

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Reminder:

Pay Membership

Dues Now

PRESIDENTIAL LEVEL



Alliant Energy Foundation Supports BDLIA

The Beaver Dam Lake Improvement Association recently received a grant of \$1,490 from the Alliant Energy Foundation for an oxygen monitoring meter. The current meter had been in use for the past 10 years and needed to be replaced. This meter is used by the association to measure dissolved oxygen levels in Beaver Dam Lake all during the year. These measurements are part of data used to determine where and when to deploy aer-

ators in the lake during the winter. The aerators create open water to allow the natural process of diffusion to improve oxygen levels.

The Alliant Energy Foundation provides grants which help protect the environment and direct these grants to organizations that address community needs. BDLIA has received Alliant Energy Foundation grants in the past for other projects that protect the lake and its fisheries.



Brian Bartels of Alliant Energy presents a grant check to Bill Boettge, BDLIA president



www.bdlia.org



BEAVER DAM LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. NEWSLETTER

www.bdlia.org

JULY 2017
VOL. 16, Issue 2

UPCOMING EVENTS

Membership Renewal
Deadline
July 31, 2017

Annual Membership
Meeting
August 26, 2017
Conservationist Club

BDLIA Board Meeting
August 29, 2017
Quality Inn

BDLIA Board Meeting
September 26, 2017
Quality Inn

BDLIA Board Meeting
October 31, 2017
Quality Inn



Dedication of New City and County Lake Signs

Informative and promotional signs support Beaver Dam Lake



From Left: Bill Boettge-BDLIA President, Ron Fiegel, Diane Cupery, Ric Fiegel, Jennifer Cole, Matt Winter, Mayor Glewen and Diana Ogle.

The city of Beaver Dam and Dodge County recently dedicated an updated sign package for the three city boat launches at Tahoe, Waterworks and Edgewater Parks and Derge Park for the county.

The Beaver Dam Lake Improvement Association, working with a team from Leadership Beaver Dam and the city and county parks departments, developed an informative and attractive sign package to help the thousands of anglers and recreational boaters who use these launches annually.

The funding for the sign packages included a donation from the Randy Fiegel Estate, a DNR grant and funds from launch fee collections.

Bill Boettge, President of BDLIA, stated that the association has wanted to upgrade this sign package for the past several years but needed a partner to make this happen. As part of the Leadership Beaver Dam program each class finds projects to improve the community.

Leadership Beaver Dam made a perfect partner, stated Boettge. He also recognized the support from MEC who fabricated and donated a large sign designating each of the park boat launch sites and the city and county Park Departments for their assistance in the planning and installation of the signs.

A message board near the boat launch includes the following: fishing regulations, a detailed map of the lake, information on no-wake buoys and upcoming activities on the lake. The second message board is in the boat/trailer cleaning area. Here boaters clean their boats and trailers as required by Wisconsin law to prevent the spread of aquatic hitchhikers.

There are hundreds of harmful plants, fish and snails that are spread from lake to lake if boaters do not clean their boats. The message board provides information regarding these requirements and BDLIA provides tools to help in removing these invasive plants and animals.

The board at the boat cleaning station also includes a monofilament line tube which is a project from an earlier Leadership Beaver Dam class. This is a receptacle specifically for placing fishing line that becomes tangled. Instead of putting it in the lake which becomes entangled in fish or water fowl, it should be placed in these tubes for proper disposal.

In her remarks at the city's dedication Mayor Becky Glewen stated this was a great example of what can be done by community spirited groups working together. She thanked the groups for this helpful and attractive addition to the city parks and boat launches.



OFFICE

PO Box 33, Beaver Dam, WI 53916 | 920-356-1200
www.bdlia.org

Beaver Dam
Lake Improvement Assn.



PARK AVENUE Sports Cafe
Good Food. Good Drinks. Good Times.

Great pizza—Sandwiches—Specials
Nice bar with a view of the game from every angle!

PARK AVENUE SPORTS CAFÉ
709 Park Ave., Beaver Dam

Hammes Fire & Safety LLC
Residential & Commercial

- Security/Burglar Systems
- 24 Hour Central Station
- Low Monthly Monitor Fee
- Closed Circuit TV
- Video Surveillance
- Fire Alarm Systems

Free Estimates!

www.hammesfire.com
1008 DeClark Street, #2 W
Beaver Dam, WI . (920) 885-9333

❖ Tree and Shrub Trimming ❖
❖ Tree, Shrub, and Stump Removal ❖
❖ Lawn Fertilizing and Weed Control ❖
❖ Complete Landscape Service ❖
❖ Home Pest Control ❖
❖ Holiday Lighting ❖

K & B
Tree and Lawn Care, LLC
kbtreedandlawn.com

920-885-6982

The Springs Pub & Grill

On Beaver Dam Lake
Boat Launch & Lake Access
Located on snowmobile trail
Large Sandwich Menu

Serving food 11 a.m.—9 p.m.
Open Thursday thru Sunday
N9070 Cty. F, Randolph, WI
(920) 928-3269

Annual Meeting Set for August 26

An opportunity to hear what your Association is doing as well give input and elect the Board of Directors.

The meeting will be held at the Conservationist Club, W9554 County Trunk G, Beaver Dam. A free continental breakfast will be available at 8:30 am with the meeting beginning at 9:00 am. A common misconception is that the state has a plan for management and improvement of Beaver Dam Lake (BDL). There is no faction at the state level with the responsibility for maintenance of BDL. That is why BDLIA sponsored a lake study in 2014 to sample water quality, inventory shoreline use and inventory aquatic plant life. Key findings were that the Phosphorous level is 10 times the healthy lake average and is BDL is over-saturated with carp.

During 2015 and 2016, BDLIA moved forward with actions that required no additional data: monthly water samples at inlet streams; shoreline inspection for erosion; and monitoring the commercial fisherman progress on carp removal. In 2016, Dr. Anita Thompson, Principle Investigator of the University of Wisconsin Water Resource Management (WRM), took an interest in BDL and offered the 2017 WRM a 50/50 grant with the WDNR. During this year's annual meeting there will be a presentation from the four teams of graduate students who are studying Beaver Creek, Beaver Dam Lake, Upland impact and Community Outreach. These activities are key foundational blocks to set Beaver Dam Lake on a course for long term improvement.

Curly Leaf Pondweed Update

After two years of excessive curly leaf pondweed (CLP) in many parts of Beaver Dam Lake, the spring and summer of 2017 had a significant drop in the problem. The experts are unable to predict when these occurrences will take place or why they are less some years than others. Either way many of the lake residents that were severely impacted the last two years were relieved to have a decrease in the problem this year. While some areas still had significant growth it was less wide spread than in the past two springs.

As we stated in the February newsletter we have been in contact with property owners in previously heavily infested areas and were ready to follow through with herbicide if we got financial support from these owners and we had another heavy infestation. Based on a review of the areas in late May it was decided not to move forward with any herbicide treatment this year because of the significant decrease in the infestation.

After this presentation the following agenda items will be covered:

- Financial report and budget
- Election of Board of Directors
- Informational reports on lake district exploration, fish programs, activities like Fish 'n Fun and progress on implementation of the Lake Management Plan
- Open dialog for issues/comments to bring forward by BDLIA members

BDLIA had a very active year with activities and steps taken to improve the lake. Hear and comment on what has been done and what is planned for the year ahead. As with all annual meetings, the intent is to receive input as well as update you on BDLIA activities. And if you are interested in volunteer activities, please let the folks know at check-in and fill out a form indicating your interests.

August 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

It is the opinion of many on the BDLIA board that it is almost impossible for an association to carry out an aquatic plant control program for Beaver Dam Lake. It is very difficult and extremely time consuming to contact property owners and get adequate numbers of owners to financially support such programs. In almost all cases the only lakes that are able to carry out such programs are those that have a lake district.

BDLIA will continue to monitor the infestation of aquatic plant invasive species and work closely with the DNR on actions that can be taken to control and prevent these plants in our lake.



BDLIA Fish Programs Update

Busy Spring of fish related activities

Fish Stocking

There were two stockings this spring both of northern pike. The Gollon Bait & Fish Farm, one of our fish suppliers, donated to BDLIA over 45,000 northern pike fry in April. We are very appreciative of their support. In May the DNR placed 7,500 northern pike all about 2.4" in the lake. BDLIA was planning on stocking \$10,000 of 6 to 8 inch walleye in the lake. However, this stocking has been postponed until this fall as the fish will be available at that time.

In addition the Fish Program Committee plans to stock perch this coming fall.



Contestants Joe Westphal and Cody Welch brought in 4 Bass and a Walleye totaling 9.93 lbs.

Fish Tournament

BDLIA held its Bass and Walleye Fishing Tournament on Sunday, June 4, 2017. Fourteen teams competed for \$1,900 in prize money. The contest was based on total weight of up to 5 bass and 3 walleye. First place prize this year went to the team of Bobby and Bailey Bushke. The weight of their catch was 10.95 pounds. They also took top prize for biggest fish by weight with a 3.68 pound bass. BDLIA is proud to sponsor this tournament as it is not only a fun tournament but brings attention to the fact that Beaver Dam

BEAVER DAM SENIOR CENTER WOODSHOP
114 E. Third St., Beaver Dam ♦ 920-887-4639

Bird houses
Butterfly houses
Bat houses

Bird feeders
Custom projects
and more!

Bring in this ad for a special discount on woodshop products

Our specialty is bird houses and feeders, but we also custom make projects upon request. Just bring in your idea, pattern and materials and our crew will bring it to life!

Woodshop Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am-Noon



Lake is a great fishing lake. The Associations invests over \$20,000 each year on fish stocking and improvement of fish habitat, stated Randy Schade, Chairperson of the BDLIA Fish Program Committee.

We encourage people to enjoy Beaver Dam Lake from fishing to paddling and other water recreation. BDLIA would also like to thank the Beaver Dam Bass Anglers who donated a scale to the Association for use in fishing tournaments.



Fish Kill

Since last fall the City of Beaver Dam has been in the process of major repairs on the Cooper Street bridge. On June 14 and 15, when the lake level had been reduced, the dam was closed and the flow through the penstock was cut back to just above the minimum required. By Thursday evening Bill Boettge, BDLIA president, received a call of fish dying in the river. After visiting the site and confirming the problem he contacted the water utility department, operators of the dam. Within hours the dam was opened and additional water was flowing into the river.

However, a combination of too many fish for the water in the river and rising water temperatures resulted in a very large fish kill, estimated to be

BLAKEN TONN PEST CONTROL, INC.

EnvironmenTONN Services
Eco-Green Care

"People you Can Trust"
With 139 Years Combined Experience

Beaver Dam, WI 920-887-8003
Randolph, WI 920-326-3727

Blake, Daryl, Mark, Blake II and Lori

over 5,000. The majority of the dead fish were pan and game fish. The DNR, city officials and BDLIA have been meeting to address the completion of the Cooper Street project and longer term issues including fish going from the lake into the river, minimum flow over the dam, the role of the penstock in releasing water and the matter of lake levels.

BDLIA will keep you informed via the website and emails when necessary.

Fishing Regulations

This past spring BDLIA appeared before the Conservation Congress with a proposal to increase the daily limit on catfish from 10 to 25. In the opinion on the BDLIA Fish Program Committee Beaver Dam Lake has too many catfish and proposed this increase in the daily catch limits to improve the balance of fish species in the lake. The proposal passed on a vote of 70 to 4. The committee is now gathering additional data to support their argument. These results will be submitted to the DNR encouraging them to draft this proposed change in daily bag limits.



Over 700 lbs. of catfish caught at the Catfish Tournament held at The Springs Pub and Grill. The longest catfish measured 27 inches.

Summer Events

A good time by all, enjoying the lake



Fish 'n Fun 2017

About 150 children, family members, and friends braved the rain on June 3rd to attend the 15th annual Fish 'n Fun at Edgewater Park. The rain did not dampen the enthusiasm of the attendees and volunteers. Many of the kids seemed to particularly enjoy the chance to handle grubs, worms, blood suckers and minnows. Mike Young demonstrated how well outfitted and comfortable a fishing kayak can be. All enjoyed a lunch of hot dogs, chips, beverages and cookies. Some new fisherman did not let the rain deny them the chance to try out their new rods and reels that were provided.



on shore and on the water instruction in canoe, kayak and stand up paddleboard skills. The clinics were full, and many enjoyed a test paddle with equipment and friendly assistance provided by the able and enthusiastic Beaver Dam Community Activities & Services staff. Overall, the event was a success and should encourage more people to take advantage of the excellent launch and rental availability and get out on Beaver Dam Lake!

Paddle Festival 2017

A strong southwesterly wind welcomed paddlers to the 2nd Great Beaver Paddle Festival on June 10th. Approximately 240 enthusiastic participants came to Waterworks Park to learn paddle sports. Janet Dyskstra from Rutabaga in Madison, assisted by local volunteers, provided



AmericInn
www.americinnbeaverdam.com
PO Box 718
325 Seippel Boulevard
BEAVER DAM
One Mile North of Ruchick's - Behind Heritage Mall - Next to KFC
920-356-9000 • 1-800-634-3444
NEWLY RENOVATED

- Pool / Whirlpool
- Large, Comfortable Rooms
- Suites
- Whirlpool Rooms
- AmericInn Hot Perk Breakfast
- Weekday Manager Specials
- Pool Party Rentals







PLATE SPECIALS SOUPS
SANDWICHES SIDE ORDERS
HO-MADE PIZZA
NOON SPECIALS CARRY OUTS
FRIDAY FISH FRY
1201 Madison St.
Beaver Dam, WI (920) 885-2121
Banquet Facilities—For All Occasions



Rock River
Home Improvement
Co., Inc.

Jack (Buck) Raith
Phone 920-887-1211
Also 920-349-8509 & 920-349-3583
CELL: 920-382-2514

N4525 Hazelwood Road.
Hustisford, WI 53034
www.rrhome.biz

Dodge County Non-Point Runoff Group Moves Forward



Ray Archuleta, a soil expert, showed examples of why we have to focus on no-till farming with multi-species cover crops. He said such practices mimic nature, thus preserving soil and water quality and reducing the need for herbicide, fungicide and fertilizer.

Based on the success of the seminars and the dedication of the organizers, the group is moving forward with not only plans for more activities but also creating an organization to oversee these activities. This structure will be called the Dodge County Alliance for Healthy Soil –Healthy Water.

I am very pleased that BDLIA is involved and active with this group as our long term lake health requires all of us to address the runoff into our streams, rivers and lakes

and to make progress we must all work together, stated Bill Boettge, President of BDLIA.



Shoreline Seminar: From Rip Rap to Native Plantings

Attendees learned how to protect and restore their shorelines

Area residents who own property on the water, (including Beaver Dam Lake, Beaver Creek and Green Lake) enjoyed a Seminar in May on Shoreline Protection at The Watermark.

An informative workshop featuring certified Aquascape Contractor Pat Dixon, and Patrick Goggin UW-Extension Healthy Lakes. Dixon discussed rip rap options for shorelines, taking into consideration the low, moderate or high energy of a property. Actual photos of shoreline erosion helped demonstrate repairs to fix specific areas of damage. For example, the use of jagged rocks that bind together will create a more stable shore.

Participants also learned about animal damage and how to correct sinkhole problems. Natural habitat is encouraged which includes vegetated rip rap such as sedges, bull rushes, irises, etc. Chapter 30 of the WI State Statutes is an important resource for information on natural resource regulations.



A presentation on the Healthy Lakes Initiative was presented by Goggin. He explained the grant program and how to participate.

Check out the BDLIA website, www.bdlia.org for a summary of the seminar which includes links to resources.

Healthy Lakes Project at Edgewater Park

Healthy Lakes uses 5 practices to improve your lake: Fish Sticks, Native Plantings, Diversion, Rock Infiltration and Rain Gardens. Several of these projects have been implemented on Beaver Dam Lake through DNR grant assistance.

A more natural shoreline will attract wildlife and add great color through a wide variety of native species. Plant suggestions are available and help is provided to lay out your planting. This grant program can help with up to \$1,000 of the costs. Applications

are due to BDLIA by February 1, 2018.

Members of BDLIA: Karen Huber and her assistant Connor, Penny and Dennis Pohle, and Bill and Evonne Boettge planted a Healthy Lakes Native Planting project for the City of Beaver Dam at Edgewater Park. Lots of sedges and native grass was used in this very wet area along Beaver Dam Lake. Signage has been installed to help promote the Healthy Lakes Initiative and assist the public in understanding this new garden area on the shore.

Our Supportive Grants




Beaver Dam Bay Marina
W9276 Hwy. G
Beaver Dam, WI
PH: 920-219-9200
FAX: 920-319-4096

www.beaverdambaymarina.com

We are your new local dealer for:
WEERES Pontoons, MIRRORCRAFT Boats
DYNA-SKI Boats, EVINRUDE E-Tec Motors
SEA-LEGS Pontoon Lifts

Sales - Service - Storage - Rentals - Slips - Fuel
Trailers - Piers - Lifts

EXECUTIVE LEVEL



Bill & Evonne Boettge



Beaver Dam Bass Anglers Fishing Club



David Geschke
AAMS®, CLU®, ChFC®
Financial Advisor



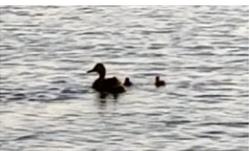
Duane & Kathleen Foulkes Foundation



John & Marge Haider



Willow Shores LLC








As a conference attendee and presenter in my previous life, I have attended many technical conferences related to manufacturing, sustainability, computational analysis and metallurgy. The Lakes Conference *Minding Our Waters* was my first time as a volunteer conference goer whose new interest is lake life.

The very first thing that caught my attention was the artwork. Immediately, I was transfixed by the clever use of tying the quiet thoughts of the figure to the waves created by her hair for wildlife, swimming, fishing and habitat. Throughout the conference there were references to the blue mind effect of water—the calming effect. In an early session, we were asked to reflect upon that place we think of from the early times of our lives as “our” water. For me, it was the Rock River where I grew up in Illinois. It was a great way to engage brains into focus for the conference topic. There were many conference sessions to attend from the deeply technical, Evalua-

tion of Management Techniques for Starry Stonewort, to broader more idea exchange sessions like the County-wide Lake Association Round Table. Several sessions dove into case study examples from specific areas including the Kangaroo Lake Preservation and Restoration and our own BDLIA’s Carolyn Aita’s talk on *Creating a Healthy Lakes Rain Garden*. To see the full list of conference sessions, go to <https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/convention/2017/default.aspx>.

As with most conferences, it is a great chance for networking—making new contacts and renewing old acquaintances, and talking about common issues and solutions. It was a perfect way to educate and engage a novice like me. I will be anxious to see how the 2018 conference shapes up and engages its attendees.

The 2018 conference will be April 18-20. BDLIA members are encouraged to attend. Call 920-356-1200 for more information.

BDLIA Membership at Work

In May, the committee selected four neighborhoods to canvas for new members and tell them about the benefits of lake association membership. BDLIA is always looking to grow our membership and find new volunteers. All members should have received your dues invoices for the 2017-18 membership year. Please return as soon as possible.

Membership dues are kept low so that we can continue to grow our numbers, but donations are always very much appreciated to help fund the activities of the association. BDLIA is fortunate to have generous, committed members. Please take a moment to view the volunteer form on our website at <http://www.bdlia.org/volunteer> and send it in with your membership dues.

We would also like to thank our members for their support by organizing, volunteering or attending an event, especially the annual fundraising banquet.

Lastly, the Membership Committee and the Executive Committee is planning the Annual Meeting which will be held August 26 at the Conservationist Club from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Please join us this year as a volunteer at one of our many events, or serve one of the five standing committees that direct the activities of BDLIA. At the annual meeting in August we will be electing five of our 11 directors. Help shape the future of Beaver Dam Lake, step forward as a nominee for one of these seats. For more information on your service to the Lake and Association call 920-356-1200.

The 2014 Lake Management Plan offered BDLIA a broad array of valuable information for our Lake and surrounding watershed. Using this Plan we gathered more specific data to focus on water and land health. Expanded water sampling found that phosphorus levels were rather high which are classified by WDNR as Poor Quality. The habitat for fish and game was also in a deteriorating condition with the carp population higher than desirable. These changes occurred over a long period of time so each aspect slowly evolved in our environment.

BDLIA understood that any corrective measures would require the gathering of fact-based data in a scientific manner for presentation to WDNR.

We have been fortunate to be supported in our efforts by the University of Wisconsin Water Resources Management (WRM) Program from the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies. A Group of fifteen master’s students initiated research on our lake and Beaver Creek last October. They have been gathering water and sediment samples while assessing the physical condition of the area. This more specific data will form the foundation for future programs for the Improvement of Beaver Dam Lake and watershed. Looking back at our recent history it became clear that without a program of corrective measures and community participation the lake would age and diminish in its benefits over time.

As you see the WRM students please feel to stop and chat, ask about the project and any ways you can get involved!

From WRM Students:

Starting last fall, the 15 of us began our research in the Beaver Dam Lake watershed, with a focus on the Beaver Creek sub-watershed. We split into groups covering land use and erosion on privately owned uplands (Upland); phosphorous, sediment, macroinvertebrates and habitat in Beaver Creek (Stream); phosphorous and carp, wind and wave impacts on nutrients in Beaver Dam Lake (Lake); and outreach and engagement with landowners and citizens (Stakeholders). Each group has been working to gain insights on priorities for efforts to improve water quality.

The Upland group collected geographic data on crops, elevation and watersheds to run a program called EVAAL (Erosion Vulnerability Assessment for Agricultural Lands), which was created to reveal soil erosion hotspots. The EVAAL model determines priority areas where soil in fields is vulnerable to erosion. The Upland group will visit several sites identified as vulnerable in the watershed to field verify the model and observe runoff patterns. They have also met with county agronomists and conservationists to share these results and are currently working on next steps, which will include soil sampling for phosphorus in EVAAL “hotspots”.

The Stream group is sampling water quality and regime flow during low flow and storm events to understand changes over time in Beaver Creek. They recently installed an IS-CO water quality sampling device to track phosphorus loads during storm events. They carried out a macroinvertebrate survey to

better understand the health of aquatic communities in the creek. Their next steps are to take sediment cores from Beaver Creek to learn how much phosphorus is stored in the creek and its potential for moving into Beaver Dam Lake.

The group focusing on Beaver Dam Lake is measuring wind speed and sampling water for turbidity and phosphorus approximately every other week. This will provide another quality data set for nutrients in the lake for the 2017 growing season. They are also re-searching the impacts of wind, boats and carp on sediment disturbance, which results in phosphorus resuspension in the water column, leading to algae blooms. Over the past month we have also had the opportunity to meet with landowners that are farming and living in the Beaver Creek Watershed. At these meetings we talk about the landowner’s priorities for the creek and the lake, the management practices they are already utilizing to protect local waterways and the barriers preventing them from trying new practices. Talking directly with landowners allows us to make sure we truly understand the communities around Beaver Dam Lake and Beaver Creek so that our recommendations can be in-line with local values, priorities and actions. If you have received a letter from us inviting you to a meeting, please consider reaching out so that we have the chance to talk before the end of the project. The more interviews we can do, the more effective our recommendations will be.

Summary: The WRM Program presents us with a wealth of data and research that will allow our community to make decisions for the future of our lake and the surrounding habitat. Our thoughtful action plan will have a significant impact on the health of our land and water, as well as the quality of the natural areas that we leave to our next generation.

DIRECTOR LEVEL

 Nancy's Notions Karen Huber	 Jerry & Nicki Hupf	 Duane & Deb Beekman	 Fish Farm, Inc.
 Dan & Karla Hupf	 Bill & Linda Foley	 Bob Roell	 Tim & Terry Hupf
 James Brozek	 John's LLC	 Mike Ptaschinski	 Automated Pet Care



Best Dam Bait

BETTER BAIT = MORE FISH!

24/7 Self Service

A variety of bait at good prices!

**1227 Madison St.,
Beaver Dam, WI
608-609-2707**

The American National Bank

Caring for the financial needs of the citizens and businesses of our community since 1891

- Three convenient Beaver Dam Offices
- Full Service Banking 7 days a week

**When you bank with us,
We know you'll feel...
RIGHT At Home!**

FDIC www.anbnet.com

