# Spring 2020



The Lake Beauty Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting, preserving and enhancing the quality of the environment and life experiences in and around our area.

Be sure to visit our website at www.lakebeauty.org.

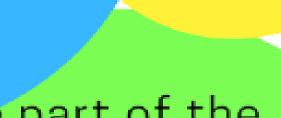
AUGUST

8th

9AM

2020 LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING AND POT LUCK

LAKE BEAUTY BIBLE CAMP 25766 HUMMINGBIRD TR





# Be part of the conversation!

- Updates from this past year
- What's coming up
- Election of officers
- Presentation by the DNR
- Catch up with the neighbors
- POT LUCK to follow the meeting
  - Brats, dogs, buns and condiments provided by camp
  - Bring something to share and your favorite soft drink

EOR INFORMATION: KATHY AT (820) 782-8122 BRIAN AT (820) 219 3199



### Let's All Pitch In

Just like last year, May 15<sup>th</sup> the Lake Beauty Association Board, Lake Beauty Bible Camp and other residents picked up trash and trimmed the trees at our

boat landing. We also had 2 truckloads of dirt brought in to fill the numerous holes at the landing. Thank you Brian and the Lake Beauty staff who grated the whole area. We will be having a porta potty again this year at the landing and the DNR will be hanging additional signs regarding the fines in place for littering. Special thanks to all residents who continue to pick up trash on our roads around the lake!

### July 4th!

The Lake Beauty Bible Camp is hopeful to once again provide July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities



including dinner at the camp followed by a spectacular fireworks show; however due to COVID-19, **nothing has been finalized.** More details will be forthcoming.



Come join our Lake Beauty Book Club! For more information, call Carol Jones at 320-267-7857.



Be aware that anyone younger than 18 years old MUST wear a helmet while riding a motorized vehicle or risk a ticket.



Our online store will be open the first three weeks of July, October and April. We have new apparel options and colors! Go to www.lakebeauty.org July 1<sup>st</sup> to buy your new Lake

Beauty logo wear!



Lak	e B	eauty
lce	Out	Dates

2019 2018 2017 2016 2015 2014 2013	Tue Mar 22 Sun Apr 5 Thu April 24 Fri May 10
	Tue March 20



Each time a boat comes in and out of the water; boaters must clean aquatic plants and debris from watercraft, drain lake water and dispose of unwanted bait in the trash. Keep the drain plug out and water draining devices open while transporting watercraft. Everyone in the boat should wear a life jacket and children fishing off a dock should wear a lifejacket as well. It is especially vital during the cold water season to ensure an unexpected fall into the water doesn't turn tragic. With everything happening around COVID-19, the DNR has not had the opportunity to train boat inspectors or give a date when inspectors will be allowed to work at lake accesses. WaterGuards inspectors are trained and allowed to work now. Other inspectors must be trained; therefore, we may see a delay and fewer inspectors working at the Lake Beauty boat landing this season. *WaterGuards, LLC* 

Minnesota's lakes are home to many species of wildlife. From our famous loons and bald eagles to muskrats, otters and frogs, wildlife is an important part of our relationship with lakes. In fact, Minnesota's abundant wildlife can be attributed largely to our wealth of surface water. From small marshes to large lakes, these waters are essential to the survival of wildlife.

The most important wildlife habitat begins at the shoreline. The more natural the shoreline, with trees, shrubs and herbaceous vegetation, the more likely that wildlife will be there. Just as important is the shallow water zone close to shore. Cattail, bulrush, and wild rice along the shoreline provide both feeding and nesting areas for wildlife. Underwater vegetation is also important to wildlife for many portions of their life cycle, including breeding and rearing of their young.

Lake Beauty is traditionally home to a couple pair of loons each summer. Bald eagles are often seen poised in trees along the Lake's shoreline, hunting for fish, muskrats, turtles and other wildlife. Bank beaver have on occasion taken down trees along the shore and flocks of Canada geese can be viewed grazing on lawns.

Lake Beauty has a fish stocking history dating back to 1913. Various sizes and life stages of northern pike, largemouth bass, crappies, and sunfish were stocked from 1925 to 1979. No northern pike have been stocked since 1979. Consistent walleye stocking commenced in 1980. Walleye fingerlings have been stocked every odd numbered year since 1981. *Lake Service Provider Training Manual 2.1 - 2012 Edition. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and Minnesota Waters* 

The Minnesota DNR resources cancelled its 2020 egg take operations for walleye, northern pike, muskellunge and steelhead because the work cannot be done safely under COVID-19 social distancing guidelines. *DNR News release* 4/14/20

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first few weeks of life. Instead, they remain still to avoid being seen. During these times, fawns are learning critical survival skills from their mothers but are often left on their own while their mothers are foraging nearby. Be as-



sured, deer fawns are fine even if they look abandoned or fragile. Minnesota Department of Natural resources

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) are typically held in check and controlled by predators, parasites, pathogens, or competi-

tors; however, when they are transported to a new environment, the natural checks are usually left behind. Below are examples. Eurasian watermilfoil was accidentally introduced to North America from Europe. It spread inland by boats and water birds and reached Midwestern states between the 1950s and 1980s. Milfoil forms vast mats of densely tangled stems and vegetation. It interferes with water recreation and crowds out important native water plants.

Purple loosestrife is a wetland plant from Europe and Asia. It was introduced into the East Coast of North America in the 1800s and now it's in 40 states and all Canadian border provinces. Purple loosestrife forms thick, impenetrable stands, which are unsuitable as cover, food, or nesting sites for a wide range of native animals including ducks, geese, frogs, toads, and turtles. Eradicating an established stand is difficult because of an enormous number of seeds in the soil. One adult plant can disperse 2 million seeds annually. A major reason for the plant's expansion is a lack of effective predators in North America.

Zebra and quagga mussels are animals with two shells and relatives of clams and oysters. Zebra mussels are native to the Black and Caspian Seas. They were discovered in the Great Lakes in 1988 and have since spread to 26 U.S. states. Quagga mussels are native to the Dnieper River Drainage in the Ukraine, and were first found in the Great Lakes in 1989. These animals reproduce quickly. A single female mussel can produce up to one million eggs a year! They clog water infrastructure by attaching to most underwater structures and form dense clusters that impair facilities and impede the flow of water. They alter the taste and smell of drinking water. These species remove large amounts of microscopic plants and animals that form the base of the food chain, reducing available food for native aquatic species. The mussels damage boats and their sharp shells cut swimmer's feet, beach goers, and dogs. They are difficult to kill and have a significant economic impact. In the Great Lakes area alone, maintenance costs in water treatment plants, power plant intakes and dams have been in the billions of dollars.

#### Lake Beauty's History

Like many of the lakes in the State of Minnesota, Lake Beauty was likely formed by glacial activity that invaded Minnesota on four different occasions, the last of which originated out of Canada's Hudson Bay area. The mixture and overlapping of these glacial flows produced hardwood timber in the western regions of the State with pine trees in eastern regions. The large meadows were, in ancient days, lakes fed by these glaciers as they melted.

When the Native Americans eventually inhabited the area in and around Todd County, it was the Sioux who initially held possession of the lands. During the early years of the nineteenth century, this territory became the disputed battleground between the Sioux and the Chippewa. The Long Prairie River, which flows north through the heart of Todd County, was described by Henry Schoolcraft, when he traveled through the region in 1832, as "the war road between the Chippewa and the Sioux." Of the two rivals, the Chippewa proved more powerful. When the first white men ventured into the area, it was the Chippewa tribe that generally occupied the land surrounding Lake Beauty.

Land in Todd County was eventually ceded to the United States, August 31, 1847, by the 'Hole In The Day Treaty' (Chief of the Chippewa Nation) of Fon du Lac. In 1858 (11 years later) Lake Beauty, along with the surrounding territory, was surveyed by United States Surveyors. When that was completed (in 1860) the homestead law became effective. This law authorized U.S. Citizens to acquire 160 acres just by living on a parcel of land for five years.

As with much of the wilderness that comprises the Northwest Regions of Canada and the United States, its history can be traced through the expansion of the fur trade. Joe Rolette was instrumental in fur trading of the upper Mississippi, which included Todd County. Logging began replacing fur trading in the 1800's. In addition to the home-stead law, the U.S. government also enacted legislation to encourage development of the newly acquired wilderness area by railroad and lumber companies. Odd numbered sections of land were indentured to railroad companies and even numbered sections to lumber companies. The majority of the land that surrounds the north side of Lake Beauty was part of this land grant of odd numbered sections that went to the Northern Pacific Railroad. Much of the land in Bruce Township, in the mid-1800's, was believed to be owned by lumbermen who lived in Minneapolis. Jonathan Chase, one of these Minneapolis lumbermen, received title to a parcel of land in 1867 known as Lake Beauty Bible Camp's Wilderness Property.

The first settler to homestead land in Bruce Township was Ambrose Gibson, born in England. Bruce Township was a wilderness. Deer and moose were plentiful and there were many bear. Earlier there had been elk, but they had moved west before whites arrived. Travel was by ox carts, not horses. Foot travel was still the best means of getting around, even during the winter months.

When the Civil War broke out in 1861 and the Sioux uprising took place in 1862, many of the settlers moved to Little Falls for protection. The Indians outnumbered the whites 20 or 30 to 1. When the settlers returned late in 1862 and 1863, there was nothing left. Practically all the buildings had been torn down and the lumber hauled away. Settlers had to start building all over again.

The real settlement of Todd County began in 1866, at the close of the Civil War when soldiers and others immigrated into the area. Prior to this time, there were only three or four families who lived along the road between Little Falls and Long Prairie. These were thought to be the only families living in the entire region. There were no white folks living north of the County at this time.

For a while, the Government protected the lands in the area, but later decided to transfer title to the Long Prairie Land Company of Cincinnati, Ohio. For upwards of forty years, this company continued to gain increasing titles to properties in the area, which it sold to settlers. In 1870, practically all the even-numbered sections in the North half of the County were owned by lumber companies and other non-resident speculators; the majority of all the oddnumbered sections were owned by the Northern Pacific Railway. All lands acquired had to be bought from these companies. This was the end of free homesteads.

The Jay Cook Panic in 1872 and the grasshopper plague in 1876 put a damper on everything. The result was that the railroads and large landowners lost heavily. Land, when it opened up again, sold very cheap, resulting in an influx of settlers. In the early 1880's things took a turn for the better and settlers swarmed in to buy.

It was during this time (the mid-1880's) that the magnificent White Pine around Lake Beauty and the surrounding area attracted the attention of the State of Minnesota. It was proposed that a State Park be established that would include a series of five lakes: Lake Beauty would define its northern border and Long Lake, its southern border. The idea never materialized and the heavily timbered lands were sold to the lumber barons. The pine that covered most of Bruce Township saw successful mills spring up in the area. But the real lumbering in Bruce Township was done at Lake Beauty.

Around the year 1880, LaHatte and Velie established a saw mill on the west shore of Lake Beauty. Together with a mill on Coal Lake, these two mills cut from a half-million to a million feet of lumber a year for nearly ten years. Another logging operation (Pendegast, Bridgman and Whipple) who possessed ample means, erected a second large mill at the southeast point of Lake Beauty. The Pendegast Mill proceeded to buy up all the timber around the Velie and LaHatte Mill and the two gentlemen were left with no choice but to close down operations. By the early 1890's most of the prime timber was gone. The timber barons then disposed of the land for whatever they could get.

According to the Winnebago Indian Census conducted in 1894, the Native American population accounted for over two-thirds of the total population in Todd County - approximately 3,000 people. By comparison, the city of St. Paul, at this time, had a population of approximately 750 people.

It wasn't until February 20, 1920, that the Northern Pacific Railroad Company entered into a contract agreement to sell a tract of land, along the west shoreline of Lake Beauty (north of the former Velie and LaHatte Mill ) to Howard Hamlin of Long Prairie. The Hamlin family would operate a small dairy farm on this tract of land for nearly a half-century. They milked the cows by hand, and cultivated corn, grain and other crops by using a team of draft horses. When the draft horses were unharnessed at the end of a summer's day, they would roll in the water by Lake Beauty's shoreline. Bucketed water from Lake Beauty was used to wash clothes and Howard ran a trap line to supplement the family's income.



Howard Hamlin bringing in hay with the team, circa 1920

Howard's aunt, Nellie, who never married, lived in a log cabin located just south of Howard's home. Nellie basically raised Howard from his teen years to adulthood. (Howard's parents were unavailable.) Howard and Mary (Howard's wife) had two daughters, Evelyn and Hazel. When the Hamlin family's log cabin was destroyed by fire,



Nellie's log home

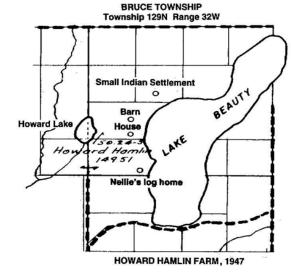
Rod and Nancy Miley and Thomas and Joanne Elwell. In 1960 Lake Beauty Bible Camp, Inc. purchased tax forfeited land, bordering the former location of the Hamlin farmstead. In subsequent years, the Camp purchased portions of the Hamlin farmstead (to the north) and Hillary's former tavern (to the south). Before the Camp could welcome its first campers, the lake along the waterfront had to be dredged to remove the years of sawdust that had been disposed of by the logging mill.

Todd County Histories, Bicentennial Committee, Garry Gamble, , Aug. 2002, Initiative Foundation Proposal, 2002

Howard and his family moved in with Nellie. To the north of the Hamlin's farmstead, a small Native American village resided at Lake Beauty.

Mary passed away in 1944, preceded by Howard, who died in 1958. The land was then sold to Hazel, and her husband, Frank Sadlovsky. Frank and Hazel continued to farm the property until, like many farmers; they came on hard times and decided to sell. The land was then bought by Mr. Melquist who sold to Kenneth and Phyllis Stevens. The Steven's family developed the first subdi-

vision, which consisted of thirteen-second tier lakeside lots. The Stevens family eventually sold to



## Lake Beauty Association Memberships



We currently have a total of **43 Lake Beauty Association memberships and 5 businesses**, which is almost triple from thee years ago and higher than any year since the inception of the Association in 1991 (29 years)! **Thank you for your membership!** Without each and every one of you, this association would not be possible. Multiple families gave more than our annual \$35 dues this past year and Eric and Kara Fink not only gave their annual membership, but donated an additional \$500 to the organization! Thank you Eric and Kara Fink for your generous support!!

### Why Become a Lake Beauty Association Member?

You'll be part of a committed group of residents who value our lake and understand its fragile nature. We not only connect with our neighbors, but we also take action to protect our beautiful community. Your membership will:

- Monitor the condition of the lake
- Develop lake management plans
- Work cooperatively for the purpose of improving and protecting the health of the lake and impact on its users
- Provide opportunities to educate and inform property owners and the public about issues that may affect the quality of life on and surrounding the lake
- Work with the MN DNR to improve fish habitat
- Serve as an organized voice with township and county governments
- Proactively prevent future lake problems
- Connect and socialize with neighbors
- Be part of all the accomplishments we made this past year alone!
- Pay only \$35 per year
- Receive a membership sign to be posted at your driveway
- Aren't you interested in the preservation and promotion of Lake Beauty and the surrounding area?
- Why not become a member!

We are looking for new board members. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming an active voice in this organization, or you just want to interact with your neighbors more, please contact Kathy Boeckman, President Lake Beauty Association, 320-248-0342 or Brian Alnes, Vice- President Lake Beauty Association, 320-219-3199.



# Lake Beauty Association Officers

Kathy Beckman President



Brian Alnes Vice President



Laurie Schultze Secretary/Treasurer

# **Board Members**

- **Marlene Clark**
- **Bruce Krousey**
- Jim Lundquist
- **Dave Poirier**