BRRLA President Comments

Greetings,

Wow - where did the summer go? Seems like we were just planning our summer weekends and now all our boats are in storage and docks have been pulled up on the shoreline. I hope everyone enjoyed the lake this summer as much as our family did!

During this first year of my tenure as board president I was really impressed with how people have stepped forward and offered their time and talents in helping our lake association and lake activities. Thank you to all.

I think the first year with our beach captain structure was a success. If you did not get a chance to meet your beach captain, take note who they are from our list and make a point to try and get to know them. Establishing these relationships at the lake ‘neighborhood’ level is key to having a secure and thriving lake community.

We will be handing out our informational packets again next spring so don't hesitate to let your beach captain know if there is something additional you would like to see included in these packets.

Thanks again to everyone who participated in the 4th of July boat parade. There was great participation again this year and the decorations were awesome! Check out the photos from the parade on our website.

One growing trend that I really noticed this summer was the increase in the number of kayaks and paddle boards. Our lakes are custom made for these types of activities and offer some great scenery and opportunities to come closer to nature and relaxation. We are really looking forward to expanding our ability to travel from lake to lake. This will open up so much more for the families and guests of our lakes.

Buffalo, Rice, and Rock lakes are a treasure. Let’s continue to be good stewards of these wonderful lakes and keep them safe by following all of our boating rules and regulations.

I wish everyone a great winter and I am looking forward to seeing you all again next spring.

Sincerely,

Kevin Wolf
BRRLA President

P.S. If you haven't joined the lake association yet - we would love to have you!

Annual & Board Meeting Minutes

We had a great turn out at our annual meeting and potluck in June! Thanks to everyone who attended!

Please visit our website at http://minnesotawaters.org/buffaloricerocklakes/ to read the most recent meeting minutes.

Thank you to the Richwood Winery for allowing us to hold our annual meeting and potluck at the Winery.

Also, thank you to the Richwood Store, Sunlite Bar & Grill, and the Richwood Winery for donating door prizes for our annual meeting.
We had another great turnout this year for our 4th of July boat parade! Thank you to everyone who participated!

Check out the great pictures on our website!

Wanting to receive your newsletter electronically, rather than in the mail?
If so, please share your email address with us at buffaloricerocklakes@gmail.com. We'll ensure all future communications will be sent electronically.

**T-Shirts & Sweatshirts Now Available**

Don't delay in ordering your BRRLA t-shirt or sweatshirt. Available are a women's V-neck short sleeve shirt, **berry** in color, a uni-sex t-shirt, **charcoal heather** in color and a uni-sex pullover sweatshirt, **light grey** in color. An order form is included on the last page of the newsletter.

Some of you may have already provided numbers on what you want to order. Those numbers were needed in order to get a cost estimate.

For questions, please contact Deb at 218-846-0982. Submit your orders by the November 25 deadline and we will make every attempt to get them to you by Christmas!
Thanks to Andy Wieland for attending the Becker County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA) meetings and keeping us informed!

COLA meetings for 2016 wrapped up in October. Meetings this year were informative, included many county and state guest speakers, and were well attended.

Becker County Soil and Water Conservation District representatives shared information on a cost share program for adding shoreline buffer and rain garden to lakeside properties. The goal of the program is to control rain run-off into the lake, reduce erosion and promote native plants and grasses. Sharing of up to 75% of the project cost is possible. Contact the Soil and Water Conservation District office if you would like more information.

Two field trips were set up this summer on and around Big Detroit Lake. Both were centered on the theme of “Knowing Your Lake Health”. Attendees learned about lake features including water level and temperature, aquatic plants, algae, and shoreline plantings, and how these can affect environmental quality and stability of a lake. These sessions are open to all association members. Contact your beach captain or any of the association board members if you would like to be notified of future field trip sessions.

COLA is in the process of putting together an Environmental Concerns Committee. The committee is being formed to review regulatory aspects of the Becker County Shore land ordinance, interact with the Planning and Zoning office, provide testimony to the Board of Adjustment or Planning Commission, and counsel with lake association members on variances, permits, and ordinance requirements. If you have an interest in being part of this committee, or would just like to learn more about how you can be involved, contact the BRR association or any of the board members.

Violation rates for aquatic invasive species on boat inspections around Becker County were lower than previous years. It appears that word is getting out and boat owners are being more careful about following the boat transport and cleaning guidelines. Even so, a number of lakes in Minnesota continue to become infested with invasive species. Most notably, zebra mussels were found earlier this year in Detroit Lake and Lake Sallie.

Find additional information and stay up to date on COLA activities through Facebook by searching Becker County COLA or online at www.beckercola.org.

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Remember these guidelines to stay safe on the ice this winter!

Ice is Never 100% Safe!

Minimum Ice Thickness Guidelines
For New Clear Ice Only
mndnr.gov/icesafety

MN DNR reminds trappers and waterfowl hunters to help avoid spreading invasive species

“After hunting, take a few minutes to clean plants and mud and drain water from duck boats, decoys, decoy lines, waders and push poles,” said Allison Gamble, DNR invasive species specialist. “It’s the key to avoiding the spread of aquatic invasive species in waterfowl habitat.”

“Trappers of muskrats and other furbearers should also keep the ‘Clean in-Clean out’ mantra in mind,” said DNR invasive species specialist Tim Plude. “All traps, lines, boots, and waders should be cleaned to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.”

Less than five percent of Minnesota’s 11,842 lakes are on the infested waters list, and it’s up to sportsmen and women to help keep it that way.

Additional information on aquatic invasive species is available on the DNR’s aquatic invasive species webpage.

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Don’t forget to like us on Facebook!

You can find our page at Buffalo, Rice & Rock Lakes Association.
Feel free to share your lake pictures and any information you would like to share with our Facebook group!
# BRRLA T-Shirt & Sweatshirt Order Form

Please complete the following form to order your BRRLA t-shirts and/or sweatshirts. Please note the women’s V-neck is available in berry only. You may pick up your order at 23841 S. Buffalo Lake Road, Detroit Lakes (Krogsgaard’s); at 1262 4th St. N., Fargo, ND (Franke’s) or have it mailed. If mailed, please include mailing costs.

## Women’s V-Neck Tee
- Item 7715U, Berry color to 2XL

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## Uni-Sex T-Shirt Charcoal Heather
- Item 7280U, Charcoal Heather To Size 3XL

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## Uni-Sex Sweatshirt Light Gray
- Item 7385U, Heather Gray To Size 3XL

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## Mailing Cost
- T-shirt: $5.00
- Sweatshirt: $9.00

**Total Cost:**

**Ordered by (please print):**

**Name:** _____________________________  **Phone:** _____________________________

**Street Address:** ________________________________________________________________

**City, State, Zip Code:** _________________________________________________________

**Where will you pick up your order from or do you need it mailed?** _____________________________

Mail this form with your check by **Friday, November 25, 2016**, payable to Deb Krogsgaard to:

**28341 South Buffalo Lake Road, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501. Questions call 218-846-0982.**