



BIG STAR LAKE

PARTY LINE

FALL & WINTER 2019-2020



Presidents Corner

Bob Tiggelman, BSLA President

"Up and Down"

From an Association standpoint it was that kind of summer season.

All of our events came off without any problems, but our membership is down.

The participation of the road race was great, the golf outing not so much.

We had no serious water related accidents, but not enough kids signed up for our boater safety classes, so we had to cancel them.

The bike path around the lake got off to a great start, now the Lake County Road Commission Supervisor, that we have worked with, has taken a new job and the future of the path is unclear.

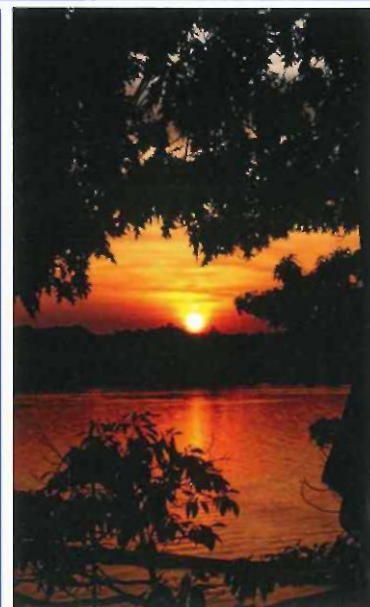
The water level stayed high, but June was pretty wet.

The "cruise around" on Fourth of July was a bust, but we have two new fun events in the planning stages for next summer.

The fishing was really great this summer, but we have not been able to eliminate invasive species.

But all in all I think it was a great summer and your entire hard working board thanks each of you for your participation and support of the BSLA.

Bob Tiggelman



BSL Sunset

Photo by Cathy Steele
Via Facebook

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Board Member Roster.....	P-2
Road Run Results.....	P-2
Fishing Report.....	P-3
Fishing Contest Winners..	P-3
Environmental Report.....	P-4
2020 Roadside Cleanup..	P-4
BSL Website Report.....	P-5
Annual Meeting Date.....	P-5
Recycling News.....	P-5
New BSL Summer Event..	P-5
2020 BSL Fireworks Date..	P-6
Water Quality Report.....	P-6
Government Report.....	P-7
BSL Golf Outing Report....	P-7

The Big Star Lake Association

is a working organization that through a collaborative effort of its membership protects the quality of Big Star Lake.

This is accomplished through an understanding of lake management.

The Big Star Lake Board of Directors and its membership is charged with this goal.



BOARD MEMBERS & DIRECTORS - Big Star Lake Association -



Summer Road Run Results

The annual Big Star Lake Labor Day weekend road run was held on Saturday August 31.

The weather for race day was perfect, which was evidenced by the large turnout of both participants and spectators. Thirty nine runners participated in the 15K, 107 in the 5K, and 20 kids participated in the kids fun run.

The top male finisher, in record time in the 15K, was **Jordan Annis in 51:42**. Second and third place finishers were David VanderMeer(54.25) and Robert Conway (68:07).

The top 15K female finisher, also in record time, was **Elaine Annis in 59.03**. Second place female was Abby Kleinheksel in 65.44, and there was a tie for third place between Kelsey Cox and Katie Ansel at 70:02.

In the 5K, the top male finisher was Caden Meyer in 16:57. Second and third place finishers were Nick Wilkenson (20:53), and Win Walker (21:22).

The top 5K female was Alyson Vikstrom in 23:42, followed Ashley Streng (24:13) and Ellie Kleinheksel (25:49).

A special thanks goes out to all of the participants in this years run, and to all of the volunteers that helped make the events go very smoothly. The BSLA would also like to thank all of the sponsors that helped support the run and all of the other association events. This includes the 4th of July fire works and the annual golf outing.

Terry Holland



Director: Bob Tiggelman (24)
3311 Egypt Valley Ave NE,
Ada, MI 49301
Cell Phone: (616) 745-2348
(E36&E37)
Email: bobtiggelman@yahoo.com



Director: Jean Oosterheert (21)
3573 Earle Grandville, MI 49418
10301 Rebecca Rd.,
Baldwin 49304
Phone: (616) 485-0219
Email: jeanoosterheert@yahoo.com



Director: Larry Treece (21)
(On Sabbatical)
997 Aberdeen Way,
Hudsonville, MI 49426
Home: 616-437-0722
Cottage: 231-898-2380 (C9)
Email: cccgpresident@aol.com



Director: Bert Hultink (20)
7847 Oakmont Ct NE #52
Rockford, MI 49341
Cell Phone: (616) 884-5677
Home Phone: (231) 898-6432
Email: bhultink@outlook.com

Vice President: Lew Gorbach (21)
11956 Garnsey, Grand Haven, MI 49417
Phone: (616) 638-0488
Cottage: 10227 S. Lakeside Ridge Rd.
Email: gorbachlew@yahoo.com

Director: Kris Zeinstra (21)
10157 S. Lakeside Ridge Rd.
Baldwin, MI 49304
home phone: (231) 898-2583
Email: kzbakry@aol.com

Director: Jeffrey Fraser (20)
5689 Michigan Street NE, Ada, MI 49301
Phone: (616) 831-1756 (D47)
Email: fraserj@millerjohnson.com



Treasurer: Mike Sullivan (22)
1610 Glen Forest, Ada, MI 49301
Cottage: 10065 Waters Way
Home Phone: (616) 676-2105
Cell Phone: (616) 304-3168
Email: adasully@comcast.net



Director: Terry Holland (19)
3182 Rush Creek SW,
Byron Center, MI 49315
Cottage: 10165 S Star Lake Dr.
Phone: (616) 610-3573
Email: hollandbyron@aol.com



Director: Sharon VanDyken(20)
5374 13 Mile Rd. NE
Rockford, MI 49341
Cell Phone: (616) 318-2332
Home Phone: (616) 866-0672
Email: sharon.vandyken@wmich.edu



Director: Tammy Hancock (21)
507 Prestwick Ave.
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Cottage: 14146S, StarLake Rd.
Phone: (616) 206-7303
Email: han_tammy@msn.com



Director: Robert Masselink(22)
3365 Olderidge Drive NE
Grand Rapids, MI
Cottage: 10407 S. Star Lake Dr
Cottage Phone (232) 898-4456
Cell: (616) 364-0294
bobmassmsu@gmail.com

Secretary: Judy Alphenaar (22)
3345 Blue Water Pines Dr. N.E.
Home: Grand Rapids, MI 49525
Cottage: 8060 W Pine Grove Beach
Phone: (616) 446-7014
Email: jalphenaar@adachristian.org

Official BSLA Website : www.bigstarlake.com

Newsletter Graphics Editor, Ken Stewart, Email: Kenstewartphoto@aol.com

We've had another great year to enjoy Big Star Lake. Thanks to all our members, old and new, for your support. We've worked hard to keep our membership list current. Your notes and emails are very much appreciated. Please continue to send them in.

As always, dues can be paid by going to our website (www.bigstarlake.com) and clicking on the tab called "Pay Your Dues". At that point you can choose to pay your dues with Pay Pal or pay them by mail with the form included. Forms are also available at Mr. Bibs or at the Lake Township Offices.

If you have any questions, please contact me or any board member.

Kris Zeinstra



This past summer I heard many reports of great Walleye fishing on the lake. I hope you were successful catching some Big Star Lake Walleye.

Walleye fingerlings have been released in Big Star Lake for many years. The most recent was in 2018 when the DNR had 26,300 extra fingerlings from down state and choose to release them in Big Star. Walleye is a popular game fish because of its non-fishy taste. The name originates from the position of its eyes, which are large and have a special pigment layer that reflects light. This characteristic enables the fish to see in dark, murky water.

Did you know that each year the Big Star Lake Association makes a \$500.00 contribution to the Mason County Walleye Association? This association has been raising Walleye since 1989. The Mason County Walleye Association works

hand-in-hand with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to provide Walleye fingerlings for lakes all over Michigan.

There are several reasons why this partnership is important. First, Walleye do not easily reproduce in the lakes and rivers in Michigan and second raising Walleye in rearing ponds is expensive and labor intensive. Therefore, the DNR relies on organizations such as the Mason County Walleye Association, which uses volunteers and donations to help cut costs.

Boater Safety Classes

The boater safety class this past summer was cancelled due to low interest. The board will review whether it makes sense to offer boater safety classes in the future.

Fishing Contest Winners Summer 2019...

Congratulations to the 2019 Big Star Lake fishing contest winners.

You may pick up your trophy at the Big Star Lake Association meeting on Memorial Day weekend.



Ages 0 – 5

Beckett Sanders
Beckett Sanders
Beckett Sanders

Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Sunfish 9 inches
Perch 5 inches
Walleye 18 inches

Ages 6 – 10

Cam Vriesenga
Ezra Sperring
Blake Brouwer
William Beckwith
Sofie Sanders

Bass 19.25 inches
Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Sunfish 10.5 inches
Crappie 13.5 inches
Frog 11.875 inches
Walleye 18 inches

Ages 11 – 17

Nathan Gregg
Jordyn Harrington
Sydney Thompson
Sydney Thompson
Reid Wyngarden

Bass 19.5 inches
Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Sunfish 10.63 inches
Crappie 14 inches
Perch 11 inches
Walleye 16.25 inches

Ages 18 – Adult

Aaron Southwick
Troy Harrington
Troy Harrington
Austin Crane

Bass 20.5 inches
Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Sunfish 10.75 inches
Crappie 13 inches
Walleye 25 inches

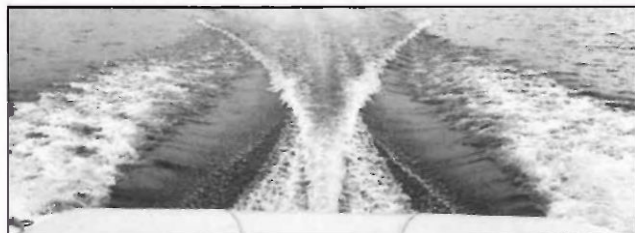


Beginning in March 2019 watercraft users in the state of Michigan are required by law to take steps to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Also anyone fishing with live or cut bait or practicing catch and release fishing will need to take precautions to limit the movement of invasive species and fish diseases.

Existing law (Act 451 of 1994) require all aquatic plants to be removed from boats prior to launching.

New amendments to Act 451 that went into affect March 21 2019 require the following, prior to transporting any watercraft over land:

- **Removing all drain plugs** from bilges, ballast tanks and live wells
- **Draining all water** from any live wells and bilges
- **Ensuring the watercraft, trailer** and any conveyance used to transport the watercraft or trailer are free of aquatic organisms or plants.



Rules of thumb to navigate these laws

- **CLEAN** boats, trailers and equipment
- **DRAIN** live wells, bilges and all water
- **DRY** boats and equipment
- **DISPOSE** of unwanted bait in the trash

To implement this law MDNR, MSU extension service and Michigan Lakes and Streams Association have initiated a program called **CLEAN BOATS/ CLEAN WATERS**.

This program is designed to educate local governments, lake associations and volunteers on means and methods to implement this law.

One of the methods being proposed is to provide either temporary (portable) or permanent boat washing equipment at boat launch facilities. MSU Extension services is currently demonstrating available equipment during the summer months. There are also grants available through the invasive species act to help finance purchase and operation of this equipment. BSLA at their fall meeting authorized a demonstration of this equipment at the Big Star Lake Public boat launch. We anticipate this will be scheduled for early summer of 2020.

Bob Masselink

HELP US KEEP OUR LAKE AREA BEAUTIFUL...

MARK YOUR CALENDAR 2020 Roadside Clean-up:

Big Star Lake has beautiful landscapes from our wooded areas, new bike pathed roadway, to our amazing 912 acre all sports lake! "Roadside Clean-ups" are scheduled on two summer weekends (however please feel free to clean debris all summer). Mark your calendars for **May 15-17 and August 21-23, 2020** for our next scheduled road clean-up. It is great fellowship and a great service to our lake neighborhood. We live here, play here, and enjoy our surroundings. Let's work together to keep our area beautiful! More information about signups, debris bag pickups and all other pertinent information will be available early 2020.



Big Star Lake Association WEBSITE

The BSL Website has a new look.

We continually try to make the website more user friendly.

We encourage you to take a look at www.bigstarlake.com.

We also encourage you to send us your most recent Big Star Lake photos. We will incorporate them into the website. We are particularly interested in Fall and Winter photos if you have them.

We are currently in the process of loading all the 2020 BSL event dates into the website. If you have interesting BSL-related events that you would like us to publicize, please get them to us.

Please send any pictures and other information to fraserj@millerjohnson.com.

One more important note. We have made paying your BSL 2020 Association dues simple. Go to the BSL website and click on the "Pay Your Dues" tab. You will be able to use PayPal or print a form to make your payment. If you do this now, you can check "pay my 2020 BSL Association dues" off your "To Do" list. We appreciate all your support.

Change in Annual Meeting Date

Those of you who attended the Annual Membership Meeting on July 6 heard me speak about moving the date from the July 4th weekend to Memorial weekend and when asked for a show of hands, the move was supported.

Arrangements with Big Star Lake Chapel have been worked out for the move so all that remains is to hold a vote which our by-laws require to change the wording regarding the meeting date. We will hold that vote in the Spring when the "snow birds" have returned. Plan on the new date of May 23, 2020.

Hope to see lots more of you at this meeting.

Bob Tiggelman

Recycling News

We are sorry, but we, as a board, can no longer offer Recycling services.

Recycling is a costly service, and we are not able to find a refuse company willing to help us with pick up. There is a once monthly, recycling program in Pleasant Plains.

We have not given up, and will continue to investigate recycling services for the summer months at Big Star Lake.



Jean Oosterheert

Ok... let's try a new event... BSL Summer Concert

On July 25th we'll be putting on a free concert for the whole family to enjoy.

You may have heard of the group "Silent Bark", they play all genres of tunes. We're still working on the details so stay tuned, more in the Spring edition of *Party Line* and on the website. Save the date July 25th on your phone now!

Bob Tiggelman



2020 FIREWORKS SHOW

*The 2020 Fireworks will be
on Saturday July 4*

Rain Date is July 11, 2020.

The Fireworks Extravaganza will start approximately at 10:20 p.m.

The show will last approximately 20 minutes with a very entertaining Grand Finale.

The 2020 show will feature some new and exciting pyrotechnic displays.

The fireworks is one part of your BSLA dues in action. The BSLA is looking for sponsorships / Donations to help offset the cost of this great BSL event. Sponsors and Donators will be recognized on the website and in future Newsletters. No amount is too small or Large to help out with this event.

If you are interested in becoming a Sponsor and or Donor please contact me at 616-638-0488 or e-mail me at gorbachlew@yahoo.com Thank you for your continued support of BSLA.

Lew Gorbach

Water Quality Report

Bert Hultink

Big Star Lake had another great Summer. While 2018 was characterized by low seasonal rain and the resulting sludge issues, 2019 had ample rain to the point we were concerned about potential flooding. The new drain ran constantly and probably prevented water issues in low lying areas. With the heavy Fall rains in Sept and Oct. the drain is put to maximum use. The Annual Lake Restorative Services environmental report is due in mid December, and will be available on the web site once issued. We do not expect any deviation with regard to the lake's health from prior years. In fact, unlike prior years, after the initial milfoil survey, no second treatment was necessary — a clear indicator the treatments continue to be successful. The following describes the analysis and completed work.

"Restorative Lake Sciences (RLS) conducted the initial aquatic plant survey of the lake on May 28, 2019. During this survey, the water clarity was measured at a whopping 20 feet and there were

approximately 4.25 acres of invasive watermilfoil found scattered about the lake. The treatment was conducted by PLM on June 18 under ideal conditions with RLS staff present to oversee the treatment to completion (which is always conducted). The total cost of the treatment was \$2,741.60 and an invoice was submitted to the Township and paid promptly. RLS scientist Michael Solomon was present to give an update on the state of the lake at the Annual Lake Association meeting on July 6. RLS returned to the lake on July 18 to determine the efficacy of the initial milfoil treatment which appeared to be very successful and no further treatment was needed. RLS then appeared on the lake again on September 10 to collect water samples and also conduct another survey. The milfoil remained in a dying state and the native aquatic plant community consisted of dominant low-growing species such as Chara, Naiads, and Elodea, with an abundance of pondweeds in the deeper waters. The water quality of Big Star Lake continues to be very good even given the heavy rain events experienced this season."

Bert Hultink



Government Report

Larry Treece

Greetings to all BSLA Members.

Things are pretty darn wet and colorful up around Big Star... Less then 40 docks still in... Sharon VanDyken will Know that!!.

Other news...Don Britten says he "will run again" for Township supervisor and we will continue to work with all the Township Board and staff to make Big Star a better place. Bob Masselink, from the BSLA board, will be monitoring activity to keep us up to date on issues around the Lake.

I attended the BSLA Board meeting last month and I am encouraged by the effort and willingness to serve and protect our Lake community.....plus its fun!.Our participation in the community is appreciated by many and please consider working with us on any of our events and projects.

Final thoughts...

I am sorry to report the resignation of Steve Leonard from the Road Commission. He has taken

a similar job in another county. I have worked many road projects, as well as drain and Lake levels, over the years with Steve and will miss that relationship. I will meet with Leroy Williams, who has been named to lead the Road Commission Manager.

My top issues are to monitor and maintain drain and roads ... plus.. finish current Bike path plans with striping and signs. I am happy to report that Lake Township Fire Rescue has a new rescue truck that is now in service to provide First Respondents to our area. We are fortunate to have a very good Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department in our area plus a great "mutual aid agreement" with Carr and Pleasant Plain Township. I was able to attend the Open House for Pleasant Plains Fire Department on November 2 and I commend them for their dedication to our Township as well. My best to Chief Brad Hysell of Lake Township and Chief Chad Schaap of Pleasant Plains both new to their leadership roles to provide Fire service in our area. See you around up North over the Holidays and thank you Bob Tiggelman for letting me stay in touch.

Larry Treece

The 7th Annual Rick Simonson Memorial Golf Outing Results

The 2019 Golf Outing was a great success with \$1,000 raised through sponsorship and donations to benefit the Baldwin Promise, a scholarship endowment created by Rick Simonson through the Lake County Community Foundation.

Congratulations to our winners! Mens/Mixed First Flight: Joe Cucinella, Wayne Fox, Bud Kloosterman, and John Bowman. Mens/Mixed Second Flight: Christine Barnes, Chris Barnes, Gordon Brown, and Millie Drake. Ladies First Flight: Ruth Fox, Ellen Kearns, Tracy Sebastian, and Deb Olson.

We are taking a break from golf next year and looking for ways to engage more of our lake family. We are hoping to kick off our first Poker Run next summer. Please watch the Big Star Lake website and Big Star Lake and Friends of Big Star Lake Facebook pages for more information.

Sharon VanDyken



Contest Holes

Longest Drive #9 Joe Cucinella
Longest Drive #18 Mike VanDyke
Closest to Pin #3 Scott Tilma
Closest to Pin #13 Kurt Meeusen





Big Star Lake Association
P.O. Box 140146
Grand Rapids, MI 49514-0146

FIRST CLASS
U S Postage
Paid
Grand Rapids, MI
Permit No. 6577

Address Correction Requested

FRASER LISA TRUSTEE
5689 MICHIGAN ST NE
ADA MI 49301-9562

BIG STAR LAKE VIEWS of SUMMER

By Our BigStarLake Facebook Friends



Photo by Beckv Ullrev



Photo © 2019 by Jaurbanowski

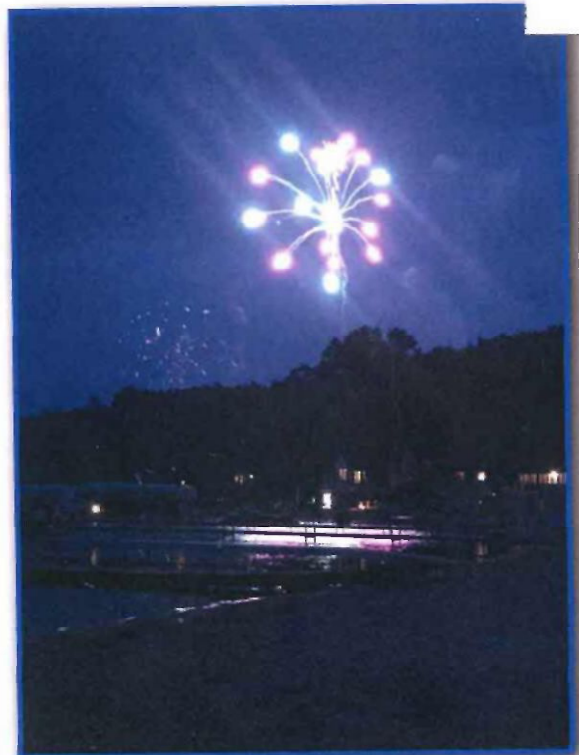


Photo by Kenzie, 11yr old daughter of
Jennifer Adair Mackey

