



*A Note
From the BSLA President*

Hello Big Sanders,

Summer 2012 on Big Sand is well underway. The warm weather and sunny skies we have had in recent weeks hold promise for a great season on the lake. Hope your schedule will allow some time for quiet moments to appreciate the beauty of beautiful Big Sand.

It is hard to believe that this is my last president's letter as my 2 year term expires at the Annual Meeting in July. July 2010 seems like only a moment ago. I want to thank the Board members and the many volunteers who have helped along the way. Many hands make light work. I encourage you to consider taking an active role in BSLA if you are not already. It's a great organization with interesting, and fun folks who share the desire to help keep Big Sand the wonderful place that it is. Al Judson is in line to take over as president for the next two years. Please contact Al, joal196@gmail.com or me to discuss which of the many volunteer opportunities you might be interested in pursuing.

The Big Sand Annual Meeting is scheduled for July 14 from 10 – 12 a.m. at Evergreen Lodge, rain or shine, with a picnic lunch to follow. Bring the family! The program will include a presentation from a representative from the DNR watercraft inspector training program and a live demonstration of how boats are inspected. Do come to meet neighbors, learn what is going on around the lake and with your lake association and to share any concerns, thoughts and ideas for protecting and preserving Big Sand Lake.

It is not a mistake that another copy of the flier "What Can YOU Do to Halt the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)?" is enclosed with this newsletter. The purpose is to provide a copy to post at the cabin or to pass on to others. It is good information and serves as a reminder that we all must be vigilant in the fight to protect our lake.

Best wishes for a wonderful summer to come. Hope to see you at one, if not all, of the social events planned for this season. Cut out the 'Calendar of Events' section from the back page and post it on the fridge. Reminders and details will also be published in the Enterprise, and on our website. Speaking of the website, it is a great way to keep up with all of the Big Sand news. We hope you visit often. Big Sand is now on Facebook – check it out!

Barb Kimer, BSLA President

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Invasive Species:

Richard Sederstrom
richard_sederstrom1221@q.com

DNR WATERCRAFT INSPECTOR ON DUTY

The DNR Watercraft Inspector assigned to the Big Sand access for this season is Jarad Lindstrom, a biologist pursuing a graduate degree in conservation. Jarad, a resident of Akeley, is currently scheduled to be on duty Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 6-10 am and 4-8 pm. BSLA is exploring the possibility of additional coverage. Jarad has been on the job long enough now to have a good feel for the boat traffic entering and leaving Big Sand as well as other lakes in the area where he is assigned to work.

Jarad has found most watercraft owners to be cooperative, with only a couple of people upset at having to learn the complexities of the new regulations. He has been inspecting some 15 to 20 boats a day, mostly boats being returned to the lake from winter storage. Non-resident boats, only one of which had some weeds that needed to be removed, have been brought by fishermen from the Park Rapids area.

It all suggests a peaceful summer with friendly and well informed people visiting Big Sand Lake. We are in good hands with Jarad at the landing, and we will be in even more good hands as Volunteer Watercraft Inspectors are trained and join Jarad in our efforts to stay free of destructive invasive species. For more information about volunteering, contact Richard Sederstrom at the email address above or call 218-237-9762. Thank you!



Fisheries Management:

Tom Igel
tomigel@msn.com

FISHING OPENER

The mild March temperatures and early ice out did not lead to warm May water temperatures and balmy weather as anticipated by many. The Fishing Opener resulted in a slow start for many with results improving late Sunday and into the following week. Winds have made it difficult for many to get out on the lake over the sand bars for any sustained period of time during the month of May.

Fishing began to improve nicely over the weekends of May 19th and Memorial Day. The weather remained somewhat wet and windy. According to many fishermen the walleye bite resulted in fair success with larger walleye in the protected slot of 20" to 28". Walleye under 20" did provide enough for the frying pan according to some. Everyone seemed happy just to be on the water.

Bass Season opened over Memorial Day weekend with a lot of good action from Largemouth Bass. Smallmouth fishing should begin to pick up by mid-June or so. Both of these fish provide great action throughout the coming Summer and Fall months.

June should make everyone happy with an increased bite from Northern Pike, Crappies, and, Sunfish. Let's remember to wear our life jackets and "Get the Lead Out" of our tackle boxes. The loons and other birds and animals will thank us for it.

In Memory

TRICIA
FREDERICKSON

September 6, 1953 – May 23, 2012

We were saddened to learn that Tricia Frederickson succumbed to a recurrence of the cancer she so valiantly fought over the past 3 years. Tricia was in remission last summer and fall and had taken over the

responsibilities for the Big Sand calling tree. She had even volunteered to have this summer's August social event at her home.

Tricia and her husband Gary were thrilled when they were finally able to move to their lake home on Grouse Road and become full time Big Sand residents in 2009. Tricia had a heart of gold and a willingness to always lend a hand. Over the years Tricia served on the Big Sand Board of Directors and was a previous editor of the Big Sand newsletter. In her professional life, Tricia was a nurse in the Burn Unit at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis for 33 years. A full obituary can be found at www.parksenterprise.com.

Watercraft Inspectors Project Thank you to all Donors

Thank you to the generous contributors to the Big Sand AIS Prevention / Watercraft Inspection project. To date, 79 individuals have contributed a total of \$12,335. These funds are being kept as a separate line item in the Big Sand treasury for current and future AIS/ Zebra Mussel prevention expenditures. So far Big Sand has paid \$8,019, including \$3,000 of Lake Emma Township AIS grant funds, for 596 hours of inspection time. We are looking into adding more inspection hours over the summer. In addition, Big Sand will be participating in a Zebra Mussel Monitoring for Early Detection program through RMB Laboratories. Water samples will be taken at three various times this summer from three different locations on the lake and then analyzed by RMB Labs for the presence of zebra mussel veligers. Early detection will result in immediate response of possible remedies.

2012 BSLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:
Barb Kimer (2010-2012)
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Karen Nelson (2010-2012)
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OFF BOARD POSITIONS

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Tara Schell
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Newsletter:
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P.O. Box 181, Park Rapids, MN 56470

Calendar of Events 2012

June

- 19 Women's Luncheon
11:30 am at Summerhill Farm
- 23 Social Gathering
5:00 - 7:00 pm
at Robyn & Randy Wimmer's
20005 Glenn Drive

July

- 4 Boat Parade
11:00 am meet at the inlet
- 14 BSLA Annual Meeting
10:00 am at Evergreen Lodge
- 28 Ice Cream Social
at Pine Cone Lodge

August

- 21 Women's Luncheon
11:30 am at Linda Lee's
20200 Gladwin Drive
- 25 Social Gathering
5:00-7:00 pm

September

- 15 Fall Social Gathering
5:30 pm at Evergreen Lodge



BSLA ANNUAL MEETING AND PICNIC LUNCH JULY 14, 2012 EVERGREEN LODGE

10:00 AM · Meet & Greet, Coffee & Rolls,
Focus Area Displays

BSLA Business Meeting
Welcome & Introductions
Election of Officers
and Board of Directors

Watercraft Inspection Demonstration
Recognition & Adjournment

12:00 Noon · Picnic Lunch
Family & Guests are Welcome!