



BEAVER DAM LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. NEWSLETTER

February 2021
VOL. 20, Issue 1

Building Our Lake Community Through Engagement

Inside:

Get Your Feet Wet -
Page 2

A Tribute to John
Moser - Page 2

Update on BD Lake
District - Page 3

Be Salt Wise -
Page 3

Just a Day in the
Lake - Page 4

Catalog Dreamin' -
Page 6

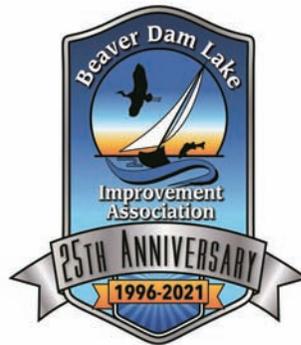
How the HS/HW
Alliance Impacts
BD Lake - Page 7

Wisconsin Water
Week - Page 8



There are a few things many of us may have learned through the COVID-19 pandemic. (1) None of us have ever experienced a pandemic nor imagined the changes it would make in our lives. (2) We are resilient people, especially when we buckle down. (3) Because we humans are social creatures, we became a bit stir crazy during the lockdown.

BDLIA tried to provide some outlets for all these things during the past year including online activities and finding a substitute for our cancelled in-person fundraising banquet by trying something new and creative to fill the void - an online auction. The auction



had a two-fold benefit - fun for the participants and raising funds for BDLIA to continue to function as a nonprofit organization.

You can pencil in the 2021 Annual Fundraising Banquet for **Monday, May 17, 2021**. We are hopeful the

vaccination process will reach many, if not all of us by this date and allow us to host this social event. We are preparing a Plan A and Plan B to make sure everyone is safe and stays healthy. An event like this cannot be successful without behind the scenes and banquet night volunteers. We have also taken this into consideration by selecting this date.

In the meantime, we hope to continue to host some additional online auctions using 32 auctions, so please keep your eyes open for these opportunities and be part of the BDLIA community.

Hope to see you on May 17!

PRESIDENTIAL LEVEL



Check out our website

www.bdlia.org

OFFICE

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

Beaver Dam
Lake Improvement Assn.



Get Your Feet Wet

Join your fellow BDLIA members at events this summer as a volunteer at one or all of our projects: Fish & Fun, The Great Beaver Paddle, Lake Days Cardboard Boat Race and pontoon rides. Volunteers are needed to help with activities at these and in other capacities throughout the year.

You can have a blast with the kids at Fish & Fun - a free, educational event held annually the first Saturday in June (June 5). We need group leaders, lunch workers, registration, set up, and cleanup at Edgewater Park.

At the paddling event on June 12, volunteers staff the registration table, help with instructions, signage, and other miscellaneous tasks at Waterworks Park.

The Cardboard Boat Race needs judges, material handlers, staging assistance, and registration. Want to escort riders on your pontoon boat around the lake? It's a great way to play tour guide and give people a chance to discover a lake they may never have seen from the water. Location: Tahoe Park.

Volunteers are the strength of BDLIA. From Board members to fishing instructors; without your help we couldn't manage. THANK YOU to everyone who helps with anything – we appreciate you!

For more information about how you can help or participate in these events, contact the BDLIA office at 356-1200 or bdliainc@yahoo.com



Citizens interested in monitoring in Dodge County can contact Becca at becca@rockrivercoalition.org Many streams in Dodge County are unmonitored and volunteers are needed to collect data. It only takes a few hours a month for monitoring from May to October.

A Tribute to John Moser

On January 14 we lost long-time BDLIA supporter John Moser. John was such a true, committed friend to BDLIA, and we need to take some time to honor John's memory.

John was the emcee at our annual fundraising banquets (top photo John is holding the microphone). His smile and humor were infectious. When we were testing out our new process to pull buoys in the lake, John was there (bottom photo John is on the right). He was a valued member of our Lake Management Committee — questioning when he did not understand and offering additional perspectives. He always was engaged and anxious to do whatever he could for Beaver Dam Lake.

Rest in peace, John, and thank you for sharing with us your life well lived.





Update on the Beaver Dam Lake District

The Beaver Dam Lake District was established by a vote of the Dodge County Board on March 17, 2020 as Resolution 19-63. The County Board then appointed five initial commissioners with the responsibility to get the district up and running. The Wisconsin State Statutes provide excellent guidance and identifies the required initial tasks and the preliminary operating structure for a lake district. In order to fund these requirements, a special assessment was extended, for an 18-month period, until a budget could be adopted at the first annual meeting.

On November 10, 2020 Dodge County Circuit Court Judge Martin De Vries dismissed an appeal that was filed earlier in the year challenging the formation of the Beaver Dam Lake District. He indicated in his decision that there was no case against the formation of the Lake District and that

the District had been legally established following the guidelines established by the State of Wisconsin. With the law suit settled, the five appointed commissioners will continue to manage the affairs of the Lake District.

Because of COVID-19 restrictions the first annual meeting was postponed, until the summer of 2021, with the initial period running until December 31, 2021. At the summer 2021 annual meeting, three commissioners will be elected and the proposed budget for 2022 will be reviewed and voted upon.

One of the important tasks completed during this start-up phase was the development of a District website which can be accessed at info@bdlakedistrict.org. Please check out the website and become familiar with the important efforts being taken to be good stewards of the waters and lands.

Be Salt Wise

We rely on salt to keep our roads safe in the winter and to soften our homes year-round, but using more salt than needed comes with a heavy price.

Once salt is in the environment, it does not go away. It ends up in our lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands putting aquatic life at risk and endangering the natural ecosystem of our lakes. It only takes one teaspoon of salt to pollute five gallons of water to a level that is toxic to freshwater ecosystems.

Believe it or not, a 12 oz. cup of salt is enough to treat an entire 20-foot driveway or 10 sidewalk squares. Scatter salt leaving space between the grains.

Learn more about being “salt wise” at <https://www.wisaltwise.com/>

BEAVER DAM SENIOR CENTER WOODSHOP

15% Off*

Our specialty is bird houses and feeders, but we also custom make projects upon request. All of our products are on display and can be purchased at The Watermark, 209 South Center St. Call for more details at 920-887-4639.

***Bring in this ad to receive 15% off one product.**

GRANDSTAY HOTEL & SUITES

grandstayahospitality.com/find-a-hotel/locations/beaver-dam
325 Seippel Boulevard

BEAVER DAM

One mile North of Rechek's - Behind Heritage Village Shops
920.356.9000 • 1-800-634-3444

NEWLY RENOVATED

- Pool/Whirlpool
- Large, Comfortable Rooms
- Suites
- Whirlpool Rooms
- Free Breakfast
- Weekday Manager Specials
- Pool Party Rentals

NOW OPEN

OOGA BREWING CO.

BEAVER DAM, WISCONSIN

301 S. SPRING STREET

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

Hammes Fire & Safety
Residential & Commercial

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

Free Estimates!

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

Rock River Home Improvement Co., Inc.

Jack (Buck) Raith
Phone 920-887-1211
Also 920-349-8335 & 920-925-3189
CELL: 920-382-2514

W4756 Cty Rd. ME
Hustisford, WI 53034
www.rrhome.biz



Just a Day in the Lake

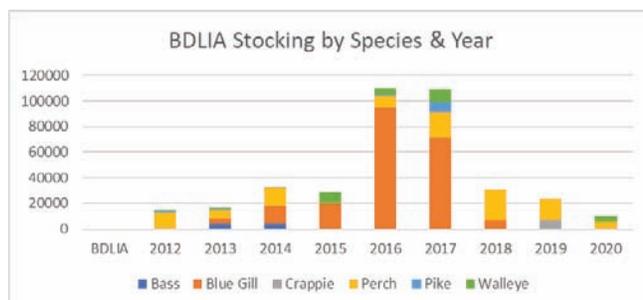
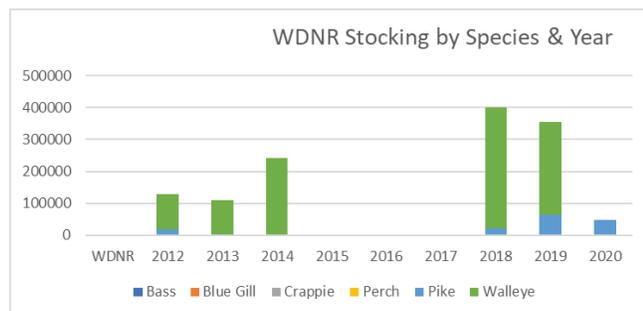
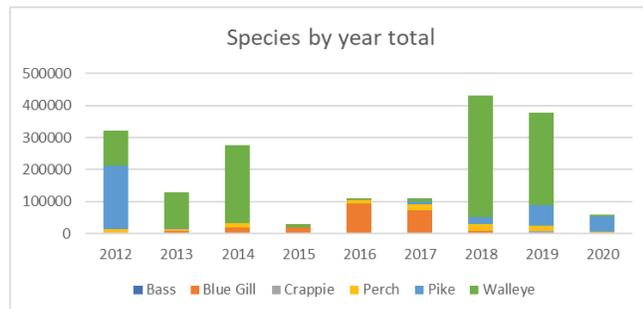
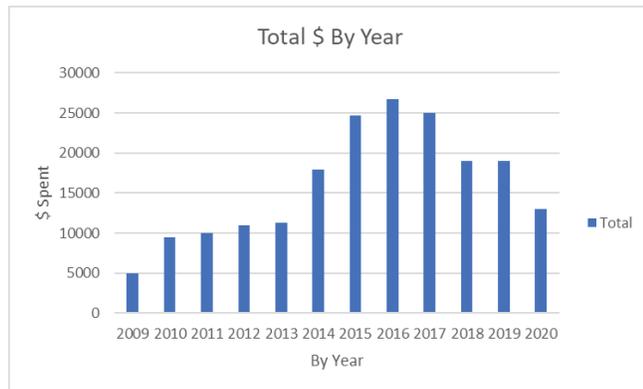


Maybe on a cool, cloudy day in September you saw some guys just standing in the lake and wondered what they were doing. Turns out, they had a purpose and do this once a year to get an unofficial status of how our fishery is doing. This is the fourth consecutive year that the survey has been done by Greg Seegert and the Fish Committee - Pete Hupf, Ken Schmidt, and Mike Gade.

So, why do we do this? Every year Beaver Dam Lake is stocked with various species of fish and this is our unofficial method of determining what the impact of the stocking is. Is this only a “Put and Take” lake or are we growing/sustaining our populations? Findings this year support that bluegill and perch are stable and the walleye are under pressure.



The other half of the equation is the fish stocking that is done every year on Beaver Dam Lake. Typically, the annual BDLIA fundraising banquet funds the bulk of this effort but for 2020, the fishers on BD Lake are benefitting not only from the \$5,000 BDLIA contribution, but also the \$5,000 contribution from Lake Development Corporation (LDC), and \$3,000 from Walleye Wednesdays. The following are some charts indicating the stocking that has been done on our lake for the past few years - based on dollars, numbers by specie from WDNR, and numbers by specie from BDLIA.



This wraps up a look at where the bulk of our fundraising dollars go and how we spot check to see how our fishery is doing.



September BDLIA Seining Survey Results

Species	Young of the Year				Juveniles and Adults			
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bluegill	72	1150	238	699	15	15	7	13
Black Crappie	4	14	495	139	37	10	6	14
White Crappie	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	1
LM Bass	10	44	118	12	8	4	7	23
Pumpkinseed	31	250	100	134	58	22	15	17
Yellow Perch	0	67	1	19	8	0	0	0
Black Bullhead	0	1	0	0	162	4	0	0
Yellow Bullhead	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
Brown Bullhead	0	0	0	0	1	7	0	0
White Sucker	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0
Northern Pike	0	0	0	3	8	1	0	0
Walleye	0	2	10	2	0	0	0	1
Bowfin (Dogfish)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Green Sunfish	0	0	2	3	0	1	0	1
Common Carp	0	5	24	40	8	11	8	2
Big Mouth Buffalo	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0
Catfish	0	0	1	2	19	0	1	0
Shiner			0	4			5	0
Flathead			0				1	0

Seining Locations

2017	2018/2019/2020
Derge Park	Derge Park
Jumpers	Jumpers (TJ)
Edgewater Park	Edgewater Park
Fish Camp	Fish Camp
Airport Rd.	Randolph Long Bridge
Mill Rd.	Cousin's Court
Hickory Pt.	Beaver Cr. @ FW

DIRECTOR LEVEL

YOUR TOWN'S NEWS TODAY'S BEST CHOICE
1430 95.3
 WBVE WXRO
 DAILY DODGE.com

Dr. & Mrs. Charles Frinak

Ken Schmidt



Dan & Karla Hupf



Bill & Linda Foley

Total Business Products, Inc.

Fred Kaping



Duane & Deb Beekman



Tim & Terry Hupf



Gary & June Ehn



Kenn & Barb Ferron



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

Ron & Paula Marach



Catalog Dreamin' by Carolyn Aita

...on such a winter's day.* The time of year between longing for spring and its arrival is dangerous for gardeners. It is the season of catalog dreaming. We want everything on those newly-minted glossy pages. Hoping to banish the season's bleakness, we go overboard with mid-winter purchases. But this year I'll dream sensibly and ask, "What do I want to grow this season that builds on what's already sleeping under the snow?" We like to watch (me) and photograph (husband Mike) plant-insect interactions. With this in mind, I'll place a small mid-winter order for "must-haves." Here's my plan, shared with you, gentle reader, before a single catalog has arrived.



BUMBLE BEE ON BAPTISIA

Baptisias or wild indigos are bushy legumes with pea-like flowers that only the largest bees can pry open for nectar and pollen. Blue wild indigo and white wild indigo consistently attract common Eastern and two-spotted bumble bees to our garden. This season's must-have is cream wild indigo, smaller in stature than its cousins but big on floral display. It is touted to lure the endangered rusty patched bumble bee seen around the neighborhood.

Milkweeds host egg-laying monarchs and provide the sole food, pardon the pun, for their hungry caterpillars.



WASP AND BEE ON SWAMP MILKWEED

Swamp milkweed readily self-sows and volunteers everywhere in our garden. It lures all manner of insect to easily accessible vanilla-scented nectar. (Trivia factoid: There is no loose pollen treat for insects on any milkweed. Pollen is enclosed in sacs that are transported intact between plants on pollinators' legs.) Twelve milkweed species are native to Wisconsin (wimonarchs.org); we already grow six and the other six are must-haves.

Blazingstars are the ultimate butterfly magnets. In our garden, it is not unusual to see monarchs, swallowtails, painted ladies, and red-spotted purples



MONARCH AND SWALLOWTAIL ON MEADOW BLAZINGSTAR

dining together on meadow blazingstar's five-foot long floral spikes. Six species of these uniquely showy plants are native to Wisconsin: three like wet feet, three like dry feet, and all are fussy about where they are planted. Even so, blazingstars are must-haves. We will order whatever species are on those glossy pages and be mindful about plant placement this year.

Anise hyssop is aptly named for the licorice scent emitted from its leaves and blooms. It readily self-sows in our garden to form three-foot high bushy plants with fragrant lavender spikes full of much-accessed nectar and pollen. That's nice but here's more. At the UW Arboretum, we walked through a grove of six-foot tall giant purple hyssop (the flowers look white!) filled with feasting rusty patched bumble bees. Now that's a must-have for our garden.



TWO SPOTTED BB ON HYSSOP

Of course, let's be realistic. Resolved as I might be right now, I won't stop mid-winter shopping with these few selections. Just as soon as those catalogs arrive...but you know how that goes.

*We of a certain age will recognize this play on the song California Dreamin', a fine expression of the season's mood.



How the Healthy Soil-Healthy Water Alliance Impacts Beaver Dam Lake

Five years ago individuals from Dodge County lakes, farming, and state/county offices gathered to work together for solutions to build soil and water health. On January 11, 2021 the Dodge County for Healthy Soil - Healthy Water Alliance held its annual meeting to review 2020 achievements and discuss goals for 2021.

Research and studies done by BDLIA have provided evidence that the major source of phosphorus (which produces algae) in our lake is runoff from agriculture and lakeshore properties. The Alliance is a community of farmers, lake property owners, and government agencies working to further practices that measurably reduce the amount of nutrients flowing into our water, thus improving water quality.

Key accomplishments for 2020 included:

- Increased cover crop acreage substantially by working closely with the Dodge County HS/HW Farmers Group and with additional funding support from the Fox Lake District
- A pilot project was started to evaluate the effectiveness of using blast furnace slag to reduce phosphorus from agricultural runoff

- Co-sponsored a cover crop showcase to allow the lake communities and others to view conservation practices being implemented on the farm
 - Launched “Love Your Lake” program to aid lake property owners to maintain their properties in a manner that protects our lakes
 - Created a comprehensive website, an Alliance brochure, and a quarterly e-newsletter. See healthysoilhealthywater.org
- An ambitious program for 2021 includes:
- Complete work on developing a conservation addendum to farmland leases
 - Support the Dodge County HS/HW Farmers Group with their educational programs including the Soil Health Expo on February 10, 2021
 - Continue to strengthen the Alliance support of cover crop programs with additional funding and marketing support
 - Develop additional community outreach programs regarding healthy soil – healthy water with

events such as Pontoon Rides for Farmers, Lunch on the Farm, and an Achievement and Recognition Event

The Alliance is committed to build a community dedicated to soil and water health and invite you to join and participate in our events and attend our monthly meeting.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND ADVERTISERS!

PLEASE SUPPORT THEM IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE!



EXECUTIVE LEVEL

Bill & Evonne Boettge

Karen Huber

Duane & Kathleen Foulkes Foundation, Inc.

Jerry & Nicki Hupf



Marion Gade & Family



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



John & Marge Haider

Frank Mittelstadt



Bob Roell



At American Bank, we know you're busy!

That's why we offer you convenient options such as two drive-up locations - both with extended hours, a drive-up ATM and the only bank with Sunday hours in Beaver Dam. Come see us when you need us, we'll be here!

920.885.2700
americanbankbd.com

American Bank
Member FDIC



PO Box 33
Beaver Dam, WI 53916

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Reminder:

Renew Your Membership or Join Today! Call (920) 356-1200



Wisconsin Water Week - March 8-12

Typically held as an in-person convention, for 2020 due to the pandemic, the team created a professional virtual event in record time. With time to prepare for this year's event, it should be an awesome week of learning and networking. Virtual conferences will never be able to replace spur of the moment hallway conversations and networking opportunities, but they are still a great chance to stay current on issues impacting our waterways.

The first three days of Water Week will focus on major aspects of Wisconsin's water system.

- ◆ Monday will emphasize Water Cycles - groundwater and climate
- ◆ Tuesday will explore Water Bodies - science of monitoring & evaluating water health
- ◆ Wednesday will focus on Water Actions - examples and stories from the field
- ◆ Thursday's programming will be built around major watersheds with place-based conferences
- ◆ Friday will be outlining action plans for spring and summer 2021

Here's the link for the most current information: <https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/convention/default.aspx>

