	YELLE, TELL C. & WANDA
CARLBLOM, DAN & SUE	HEGLE, MIKE & CARMEN	MELLET, BOB & SUE	YOREK, KRISTY
CARLSON, ERIC & DONNA	HENNEN, BETTY	MELLING, CARL & KATHY	ZACHMAN, BRUCE & JOLENE
CARLSON, RODNEY & JENNIFER	HERTZOD, FRAN & DOROTHY	MEYER, MARK & KAREN	ZIERDEN, JOAN
CARROLL, MICHEAL	HERZOG, WILFRED & SHIRLEY	MEYER, PAUL & DEB	ZITZOW, RON & JANET
CARSTENS, PATRICIA	HINNENKAMP, MARV & VICKIE	MEYER, TOM & LINDA	
CASEY, PATRICK & DONNA	HLEBAIN, RICHARD & BONNIE	MICHAELIS, BILL	
CHOCK, TOM & DARLENE	HOLLEN, MICHAEL & KAREN	MILLER, GORDY & THERESA	
COLLINS, MARK & LINDA	HOMMERDING, KEN & GAIL	MOENING, BILL & JOAN	
COLLINS, MICHEAL & DIANE	KHRUSKA, JOE & LAVERN	MOENING, BUD & PAT	

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

MITCH BENDER

DAN PERRY DNR

DAVID MARSHALL FOUNDATION

ALICE RUDOLPH

SAUK RIVER WATERSHED

KATHLEEN RUDOLPH

LIFE MEMBERS

RALPH &amp; MARLENE WESSEL

MARY RUDOLPH

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## Dinner Dance 2007

Welcome one and all to the 2007 Little Birch Lake Dinner Dance. The theme of this years event will be "CAMO", so put on your favorite camouflage outfit and come on out for a good time. The event will again be at the Hub Supper Club north of Grey Eagle. If you need directions, please give me a call. Our evening will begin with a social hour from 5:30-7:00 with a chicken and rib buffet being served at 7:00. The music will begin around 8:00 with a DJ from "HIGH OCTANE". We also have our silent auction again with many great items to bid on. This is a great opportunity to meet some of your neighbors at the lake and help out our lake association. As you know we have Eurasian milfoil in our lake and it is very expensive to keep fighting it. With all of our help we can keep on top of controlling this nasty weed. If you have any items that you would like to donate for the auction or as a door prize, please give me a call and I will take care of it. If you would like to volunteer to help, extra hands are always appreciated. The date to remember is Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of September. Thanks. See you there!

Dinner Dance Chairman

Jon Brophy

1- 320- 290- 7625

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## Fishing Report

Fellow lil' Birch Anglers,

Tis I, that bald-headed Unka Angler as me nieces an nephews refer to me, Pete. It's been about three months since the walleye opener. Many who were out on that fin-tastic day..... no snow, minimal wind, and no rain, enjoyed very respectable results. We managed quite a few "eyes" in the 12-14" range and by jump'n an jogg'n around we also managed a 18", 19", and two 22" good-uns... I felt it was a "reel" good opener.

For the last few months, we've endured high winds from every direction and quite a few cold fronts. That being the case, the crappie, sunnies, and bass spawns were late. And, now the "dog days" have set in and the lake appears to be about two feet lower. The panfish anglers I've spoken to state that this has been a good soft-water season thus far for sunnies. They appear to be abundant and big! The crappie bite has been moderate with the abundance of crappies being in the 6-9" year class though if you're patient and work the deep weeds in 12-20 ft you might find a few of those 10-14" slabs.

Also, if you're looking for pike and big smallies, try using a 1/4 oz. sliding weight, then swivel, then 3-4 ft of 10-12 lb. leader and a circle hook, tipped with a large sucker minnow. Work the deep weed edges v-e-r-y slowly. Upon the tap, let out line, count to 20 or 30 seconds, lift the tip of your pole and if there's still pressure don't set the hook but rather just start reeling quickly as the circle hook sets itself. You'll get smallies and pikeys. Ninety percent of the time the finney will be hooked in the corner of the mouth. If you want largemouths, the ol' reliable "wacky worm" fits the bill. Just hold on cuz they "shirley" slam that bait.

Finally, I haven't been out searching for the "eyes" but will commence shortly probably at dusk and after me 3-shot expresso and I'll be using a 3" Gulp Minnow and a 1/4 oz. jig and will work deep weed line edges. I'll keep you posted on my results.

Thar you have it tight liners..... have fun an catch a bunch but do remember to catch an release a few... sea yaz