



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Big Sand Lakers,

It's been a busy summer on Big Sand Lake! While many of you were coming up with creative ways to get your boats off docks sitting in shallower-than-normal water, your Association was hard at work behind the scenes on your behalf.

Confronting the Zebra Mussel Discovery

We want to address this directly: almost a year ago, zebra mussels were confirmed in Big Sand Lake. We know this news was unwelcome, and many of you have asked what your Board is doing about it. Here is our honest answer: preventing further spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS) has been, and remains, our single highest priority, and we have been active on every front available to us.

This summer, your Association:

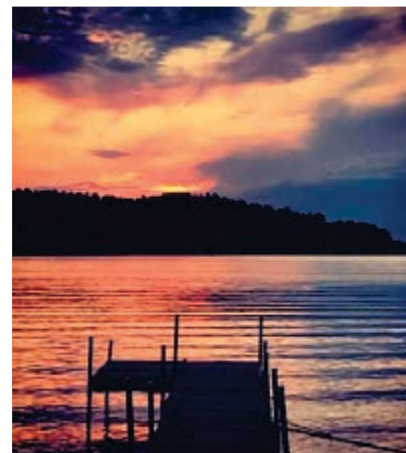
- Built a working relationship with the University of Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center, with the goal of involving Big Sand Lake in a future scientific study.
- Increased DNR-funded boat launch inspection hours to 1,500 hours this season, so more watercraft entering and leaving the lake are checked.
- Raised \$27,000 through a dedicated member fundraising campaign for our Charitable Fund, covering the full cost of this expanded inspection effort.
- Hand-built and deployed zebra mussel monitoring traps on docks around the lake and organized a fall dock inspection to check for signs of infestation.
- Distributed AIS identification and prevention materials by email and on our website.
- Hired an independent firm, Aquatic Survey Professionals, in August to conduct a Priority AIS Inspection study of the lake.

We cannot do this alone, and we need your help too. This fall, please check your own rocks and docks for zebra mussels and let us know what you find. Knowing where zebra mussels are concentrated could help us justify a future treatment, should one become available.

The BSLA Annual Meeting and Picnic

We enjoyed seeing many of you at the June BSLA Annual Meeting! Hopefully you enjoyed hearing from our featured speaker, Maddie Hayden, Research Outreach Specialist from the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center. Her effort to educate our membership

Continued on Page 2





BIG SAND LAKE

Presidents letter *Continued...*

about what zebra mussels mean for a lake, and the promising ongoing research to find treatments, was encouraging. We also appreciated her suggestions on dealing with swimmer's itch, or Cercarial Dermatitis, a perennial Big Sand Lake issue.

A Modern Website, Launching January 1

Another project this year has been modernizing our website, which we plan to launch on January 1. Beyond some fun new features, the new site will make paying your annual dues easier, including an optional auto renewal, so you never have to remember the date.

Your Dues at Work: A Modest Increase for 2027

The work above does not come free, and we want to be transparent with you about the cost of doing it well. After careful deliberation, the BSLA Board voted to raise annual member dues to \$60 per property beginning in 2027. This is a direct investment in the AIS prevention, monitoring, and research described above, work that protects both the health of our lake and the value of every property on it.

We Want to Hear From You

The Board recently conducted a member survey, and we are grateful to everyone who responded. Your feedback shapes our priorities, and we welcome your continued engagement. Please consider volunteering, attending the annual meeting, or joining a social event this year. This Association is only as strong as its members, and we would love to see you there.

*Now if we could only make it rain and snow...
maybe that's a project for the future!*

With appreciation for your support,

Your BSLA Co-Presidents,
Ann Hilger and Steve Kimpton





~ A Message of Gratitude ~

This year the stakes for Charitable Fund fundraising to cover the cost of DNR watercraft inspection at the public access of Big Sand were high! After last fall's discovery of two zebra mussels and the need to increase protection, we were tasked with covering of the cost of 1500 inspection hours, for a total of \$27,000!

Watercraft inspection is not a perfect tool for preventing aquatic invasive species infestation, but it is still the best weapon in our arsenal. We may already have zebra mussels, but the addition of an invasive plant species would have a multiplying and devastating impact on our beloved lake.

This past year 78 Big Sand property owners made contributions to the Charitable Fund! When you see these neighbors whose generosity benefitted us all, please thank them!

Robert Armstrong

Russell L. Beernink

Mary C. Bergman

Chris Billing

Eric Billing

Matt Billing

David H. Billion

Paul T. Birkeland

Debra Bowers

Robert S. Bray

William J. Brock

Bruggen Family

Nancee L. Burbank

Kurt Carlson

Tim S. Conely

Carolyn G. Corwin

Hollis Corwin

Michael G. Cziok

Linda Daugherty

Donald and Mary Sue

Zelle Reed Fund

Larry Durand

William Eichten

William H. Ellis

Evergreen Lodge Family Resort

Jean Fabel

Tim H. Fischbach

Steven J. Fuglestad

Gary L. Garner Trust

Richard Gilbery

Stanislaus D. Goltz

William Hanley

Douglas R. Herman

Hilger Compound LLC

Ann and Christopher Hilger

Joan and Dave Hilger

Debbie and Peter Hilger

Tim Hilger and Kathy Ebert

Mark Hoodecheck

Mary Louise Imm

Jack of Hearts, Inc.

Graham Johnson

Michael J. Johnson

Theresa Junkerquinn

Kathleen L. Keith

Jo Kilander

Thomas Kimer

Steven Kimpton

Marie Klepinski

Pamela Kobriger

Constance Larson

Mark Larson

Linda Lee

Jeffrey Lewis

Charles A. Mausbach

Thomas M. Mayerle

Meggan M. McQuillian

Carole M. Mears

Rolf Nelson

Kay Netteberg

James S. Nippert

Deanna J. Norman

Sandra Ondracek

David Paster

Charles Patterson

Brian F. Peterson

Pierson Family Fund

Pinewoods LLC

Paula Prael

Steven J. Quaday

Susan B. Quinn

Pat Ryan

Scott Schmidt

Thomas Scott

Randall Seaver

Jeffrey Shandorf

Carol Sokol

Shari L. Sutor

Thomas N. Tharaldson

Thomas P. Van Bruggen

Mary M. Veres

Rebecca Wiinanen

Randau Wimmer

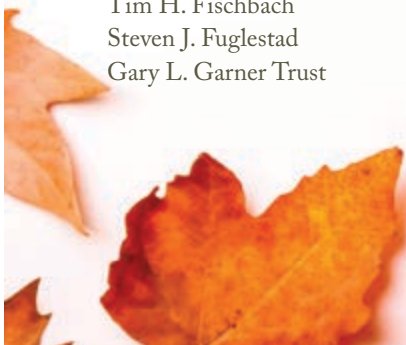


Please help us grow the Charitable Fund to prepare for the future to "preserve, protect and enhance Big Sand Lake and its environs." Gifts to the Charitable Fund are welcome and appreciated all year long and can be made via the bigsandlake.org website.

With gratitude for your support,

Your Big Sand Lake Charitable Fund of the Northwest
Minnesota Foundation
Committee

Ann Hilger, Chris Hilger and
Linda Daugherty





Meet our New Board Members!



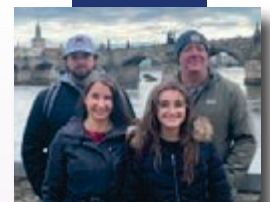
Randy Seaver

I am honored and excited to be able to contribute time to BSLA. My wife, Sheree, and I bought a home on the south side of Big Sand Lake in 1999. It had everything we wanted, level sandy beach, lots of pine trees, and, of course, the beautiful blue waters of Big Sand Lake! Both of our daughters were, and are, delighted to have a cabin! Several years ago, we built a new year-round home on the property, and we were delighted with the way it turned out. We have been honored to host a couple of BSLA social events.

The law has been a large part of my life. I met my wife when we were both law students. I began practicing law in the Twin Cities in 1984. I have practiced with several firms, including Moss & Barnett, P.A. In addition to the practice of law, I was appointed as a Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Panel Trustee in 1998 by the U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office of the U.S. Trustee. Since that appointment, I estimate that I have been a trustee in over 10,000 different cases. Of the thousands of cases that I have handled, two are most memorable. I was the trustee in the case of Denny Hecker, the auto dealer. As trustee, I recovered, and distributed, over \$9M in that case. I also received a Minnesota Attorney of the Year award because of my work in that case. The other most memorable case was Petters Capital, an entity associated with the Tom Petters Ponzi scheme. As trustee, I recovered, and distributed, over \$32M in that case. I stopped taking new trustee cases in 2024, and I am also winding down my practice of law, so, I now have time to be active in BSLA, and I am honored to have that opportunity.

Other than spending a couple of cold weather months in Florida, our home on Big Sand is now our primary residence. I enjoy running through the pines on Grouse Drive, and I love the constant presence of bald eagles and deer. I also enjoy paddle boarding, and water biking and boating with Sheree. We both feel blessed to have this life on Big Sand Lake, and the opportunity to share it with our family and friends. I look forward to working with BSLA to help preserve this beautiful lake that all of us on Big Sand treasure. I am grateful for the opportunity.

My husband Chuck and I moved to Park Rapids from Sioux Falls in 2017 with our son and daughter, who were in junior high at the time. I had vacationed in Park Rapids most summers as a child, and we resumed the tradition with our own family since our first child was born. Our family loves the area for its peaceful beauty, wildlife, fishing, kayaking, hiking, skiing, and all manner of outdoor activities. Every year we discover something new to love, with a particular affection for the beautiful winters (yes, that is 100% sincere, best time of the year up north). Our kids have since moved on to college at UMD Duluth and the College of St Benedict. Chuck and I have been working in technology at Wells Fargo for over 25 years, where I am currently an Executive Director in Secure Network Services.



Pam Stone

100 Years of Pinewoods

Pinewoods has always been a refuge, a gathering place, and, for generations of the Nippert family, a center of gravity.

Mornings on the lake and the simple joy of being together have always been the heart of Pinewoods. It isn't just cabins on a shoreline; it is a promise that family will always have a place to return. Each generation leaves its own memories here, quietly adding to the story that began so many years ago.

It was a special year for the families of Pinewoods, the seven historic cabins located on the southwest corner of Big Sand Lake, as they celebrated their 100-year anniversary this summer! The occasion was held July 30–August 2 with approximately 75 family members who, as Mary McGrath Veres told us, “Have grown up with Pinewoods summers for nearly 100 years.” Mary shared, “One unexpected but very meaningful moment during the Saturday picnic by the lake was the chance to view digitized old videos of our grandparents and great-grandparents enjoying the beach and life on Big Sand Lake.”

To mark the occasion, Mary wrote a commemorative book titled *Pinewoods 100, 1926–2026, Centennial & Family Reunion* based on interviews compiled with elder family members and written historical accounts from even earlier-generation elders. *Pinewoods 100* “was created as a family keepsake to honor the lives, stories, and shared history of the families who belong to the Pinewoods,” according to the book’s introduction. The book traces the generations of the Nippert family tree and their migration from Europe to Minnesota, where Dr. Henry Nippert eventually made it to Big Sand Lake, thanks to his good friend and fellow hunting and fishing enthusiast, Dr. Andrew Hilger. Henry’s brother Louis Nippert followed him soon after. In 1925, Henry officially purchased 120 acres, 90 of which were forested, and offered each of his four children a cabin, “if they spent time there.” The first of the seven cabins was completed in 1926 and served as a dining room, and the second served as a bunkhouse. Eventually, seven cabins were needed to house the growing family. Water for one cabin was pumped from an aquifer, while other faucets drew water from the lake. Toilets were housed outside in a shed until indoor plumbing was added in the 1960s.

In the book, the family shares memories of a strict summer lake schedule, with breakfast, chores, tennis, and swimming at designated hours. Family stories include waterskiing behind a seaplane, creating a family orchestra, and tractor-pulled hayrides in the fall. After Henry Nippert died unexpectedly in 1936, his wife Bertha worked to secure his legacy at Big Sand Lake. In 1950, she established a legal trust to preserve the cabins and land for future generations.



Pinewoods 100
1926–2026
Centennial & Family Reunion

An Interesting Adventure

with the DNR on Big Sand Lake this summer

By Dr. Peter Hilger



I thought I knew Big Sand Lake reasonably well having spent portions of summers at the lake for over 70 years. This changed significantly this past July, when I encountered two wonderful representatives of the DNR on our beach. Jack and Kyle are two aquatic experts from the DNR who were doing their annual survey of our lake. They were on the shore, taking measurements of fish that had been caught overnight. It was a serendipitous encounter, and they were gracious enough to visit with me for about 30 minutes regarding our lake and the DNR efforts on our behalf. Jack and Kyle are two young men with a great interest in the outdoors, and their enthusiasm was evident.

I have a young relative who has a great interest in the outdoors, and I was curious to know if he could spend some time with them. They indicated that the DNR has a program in which civilians can join them for a day on the lake. My interest was piqued and I asked whether they took people older than teenagers on such outings. We all smirked and they said they do, and all I needed to do was contact the fisheries office at the local DNR office. The next day I contacted Carl Pedersen at the Department of Fisheries and he was very helpful. He sent out some forms for me to sign, I emailed them back and we decided to meet at the boat landing the next Tuesday. It turns out the DNR does a survey every year in the same week on the local lakes and I had engaged them in the middle of their time on Big Sand Lake. I thought it would be great fun to plumb the depths of our lake with them. I routinely snorkel along the beach and have also dived to 100 feet, but my day with them was far more informative about our fish population, the activities of the DNR, and the health of our Lake.

Each year they put down gill nets and live nets in the same GPS locations so they can compare data from year to year. After we launched, we went around to each of the gill nets, pulled them up and took a tally of the fish captured. It was interesting to see how the fish population varied by species and number as we went around the lake. The gill nets are approximately 200 feet long and they are placed at depths anywhere from 10 to 40 feet or more and are marked with DNR buoys. Please don't disturb them when you are out on the lake as it may alter their research data. The live traps are in waist or chest deep water and are anchored at the shoreline. Some of the nets had a few dozen fish in them but one had eighty-five fish! The species were

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AIS Spotlight: STARRY STONEWORT

Starry stonewort is a grass-like invasive plant that can wreak havoc on a lake. The plant was first seen in Minnesota in Lake Koronis in 2015. That lake association has used mechanical and chemical treatment to slow down the growth, at an annual cost of about \$171,000. Starry stonewort has been found in five Hubbard County lakes, and a small patch was recently found in Spider Lake. The plant produces dense mats at the water's surface, making boat travel very difficult. It spreads when plant fragments travel on a boat, trailer, anchor, etc., that was not properly cleaned.

Prevention is the key. When that fails, early detection is critical to allow effective treatment. Starry stonewort looks similar to native grass-like algae but is distinguished by small star-shaped bulbils.

We must keep starry stonewort out of Big Sand Lake. Remove all vegetation from any water related equipment before you move it from one body of water to another. Make sure you drain all water from your watercraft and bait bucket and dispose of any unwanted bait in the trash. Our BSLA website contains a fact sheet with more information. If you see anything that looks like starry stonewort or any other AIS, report it immediately to a Board member or the DNR.

Your BSLA Board Water Quality Committee



Adventures with the **DNR** *Continued...*



the typical ones that you'd expect in the lake, including northern pike, walleye, rock bass, crappie, sunfish, pumpkin seed, as well as large and smallmouth bass. They provided a delightful education as to where the fish reside in the lake and at what depths. It was interesting to learn that the younger walleye are often in schools and in slightly shallow water ranging down to 20 to 25 feet depending on the water temperature. I was intrigued to learn that the larger walleye often patrol the waters solo and at deeper levels. We encountered a few northern pike that were about 5 pounds. There was a two-to-three-pound largemouth bass that had large teeth marks on it from a northern attack and, in the same net, a large northern that they suspected was the aggressor.

As a child growing up, I always thought that you determine the age of a fish by looking at the scales. They said indeed that is the case, but they also use the otolith which is about the size of a grain of rice and resides in the inner ear just behind the eye and grows with the fish. They showed me how they harvest that structure and it has lines in it like the rings of a tree that are a very accurate determinant of the fish's age. As an otolaryngologist (the surgical specialty that includes ear disease), I shared with the team that humans have equivalent structures in the inner ear which are an essential part of our balance system. While the human vestibular system is contained entirely in the inner ear, the lateral line organ - that stripe often seen running along the side of the fish from the gills to the tail - is an equivalent organ for fish and we share otoliths with other creatures. With each of the fish we captured, they noted on their waterproof iPad, the species, length weight, gender as well as capturing scales, the otoliths or a bone by the operculum of the larger northern pike. They will then study this information over the winter, and it will be included in report next year. We talked about invasive species and the management and the concerns regarding spread and what can be done to mitigate invasion. Sadly, they did report, as we all know, that there are some zebra mussels in the lake, but no other problematic invasive species at this point. They feel that our fish population is stable and that we can improve our results of fishing for walleye by altering the traditional methods that I employed growing up. Large walleyes are generally found at deeper depths and our best engaged by trolling. They also noted that the fish population has been stable enough that they have not needed to consider any stocking of our lake for several years. Given the information that they were collecting it looked like that situation was going to remain stable.

They said they were delighted to have me along for the day, and that if anybody else wanted to join for a free day of exploration, they could do so by contacting the DNR. If you'd like to get to know Big Sand Lake better, then plan on the end of July and the first part of August next year and contact the local DNR Department of Fisheries. They're still doing surveys on other lakes in our region this year and you could call the fisheries office, and they would tell you where and when the teams are going out. Kyle and Jack were wonderful hosts. They met me at 7:30 in the morning and dropped me back off at the landing at about three in the afternoon when they were going to further refine the data that they had collected. It's always a delight to spend a day out on our beautiful lake, but it was even more enjoyable to spend the day with bright enthusiastic outdoorsmen.

On behalf of the BSLA Water Quality Committee, Dr. Richard Provinzino and his grandson, Drew Provinzino (Bemidji State Aquatic Biology Major) recently interviewed Calub Shavlik, Assistant Area Supervisor, Division of Fish and Wildlife at the Park Rapids Fisheries Office. The discussion centered around the Big Sand fish testing results and shared the information with the BSLA.

What does big sand's walleye population look like right now?

As of now, the walleye population is in outstanding shape on Big Sand. The MN DNR just completed a standard lake survey from 7/27/26-8/5/26 with positive findings; they averaged 6.93 walleyes per set which puts the lake at the higher end of the ideal catch rate of 4-8 walleye per set. A stat from the recent survey that we should all be particularly happy about is 48% of captured walleyes fell in the 13-17-inch range, which is an exciting finding especially regarding the near future of the fishery. There is also a great possibility of catching memorable fish, with walleyes being captured to the size of 28.5 inches in the most recent survey. The walleye fishing opportunities on the lake right now are great for anglers in search of a meal or a trophy.

Where are all the walleye in the lake and why are they so hard to catch?

Clearwater walleyes are notoriously hard to catch, and Big Sand is no exception. Outstanding water quality gives the walleyes an environment to flourish in. With crystal clear water and an above average abundance of perch, spot tail shiners, and tullibee walleyes have less reason to bite what you present. The lake has changed a lot since the clean water act. Adapting to these changes and using new techniques is essential for success. The walleyes are not gone; they have just changed the ways they inhabit and feed in the lake. Using new technology like forward facing sonar allows you to stay away from fish and avoid spooking them. Effective techniques on Big Sand are slip bobber live bait rigs, and a jig and live bait combo. Cadence and presentation are extremely important to get more bites in this clearwater fishery. The Findings of zebra mussels in Big Sand are likely to change fish communities and their foraging and habitat use of the lake. It is our responsibility as anglers to adapt with the fish as they change.

Overall, walleye and other fish species that inhabit Big Sand are all in good health and will provide great angling for those who are willing to adapt and put in the effort. The great abundance of eater walleyes in the system is not just exciting for the next couple years; it is also important to the longevity of a healthy walleye population.





With lower-than-normal rainfall and higher-than-normal temperatures, persistent drought and lower lake levels have become common across a large portion of the state. Much of north-central Minnesota is experiencing storage drought. In years of significant drought, long-term water storage is depleted in lakes, soil and groundwater to a degree that typically takes years to reverse.

“A few heavy rain events aren’t enough to pull an area out of storage drought,” Minnesota Department of Natural Resources State Climatologist Luigi Romolo said. “Over the past four years, north-central Minnesota has received 12 to 16 inches below normal precipitation. So, it would take months of precipitation far above normal amounts to bring lake levels and soil moisture back to typical levels.”

Although it can be frustrating to those who recreate or live on lakes, varying water levels are not only natural and normal, but they’re also essential to many important plant and animal species. Low water consolidates lake bottom sediment and can stimulate aquatic plant growth, both of which are helpful to the aquatic ecosystem. For example, some aquatic plants that can’t germinate underwater provide habitat for fish and insects and help reduce shoreline erosion. More information is available in a DNR video about lake ecosystems.

“Patience is important when these cycles affect human enjoyment of a lake,” DNR Conservation Assistance and Regulation Section Manager Randall Doneen said. “While many are eager to see lakes at levels more conducive to boating and other uses, people should refrain from activities such as manipulating lake level outlets or undertaking enhanced shoreline alterations during temporary low-level conditions.”

Lake levels and soil moisture are influenced by not only precipitation but also snowpack, groundwater levels, watershed conditions and evaporation. Storage drought is often compounded by increased water use, including irrigation for crops, lawns and athletic fields. “Times of drought remind us of the importance of water conservation. Water use increases as conditions become drier, and that can impact water supplies,” Doneen said. “We encourage all water users to be mindful of how much water they’re using, not just during drought but on an ongoing basis.”

This information is an excerpt from an August 3, 2026, MN DNR press release. To read the original version and explore the links, visit <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/news/2026/08/03/lake-levels-impacted-persistent-drought>

Minnesotans are encouraged to learn how much water they are using compared to the average American home and identify ways to reduce water use now and in the future. Reducing use today saves water for the future.

A map of Minnesota watersheds, a link to the U.S. Drought Monitor Map and more information about drought in Minnesota is available on the DNR website. The website includes a link where anyone can sign up to receive drought-related information and notifications.



BENEATH THE SURFACE

RELATED LINKS & MEDIA

DNR Video

https://youtu.be/MMnf_yVHOWc

Water Conservation

https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt_section/appropriations/water-conservation-residents.html

MN DNR Drought Map

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/climate/drought/index.html>

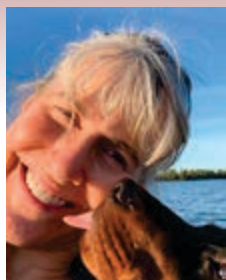
MN DNR Press Release August 3, 2026

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/news/2026/08/03/lake-levels-impacted-persistent-drought>



In Memory

*Memories made of friends
forever in our hearts*



Diana Brainard – September 21, 1957 - November 13, 2024

Diane graduated with a bachelor's degree in dance and a master's degree in business. She went on to work as a professional dancer in Detroit. She later returned to St. Paul to work as a dance teacher then as an insurance underwriter. She had two daughters, and married Kent Carlson in 2008. Additional information may be found at Interra Green Burial.

John (Barry) McGrath – September 18, 1932 – November 19, 2025

John led a long, well lived life. He practiced law for nearly 50 years, loved trains, and was also a licensed pilot and flight instructor. He enjoyed the outdoors, especially canoeing and camping with family and friends. Barry was most proud of his six children. Additional information may be found in the Star Tribune under John B. McGrath Jr.



Donald Hoodecheck – November 16, 1936 – November 27, 2025

Donald graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1958. After serving in the United States Army, Donald received his master's degree from Minnesota State University, and a PhD from the University of Minnesota. He then joined the faculty at the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University in 1965 until his retirement in 2011. He is survived by his children and many grandchildren, and great children. For more information, please see the St. Cloud Times under Donald Joseph Hoodecheck.



Jeanne Hoodecheck – March 21, 1939 – June 1, 2026

Jeanne attended St. Mary's of Notre Dame with the class of 1961 and later graduated from the College of St. Benedict with a teaching license in elementary/early childhood education. Jeanne's post-bachelor's license in parent education was earned through the University of Minnesota. Jeanne was instrumental in the development of Minnesota's national model for early childhood and family education, providing training and workshops for many statewide and national school districts. She is survived by her children, many grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. For more information, please see the St. Cloud Times under Jeanne Chastang Hoodecheck.



Jacquelyn Jean Lewis – April 30, 1926 – May 6, 2026

Since 1958 the Lewis family has enjoyed their summer (and sometimes winter!) visits to Big Sand. Mom especially enjoyed swimming, biking, and taking walks. And she loved to host family and friends in her cabin on Iowa Beach. Additional information may be found at Pauley-Jones Funeral Home website under Jacquelyn Jean Lewis.

Karen "Kay" Jane Dyre – February 21, 1933 – April 9, 2026

Karen graduated from Moorhead State University with a degree in English and her teaching certificate in 1955. She eventually settled in Park Rapids in 1957 with her husband, Karl. In April 1958 the family and two sons, Dan and Jon, purchased Evergreen Lodge, which continues to be a family run business now operated by Dan and his wife, Juli. Additional information may be found at Cease Funeral Homes.



BSLA commemorates residents known to us who have passed away since our last communication or during the last year. We apologize for any omissions. Family members and friends are encouraged to notify us and submit an article about the individual's life and connection with Big Sand Lake for publication in the Big Sand newsletter.

Please contact us at: admin@bigsandlake.org.

If you wish, memorial donations may be made to the Big Sand Charitable Fund.

A link for donating is on our website, www.bigsandlake.org.

Big Sand Lake Summer Socials

The Big Sand Lake Association had another successful and fun summer social season! We'd like to recognize and thank those who willingly volunteered their time and homes to ensure that we all had opportunities to get to know each other better: Sherry Preusse for arranging a Ladies' Coffee at Muskie Waters Co.; Barb Billing and Shari Sutor for hosting a Ladies' Happy Hour at the former Hurd's Acres Resort; Kathy daSilva for arranging a Ladies' Coffee at Bella Caffè; Margaret Prahl and Barb Kimer for hosting a Ladies' Happy Hour at their respective homes; and Liz and Steve Quaday for hosting an Appetizer & Dessert Potluck. The annual Golf Scramble & Taco Bar Social is coming up, and we would like to give a special thank you to Mike Cziok for organizing the golf scramble as a tribute to his great friend, Chuck Fenton!

Thanks also to those who helped make our June Annual Meeting & Picnic memorable. First and foremost, a huge thank you to Bonnie Brand for once again offering her stunning Pine Cone Lodge as the perfect location for our annual meeting; Stan Williamson for picking up coffee at Bella Caffè; Salvadore daSilva for picking up and returning chairs and the sound system; Jo Judson and Mark Kalvoda for handling registration and membership; Barb Billing, Lynn Provinzino, Jo Judson, Adrienne Bray, Kathy daSilva and Shari Sutor for providing yummy snack bars, and BSLA Board members for help with setup, clean-up, and miscellaneous tasks.



We would also like to thank Tom Van Bruggen for organizing men's coffees on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at 9am at Bella Caffè. As the lake season winds down, we are already looking forward to planning fun events in 2027.

JO KILANDER
AND
BARB BILLING



Thank You
from your
BSLA Social Committee



SOCIAL MEDIA



Check out the Big Sand Lake Association Facebook page and Instagram for Big Sand current events, photos and area happenings. For easy access, click on the Facebook and Instagram icons located on the right hand column on the homepage at www.bigsandlake.org.

BIG SAND LAKE ASSOCIATION

Committed to



Big Sand Lake

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Save the Date

2027 ANNUAL MEETING / FAMILY PICNIC

SATURDAY, JUNE 26, PINE CONE LODGE

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!