



Dear Big Fish Lake Members,

Happy New Year to our wonderful members, friends and families! We hope that you are staying warm thorough out this cold snap and staying healthy. In light of the new year, 2018, we all probably have something to put on a resolution list. I would like to share with you mine which is to have the BFLA Board members and I provide you with the utmost care and concern that we could possibly serve for the lake and its future. Many of you may not realize this but we meet every other month throughout the year with many things going on behind the scenes. For example, we are constantly looking for ways to apply for grants to supplement our boat inspections needed to try and avoid getting an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in the lake. Other ways to raise money is to solicit local businesses to be Business Members of our association. So far we have 10 vendors that advertise in our newsletters and emails. Jim Sand has approached the Colleegeville Township to help us and will work closely with them to try and establish a working relationship to provide information and educate them about our needs.

We also belong to several organizations to keep abreast of new ways to help our lakes. We belong to the Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Association, the Stearns County Coalition of Lakes Associations and the Stearns County AIS Committee. We will be attending the AIS Summitt in the Twin Cities and the Stearns County Shoreland Training in February, the Minnesota State Water Conference in Brainerd in April and the U of M Research AIS Research Conference in September.

We will closely monitor the weeds through out the lake a couple of times of year and will also monitor the water quality during the summer. The DNR protocol is to do a vegetation survey every five years so we are ahead of the game!!!

So, if you see a Board member, thank them for the due diligience and their hard work. You can see a list of our members on our website: Just go to "Big Fish Lake". You can also see the minutes from our meetings and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call any of us. That's what we're here for!

Membership Drive Update

As of today, we have approximately 100 families that have sent in their membership dues and contributions. The response to this drive as been wonderful! To date, we have raised just over \$17,000 and are still waiting to hear from at least another 60 or so past contributors. We would like to welcome our new members: Dan & Chong Beckius, Jon Blixt, Gene & Dottie Eisenschenk, Dustin Hanneman, John & Cherie McDowall and Lon & Nida Negen. If you have not sent in your payment yet please do so. This will save us time and money if we do not have to send you a reminder. Our goal is to make \$24,000 this year. We will have enough to cover our costs for the boat inspections and to put some money into our Emergency Fund pending a possibility of an AIS entering our lake. Thank you to each and every one of you for your care and concern for our lake. You truly are a blessing and it does take each and everyone of us to do our part!!

Family Looking to Rent This Summer

There is a family looking to rent a cabin or home on Big Fish Lake this summer during the month of July. If you are interested or know of someone that may be interested, please contact Tim Mattson at his office: 952-542-7985 or his cell at 612-716-4180. His email address is: TMattson@emclic.com. Tim spent many summers on Big Fish Lake with his grandparents in the 80's and 90's. He spent time in the Walcoff cabin off of Theresia Terrace and then also on Hidden Cove Road as well.

Thank you for your time and concern for our lake!

Kit Ferber
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