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# BEAVER DAM LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. NEWSLETTER

Feb. 2016  
VOL. 15, Issue 1

**20th Anniversary Banquet—March 29, 2016**  
New and bigger prizes adds up to a special fun-filled banquet

### MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to improve and protect Beaver Dam Lake for the benefit of current and future generations.

### Reminder:

See you at the  
**Annual Banquet-**  
March 29th!

Special thanks to our  
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## BDLIA Participates for second year in Healthy Lakes Program

In 2015 BDLIA received approval for \$5,640 for 5 Healthy Lakes Projects and will be submitting applications for 4 new projects this year.

The Healthy Lakes Initiative program provides state funds to support installation of fish sticks to improve fish habitat, native plantings or diversion practices along the shoreline to slow runoff and upland practices like rain gardens that

manage runoff from structures or impervious surfaces. The WDNR will pay 75% of approved projects up to \$1,000. The property owner is responsible for 25%, however this cost can include the property owner's labor which is billed at \$12 an hour.

For more information go to [healthylakeswi.org](http://healthylakeswi.org) or call BDLIA at 356-1200. While the deadline for submission for

2016 has past, plan your project now and submit it next fall.



[www.bdlia.org](http://www.bdlia.org)

### Upcoming BDLIA Events:

March 29th  
Annual Banquet  
Bayside Supper Club  
Beaver Dam, WI

Saturday, May 14  
BDLIA Fishing  
Tournament  
Waterworks Park

Saturday, June 4  
Fish 'n Fun  
Edgewater Park

Wednesday, June 15  
Lake Expo  
Tahoe Park

Friday & Saturday  
July 8 & 9  
Lake Days  
Tahoe Park

Wednesday, July 20  
Summer Celebration  
The Springs Pub & Grill

Saturday, July 30  
Paddle Festival  
Waterworks Park



You are invited to join with your friends and neighbors at this special *20th Anniversary Banquet*. Three getaways at the Dells, tickets to sporting events, a kayak, computers, guns, dining packages, grills and lots of hunting and fishing gear make up some of the great prizes on the raffle boards and the live and silent auctions. NEW this year is a \$2,000 cash raffle. This is in addition to other cash raffles worth over \$1,700. Door prizes, each worth over \$50, will go to 120 lucky attendees.

Equally as important is that your attendance and participation helps generate the majority of the funds needed by BDLIA to continue its mission to improve and protect Beaver Dam Lake as well as the implementation of lake management plans and funding for activi-

ties such as Fish 'n Fun, Cardboard Boat Regatta, pontoon rides and new this year the Paddle Festival.

The banquet will be held on Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at Bayside Supper Club with doors opening at 5:00 pm and dinner served at 6:45. Tickets are \$45 and include a choice of Bayside's famous prime rib dinner or a delicious seafood platter. Both served with all the trimmings.

We again will be offering \$200 worth of raffle tickets for \$100. You get 36 tickets for the raffle boards, a ticket for the \$2,000 raffle and tickets for the bucket raffles. Increase your chances of winning at half the normal cost.

A reservation form is enclosed in this newsletter. Mail the form to BDLIA by the deadline of March 15, or call in your reservation to 920-356-1200. You can also register at Total Business Products at 205 DeClark Street in Beaver Dam.

A big thank you to our contributors and donors. Over 250 individuals and businesses including Hupf's Repair Center, Kwik Trip and Reчек's Food Pride help make this event possible. A complete list will be printed in the program book.



Mark March 29th on your calendar and order your tickets NOW!

Get your  
**TICKET NOW**  
for the Annual Banquet



Enclosed in this newsletter is a special commemorative insert recognizing BDLIA's 20th Anniversary. It highlights some of the accomplishments and special events of the past 20 years. We hope you enjoy this fun look at the past 20 years!

### OFFICE

PO Box 33, 211 S Spring St, Ste 3, Beaver Dam, WI 53916  
920-356-1200 ~ [www.bdlia.org](http://www.bdlia.org)

**Beaver Dam**  
Lake Improvement Assn.



## Lake Management Plan Moves Forward

The Lake Management Plan was presented in August 2015 to the membership and community. It now moves into the important phase of implementation by detailing and prioritizing actionable items.

As outlined in the Fall Newsletter, the Lake Management Plan that has been in the making since 2012, was presented to the community and membership at the BDLIA annual meeting last August. This plan not only details the results of the extensive in-depth studies of the lake done by the consultants, but also presented the lake management options to be considered to improve and protect the lake. The complete plan is available at the [bdlia.org](http://bdlia.org).

Several steps have already been taken to move forward. One of the major steps was the filing on December 10, 2015 of a grant application which will detail the actionable elements of the plan with technical support and cost estimations. This will provide the basis for the Lake Management Committee, the BDLIA board and the community to prioritize future efforts. This work includes the technical expertise that has already been committed from professors Paul McGinley, Chin Wu and Ken Potter of UW-Madison and Stevens Point.

In addition, on December 10, 2015 BDLIA filed an application for a grant to assess curly leaf pondweed, the invasive species that covered a great majority of the lake last summer. If the plant reappears in great abundance again this spring, this grant will be used to assess the growth and determine control and monitoring strategies that can be put into action. The DNR requires this assessment before it allows any action to be taken.

One of the action items listed in the Lake

Management Plan was the implementation of carp barriers on some of the bays on the lake for enhancement of fish habitat. A Lake Protection Grant is in the final stages of preparation (at the writing of this article) to be filed on February 1, 2016 for the installation of a carp gate at Rakes Bay along with the addition of native aquatic plants.

Other actions already taken or in the process of being taken to improve and protect the lake include:

- Commercial fishing contract for carp fishing has been developed for Beaver Dam Lake. Details will be released in February
- Plans to improve city and county boat launch sites with upgrading of signage and equipment
- Development of additional recreation on Beaver Dam Lake with the purchase and installation of a kayak dock and launch along with the organization of a Paddle Festival on Beaver Dam Lake on July 30, 2016. (See related story on Page 5.)

Get your **TICKET NOW** for the Annual Banquet

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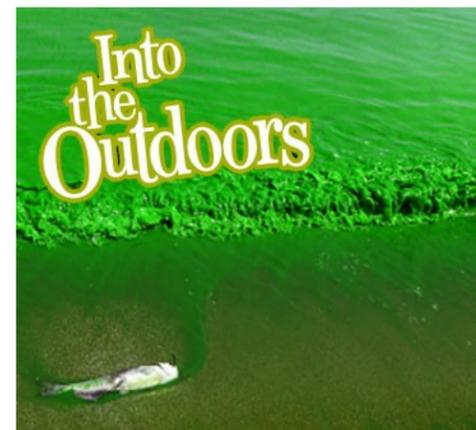
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## dates To save

- Annual Banquet, March 29
- BDLIA Fishing Tournament, May 14
- Fish- 'n Fun, June 4
- Lake Expo, June 15
- Lake Days, July 8 & 9

## Informative Environmental



A fun and informative program has been prepared with WI Land and Water on WITI TV6. This well prepared program discusses environmental concerns and methods to improve our environment. High school students from around the state learn from experts in the field to present science in a very practical manner. This whole family program airs on Sunday at 10:30 AM and can also be seen on the web at: <http://intotheoutdoors.org/topics/water-pollutions-solutions/>.



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## Meet Your Board Members

The Beaver Dam Lake Improvement Association is governed by an eleven member board. In this series we introduce our board members.



**NANCY SCHRAUFNAGEL**  
Nancy has been on the BDLIA Board of Directors for 15 years and Parliamentarian for 13 years. She has been one of the more active members of the organization. She is chairperson of the Fish 'n' Fun, a position that she has held since the beginning of Fish 'n' Fun 13 years ago. She has also been involved in the annual banquet, fundraising, Miss Beaver Dam Lake and Little Miss Beaver Dam Lake Pageants, education committee, and even worked on the walleye hatchery with her husband, Carl.

Nancy and Carl have lived in Oak Grove for many years. She has three grown children (2 daughters and a son), 13 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. The couple have spent many hours on the lake fishing and boating. "Beaver Dam Lake has always been my favorite lake," she said.

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**WESLEY NOSEK**  
Wes and his wife Cristina moved to the Miller's Woods area on Beaver Dam Lake in 2002. He was elected to the BDLIA Board of Directors in 2010 and has been very active in BDLIA activities and other organizations in the Beaver Dam area. He is kept very active keeping up with his 11 grandchildren.

Wes has headed up the solicitors for the BDLIA Banquet the past couple of years and has also worked on the Membership Commit-

tee. He has been involved with the Fiesta Beaver Dam celebration, the Beaver Dam Beer and Cheese Tasting the past three or four years and was involved in the Wine and Cheese Tasting this past November. Wes has also volunteered for the Women's Affiliate Arts and Crafts Fair in Swan Park and Lake Days.

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Blake, Daryl, Mark, Blake II and Lori

tee. He has been involved with the Fiesta Beaver Dam celebration, the Beaver Dam Beer and Cheese Tasting the past three or four years and was involved in the Wine and Cheese Tasting this past November. Wes has also volunteered for the Women's Affiliate Arts and Crafts Fair in Swan Park and Lake Days.

Wes said he became a member of BDLIA because he wants to be a part of "improving the greatest natural resource in southern Wisconsin." He says that what he likes best about Beaver Dam Lake is its potential, which it has not yet reached.



**PETER HAUPF**  
Pete is the man to ask how the fish are biting on Beaver Dam Lake. He is one of the best fishermen in Dodge County.

He grew up on a dairy farm on Beaver Dam Lake and collected and sold bait at a young age and now owns Best Dam Bait Shop & Guiding at 1227 Madison St, Beaver Dam. The bait shop is a 24/7 operation and Pete offers guided fishing tours from Madison to Oshkosh for pan and game fish.

Pete is a professional fisherman and is on the ice fishing team Clam Corporation, manufacturer of Vexilar fish locators. He has competed in many National Ice Fishing Tournaments (NAIFC). In 2014 he finished 3rd in the national rankings and in 2015 he finished 2nd.

Pete was elected to the BDLIA Board in 2014. He has organized fish tournaments on Beaver Dam Lake since 2012 and has raised \$6,500 for walleye stocking through these tournaments. He is active in aeration and fish stocking on Beaver Dam Lake. He was a volunteer in the DNR carp bio-mass study of Beaver Dam Lake this past summer. He has worked with other volunteers to install the no wake buoys on the lake and donates bait and does fish cleaning demonstrations at the BDLIA Kids Fish 'n' Fun events.

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## Water Quality Monitoring

Data gathered from water quality monitoring provides essential data for lake management

Water quality monitoring is an important aspect of our lake management planning activity and collection of water data at regular intervals aids in the process by building a database that can be used for long-term trend analysis. BDLIA began collecting water quality data in 1995. In 2006 a more comprehensive program called the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN) run by the DNR and UW-Extension was adopted and Bob Roell (a BDLIA board member) was trained by this program. He then began detailed monitoring of water quality. Bob and other volunteers from the association before him, have been collecting water quality data almost annually from two locations on the lake since 1995.

During open water months data is collected on water temperature, percent of dissolved oxygen (DO), and water clarity. Samples are also collected each time and sent to the state hygiene lab to be analyzed for total phosphorus and chlorophyll-a.

Phosphorous is the nutrient that controls the growth of plants, both algae and rooted plants, in our lake so it is important that we continue to monitor the concentrations of phosphorous to create a better understanding of current and potential growth rates of plants.

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Chlorophyll-a is the green pigment in plants used during photosynthesis. Chlorophyll-a concentrations are directly related to the abundance of free-floating algae in the lake as values increase during algal blooms.

Secchi disk readings are a measurement of water clarity. The measurement is conducted by lowering a weighted, 20-cm diameter disk with alternating black and white quadrants into the water and recording the depth just before it disappears from sight.

All three parameters discussed above are inter-related. Phosphorous controls algal abundance which is measured by chlorophyll-a. Water clarity, measured with a Secchi disk, is directly affected by the particles that are suspended in the water and in our lake the primary particulate is algae.

Dissolved oxygen (DO) is also an important characteristic of lakes because the level of oxygen in the water influences the lake's biological, chemical and physical properties, and without it fish kills would occur. DO is measured at the top, middle, and bottom of the water column and readings are taken not only in summer but after ice-up as well. Winter readings are taken as soon as it's safe to drive ATV's on the lake and the association uses the data to determine if the aerators need to be deployed to preserve oxygen levels and hopefully prevent a fish kill.

All data collected during the summer months, from 2006 to present, are available on the WDNR website. Go to <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/>, type in Beaver Dam Lake in the top right hand corner, select Beaver Dam Lake, Dodge, and then select the 'More' tab. Finally, select 'Details' for Breezy Point and Deep Hole (Denning Point), the two locations monitored in the summer.

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## BDLIA Celebrates 20th Anniversary

Ongoing activities to improve and protect Beaver Dam Lake



In 1996 the Board of Directors of the Beaver Dam Lake Property Owners Corporation (incorporated in 1963) voted to change its name to Beaver Dam Lake Improvement Association (BDLIA). Realizing the lake was a major asset to the entire area, the board wanted an organization that included everyone who was interested in improving and protecting Beaver Dam Lake.

Prior to 1996 the Property Owners organization was already carrying on many of the activities currently being done by BDLIA including fish stocking, winter aeration, carp removal and fish habitat improvement. To fund these activities the new association organized its first fundraising banquet on March 11, 1997.

Thus, 2016 is the 20th Anniversary of BDLIA and also the 20th Annual Fundraising Banquet, which will be held this year on Tuesday, March 29, 2016.

To give a quick and fun overview of the last 20 years we put together the special 20th An-

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**Ron & Paula Marach**

niversary commemorative insert. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we did in putting it together. Special thanks to member Jessica Jacobson whose talents made this such a great piece.

Looking back at these 20 years the effort of the organization was focused on three major areas:

- Improving over-all lake quality through the development of lake management plans
- Controlling the carp population
- Improving and maintaining the lake's fisheries

It also promoted activities on the lake including its support of Beaverland Must-Skis, Lake Days and the children's event Fish 'n Fun. Recently it has expanded promoting lake activities with the inception of the Cardboard Boat Regatta, pontoon rides on the lake and the upcoming first annual Paddle Fest.

None of this would have been accomplished without the many volunteers who gave hundreds of hours of time and talent to working on the all the activities. Also a special thank you to the businesses and individuals who donated the funds needed to make it all happen. And finally, thank you to the members who have supported the organization for the past 20 years.



## BDLIA presents Lake Plan to community groups

Community communication is an important part of developing and implementing a lake management plan. A kick-off meeting was held in 2014, several Planning Committee meetings followed with a wrap up meeting held in August 2015. A power point presentation highlighting the completed plan has been presented to service clubs, the Beaver Dam Chamber's Board of Directors and the Beaver Dam Lake Development Corporation.

The groups receiving these presentations are being asked to support our efforts with volunteer help and financial contributions. In addition, it is very important to help spread the word about the work of the association to improve and protect Beaver Dam Lake.

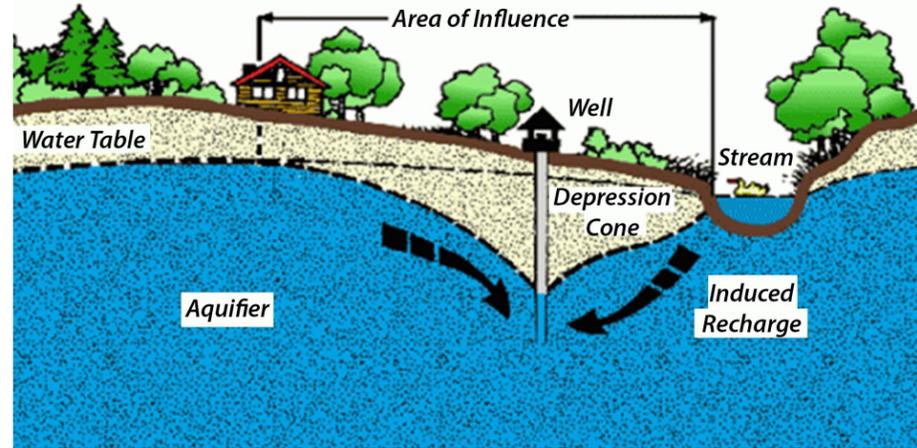
In the photo, Bill Foley presents to the Beaver Dam Lake Development Corporation (LDC) on January 19, 2016. At this meeting the LDC voted to assist in the funding of the installation of carp gates at Rakes Bay. This is one of the key action items detailed in the Lake Management Plan to control the carp population. "It is cooperation and support like this that will move the Lake Management Plan from a mere document to action that will result in lake improvement," stated Bill Foley, Vice President of BDLIA.

If you are part of a group, or you know of a group that would like to have this presentation, call BDLIA at 356-1200 to arrange a date.

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# Testing Your Well Water

If you have your own well it should be tested yearly as it may not be safe



When we turn on our water at the tap we expect that clean and clear water will flow. Unfortunately, well tests in Dodge County since 1994 have resulted in a 20% failure rate for bacteria and 8% for nitrates. If you have ever had a time without water for the family this essential resource took on a very visible importance.

When rain or snow falls this water soaks through the soil into the ground water along with any bacteria or nitrates present. The saturated porous stone layer is where the water is captured for our wells to draw from. With spring slowly approaching we have the perfect time to inspect our well and test the water that it provides.

One of the most important steps you can take is to test your well water on a yearly basis. Even if you see clear water from the tap bacteria and nitrates may be present in harmful concentrations with children and seniors at most risk.

Water test kits can be purchased from the Dodge County UW-Extension office in Juneau for \$3.00. Follow the instructions with the kit which is then mailed to UW-Stevens Point (UWSP) for analysis. The 'Home Owners' test selection provides a good se-

lection of element checks with a cost of \$49. UWSP will test and return the analysis within 10 days. (Note: Public Water Systems, such as Beaver Dam Water Utility, test water supplied to their customers.)

There are also a number of preventative steps that we should take which will help insure a good flow of water:

- Check the well cap to insure it is tight and in place
- Make sure that surface water runs away from the well pipe
- Check for and never use gasoline, oil or pesticides near the well pipe
- Listen at your well pipe and at the holding tank for unusual noises.
- With the water off through-out the house, check the pressure gauge for loss, an indication of leaks
- Turn on the water and check for well turn on and shut off

If there are ANY concerns call a qualified well service or plumbing professional to answer your questions.

So take a few minutes and check your water supply so there is cool and clean water for the summer to come.



## Fish Program Committee

The Fish Program Committee will be holding its winter meeting in February. An important part of the meeting will be updates by Laura Stremick Thompson, DNR fish biologist. She will report on results of the fish survey taken on Beaver Dam Lake during 2015. This extensive survey included fyke netting for northern and walleye and electro fishing in late spring and fall for panfish and bass. The data collected provides an indication of the health of the fishery through estimates of gamefish and panfish, their relative abundance, size structure and recruitment. The last survey from 2010 will be a good comparison and important in determining the status of the fishery in Beaver Dam Lake. The survey data and input from Laura will help the committee determine its fish stocking plans over the next several years.

She will update the committee on the following:

- The DNR plans for commercial fishing of rough fish
- Walleye stocking by the DNR on Beaver Dam Lake
- Review the final report on the carp bio-mass survey

The committee will also be discussing:

- The possible implementation from the Lake Management Plan of carp gates at some of the bays
- The assessment of invasive plants that will take place this spring
- The BDLIA Fish Tournament on May 14th
- Update on aeration for the current winter

Randy Schade, Chairperson of the Fish Program Committee commented, "I'm looking forward to this meeting as we have many important items on the agenda and will be getting some important updates from the DNR."

# BDLIA has full slate of activities in 2016 as Beaver Dam Celebrates 175 years

BDLIA has increased the number of activities it is planning for the lake this spring/summer. "While our emphasis will primarily be on action items listed in the Lake Management Plan to improve and protect Beaver Dam Lake, we are also continuing to upgrade and grow our activities on the lake," stated Bill Boettge, President, BDLIA.

The City of Beaver Dam is having a yearlong celebration of its 175th Anniversary this year and BDLIA is tying in some of it's current events and bringing on some new events to help celebrate this special event.

## Fishing Tournament - NEW

On Saturday May 14th will be the Anniversary Fishing Tournament sponsored by the BDLIA. This bass and walleye tournament will have a \$1,000 guaranteed top prize. See details at [bdlia.org](http://bdlia.org).



## Kayak Dock and Launch Dedication

At a date in April or May BDLIA will dedicate a new kayak dock and launch at Waterworks Park. BDLIA purchased this equipment from a bequest it received from the estate of Randy Fiegel. "We did this to honor Randy who loved all forms of recreation on the lake," stated Dick Emerson, Secretary/Treasurer of BDLIA. "This equipment makes it easier for kayakers and canoeists to enjoy recreation on Beaver Dam Lake," he added.



## Fish 'n Fun

Saturday, June 4th will be the 14th annual Fish 'n Fun event at Edgewater Park. It is a fun day of learning about fishing and water safety. Open to kids ages 4 to 12 they will receive a free rod and reel. As part of the city's 175th Anniversary a special anniversary cake will be served along with the free lunch of hot dogs and the trimmings.



## Lake Days

On July 8 and 9 BDLIA will again be part of the fun at Tahoe Park where we combine with the City of Beaver Dam Community Activities and Services to offer free pontoon rides to all as well as our 3rd Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta. Again, no entry fee with \$175 in cash prizes. Also, both events will offer everyone a free piece of 175th Anniversary cake.

## Summer Celebration

Wednesday, July 20th will be the 2nd annual BDLIA Summer Celebration; a party for mem-



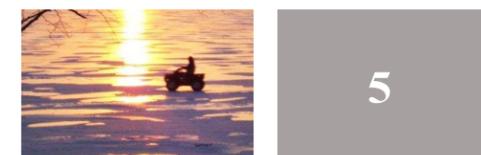
bers and their friends. Boat or drive to The Springs Pub & Grill where BDLIA will provide some food and sodas. Over 100 people enjoyed last year's party. Circle it on your calendar so you don't miss out. Meet your friends and neighbors from next door or across the lake.



## Paddle Festival - NEW!

Paddling sports (kayaking, canoeing and paddle boarding) are the fastest growing recreational activity on lakes and rivers. On Saturday, July 30 we will be inviting paddle enthusiasts from all over the area to come see what fun they can have on Beaver Dam Lake. We will be offering free clinics and demos and are having a 3 mile paddle. Free water trail maps and shuttle buses will also be available. This will be jointly sponsored by Beaver Dam Community Activities and Services and tied into the city's 175th Anniversary Celebration. Free cake will be served to all.

An exciting spring and summer of activities to help you enjoy Beaver Dam Lake.



## Special thanks to our DIRECTOR LEVEL Sponsors