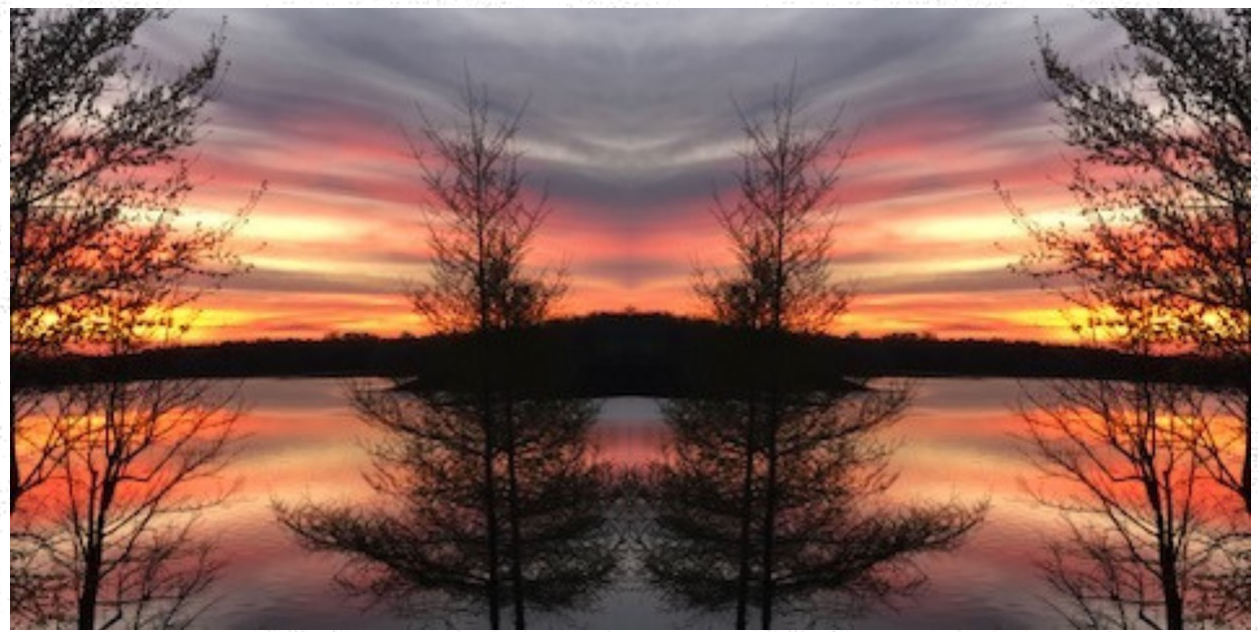


# BIG SUGAR BUSH NOTES

FALL EDITION 2022 VOLUME 32 NUMBER 2



## LETTER FROM OUR BSB ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

First let me say that I am honored to be selected by the Board to serve as President of the Big Sugar Bush Lakes Association. While I have served on the board for two years, I am excited to see new representation on the Board that can represent all areas of the lake with perhaps some new and fresh viewpoints.

For those who do not know me or know me well, I am happy to share a little about myself and views in my new role.

- My wife and I grew up in southern Minnesota on Dairy farms.
- Have owned, camped, built, and enjoyed the lake since May of 1980.
- Am married 44 years, have three married sons, who with their wives and families enjoy their visits to the lake.

- My enjoyment on Big Sugar Bush Lake involves cabin building, campfires, and perhaps a refreshment with Big Sugar Bush friends.
- Operationally, I welcome and respect different viewpoints from all people on this lake whether they are Lake Association Members or not.
- I understand and follow the By-Laws of the Association and realize that we are to listen and match our decisions with the majority of the lake owner inputs.
- We are an association and not a governing body with the responsibility to manage the near and longer term goal of supporting this great body of water and land.
- The Board as your representation is eager to serve your needs and elicit your opinions and welcome new ideas to protect our lake. Our actions must focus on bringing us together, sharing positive ideas, and responsible spending as provided by the voting membership.

This summer we enjoyed many celebrations at Cedar Crest and on the lake locally. A highlight has and continues to be the Celebration of the Fourth of July! Both the boat parade and the fireworks were highlights of this celebration.

Subsets of the new board are already busy looking to improve and modernize our Big Sugar Bush website and finding ways to improve our communication with the Lake Association and community.

This fall we enjoyed the beautiful color changes on our lake! Unfortunately our Big Sugar Bush Lake Community was shocked at the devastating fire experienced by our Maplelag neighbors. The Board monitored the situation at Maplelag, including news that monies donated to Maplelag were to be used to address the impacted employees and the planning of a dinner to recognize and thank the fire departments who helped during this devastating fire. Based on this information, the Board voted to donate \$500 dollars to Maplelag and also to assist in other ways.

As we move into the winter months, I want to extend my appreciation to the current board membership together with the many volunteers who are serving on committees!

In closing, let me restate the board's desire to gather new and fresh ideas on how we can best manage our lake activities through the dues collected for this year and years to come. We wish to be very transparent regarding how the dues collected are responsibly spent and need your input to have the best result.

Sincerely,  
Ken Bruss



## **WE CAN HELP EVERYONE STAY CONNECTED THROUGH EBLASTS!**

What is an eblast, you might ask! It is an email that is sent to either all Big Sugar Bush Lake residents or only association members depending on content. There are a variety of reasons to send an eblast which include:

- Celebration announcements social invitations
- Security alerts and concerns
- Association meetings and notices
- Environmental updates
- Volunteer needs on the lake
- Other at the discretion of the board president

Ken, our Lake Association President, will be the main point of contact for eblasts. Please connect with him when you would like an email sent to our BSB community. His contact information is listed below. Ken will send out an email blast and, if appropriate, send an alert to our Facebook point people, Fran Mattson and Nancy Olson to post the message on Facebook.



We Need **YOU!**  
Let's Connect Through  
Sharing Our Great  
Moments On  
Big Sugar Bush Lake!

## SEND IN YOUR PICTURES AND CAPTIONS FOR NANCY AND FRAN TO POST!

We are asking that you send in your great moments throughout the year so we can post them on our Facebook page. You can send your best nature pictures, family gatherings, and all things Bigs Sugar Bush Lake related so that we can share in the amazing place we call our community!

It is so easy! Just send your pictures with a description or captions to:

Nancy's Email: [nanornes@gmail.com](mailto:nanornes@gmail.com)

Fran's Email: [fnkmattson@gmail.com](mailto:fnkmattson@gmail.com)

We will then post it within a few days!

**BIGSUGARBUSH.ORG**

## CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE!

We continue to update the website so keep checking back for the latest! Links have been added regarding environmental studies, COLA newsletter links as well as pics from summer of 2022.

The Sugar Shack is under construction and will be up and running VERY SOON. Apparel such as hoodies, tshirts and caps will be available for purchase. An eblast will be sent to alert

everyone when this section goes live.

As always, please provide feedback and suggestions on how we can continue to improve the site. You may contact Mindi Jensen or Claudine Anderson. Contact information below.

## DO YOU NEED TO UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION?

Contact Pam Michelson at [big-sugar-bush-lake@gmail.com](mailto:big-sugar-bush-lake@gmail.com) or 612-741-2417. You can always contact one of the Board members as well.

## BOARD MEMBERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Association email: [big-sugar-bush-lake@gmail.com](mailto:big-sugar-bush-lake@gmail.com)

Director	Title	Term	Phone	Email
Ken Bruss	President	2020-2023	816-564-2119	kenbruss@aol.com
Dave Braaten	Vice President	2022-2025	218-205-0330	davevalleyview@yahoo.com
John Boots	Secretary	2020-2023	218-983-4257	jpboots@gmail.com
Claudine Anderson	Treasurer	2021-2024	651-341-4608	sugarbushlake@gmail.com
Chuck Becker	Director	2021-2024	612-280-4736	cbecker1952@gmail.com
Mindi Jensen	Director	2021-2024	701-367-4072	sugarbushlake@gmail.com
Larry Michelson	Director	2019-2023	612-741-2796	larry.michelson@aol.com
Nick Moszer	Director	2022-2025	701-261-5274	nickmoszer@gmail.com
George Wallman	Director	2022-2025	701-212-6913	geowallman@yahoo.com

## SUMMER FUN ON BIG SUGAR BUSH LAKE



## **ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY BOAT PARADE AND FIREWORKS**

The fireworks display on the 4th of July at Big Sugar Bush Lake was spectacular!!! Thanks to those who take the time to put this on for the benefit of the lake community.

The fireworks was preceded by the Annual Boat Parade earlier in the day. There were 24 boats participating, taking the usual tour around the entire lake with 16 prizes awarded for the outstanding entries. Prizes included donations from The Richwood Store, The Richwood Winery and The Farmers Daughter. A big thank you to the Dave Braaten family for organizing this event!

## **BSB SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**



**ANNUAL  
SOLSTICE  
PARTY**



**CORN FEED  
HOSTS**



**BSB CORN  
FEED**

Summer begins for some when Nancy Olson hosts her Annual Solstice Party. The windy day didn't deter several brave folks! Good food and certain beverages make it a special time. Thanks Nancy!

The Cedar Crest dinners were held twice a month, June through September. The venue on White Earth Lake provides a great atmosphere to enjoy the summer temperatures with our BSB friends. A special thanks to Nancy for organizing!

The Corn Feed was held this year to the delight of many! Thanks to Larry Michelson and Ken Mattson for spearheading another fun evening for our BSB community. The corn was DELICIOUS!!!! And the side dishes were equally as yummy.

These were only a few of the social activities enjoyed by the BSB community. Family gatherings are ongoing throughout the summer - and winter for those hardy enough to enjoy the snow and cold. Remember to share your stories and gatherings with our Facebook contacts or any board member!



## THE 2022 SPECIAL OLYMPICS USA GAMES



By Jennifer Jacobson

June 5-12, 2022 The 2022 Special Olympics USA Games were held in Orlando, Florida across multiple Disney World Properties! Twenty-three athletes with seven coaches represented the North Dakota delegation, among them **BSB's very own Benjamin Jacobson, grandson of Joanne Drenkow**. About half of the ND delegation traveled in style. Scheels, a corporate sponsor, donated two of the Scheels private jets and crew to transport some lucky athletes to Orlando (Yep, our Benny was one of them!). They took off from the Fargo Jet Center on Saturday, June 4 and returned on June 12.

The week consisted of all of the traditional Olympic-style events including Opening Ceremonies, many athletic competitions including basketball, baseball, equestrian, triathlon, swimming, paddleboarding, powerlifting, you get the idea. The opening ceremony was held at

Explora Soccer Stadium in downtown Orlando with more than 6,000 athletes and coaches representing the United States and the Caribbean participating in the parade of athletes - not a dry eye in the house! The event was emceed by two ESPN sportscasters, with special athlete interviews by Tim Tebow (a crowd favorite), followed by live music by Sarah Bareilles, and the reading of the Special Olympics Oath. The grand finale of the opening ceremony was completion of the Torch Run by law enforcement across the United States culminating lighting of the Olympic Torch by Chris Nikic, first person with Down Syndrome to complete the Ironman.

The ND delegation competed in Powerlifting, Basketball, Bowling and Track and Field. Benjamin, in particular, participated in Track and Field. The track team consisted of four individuals participating in individual events. Benjamin's events included the men's Shotput, Men's 100 m run, and the co-ed 4X100 relay. He represented well, earning 4th place in the shotput, 8th in the relay, but (drumroll please....) 3rd in the Men's 100 m run, bringing home a Bronze Medal, and the bragging rights as the only trackster to medal! As a delegation the medal count was pretty outstanding - 3 Gold medals in Powerlifting; 1 Silver medal in bowling; and one additional Bronze medal for the ND Basketball team.

Other highlights of this amazing accomplishment for the team included an evening at Animal Kingdom and a day at Magic Kingdom! All athletes were housed on Disney property, with Ben (and the ND delegates) getting to stay at the Disney All Star Sports Resort.

The USA Games is held every four years, the 2026 USA Games will be held at the U of M in the Twin Cities.

Thank you to everyone who knew about Ben's great adventure and supported him with donations to Special Olympic North Dakota (or to him!)- Events like this are 100% free for the athletes, so it's a very special honor to get to go! Also, a huge thank you to the thousands of volunteers it takes to pull events like this off! If you're ever looking for an opportunity to volunteer, Special Olympics is always looking, and the very best part is, your life is changed forever.

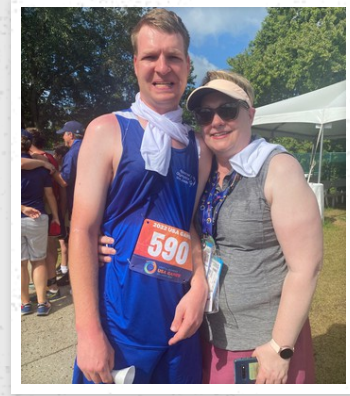
So I'll leave you with this oath, which is so great for life: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."



**BEN  
JACOBSON**



**BEN AND HIS  
TEAM**



**BEN AND  
JENNIFER**



## **ENVIRONMENTAL ARTICLES AND NEWSLETTERS**

The Board continues to be engaged with the organizations in our area to ensure we keep our lake pristine so it will be enjoyed by all. We belong to the MN Coalition of Lake Associations, Becker County Coalition of Lake Associations and MN Lakes and Rivers. Links to their recent newsletters are included here and will be on the website for future reference. There are also links regarding recent Wake Boat studies and laws enacted in other states.



### **September Lake News**

[www3.thedatabank.com](http://www3.thedatabank.com)

Below is a highlight of news from this September. You will find new research on lake issues, policy developments, and a COLA update.



### October Water Connects Us All ...

[www3.thedatabank.com](http://www3.thedatabank.com)

With new legislative districts following the census, and every legislative seat up for election, MLR and lake association leaders have been busy meeting with candidates to educate them on our issues and gauge their interest in lake protection and restoration.



### Newsletter September 2022

[myemail.constantcontact.com](mailto:myemail.constantcontact.com)

Wake boat concerns and recommendations The Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division, on September 14, 2022 issued Report 37, "Wake boats: concerns and recommendations related to natural resource management in Michigan waters". New research compiled in the report shows that operation of wake boats can potentially threaten lake health.

### 2022 NWLC Breakout 2A - Nort...

[nwwislakesconference.org](http://nwwislakesconference.org)

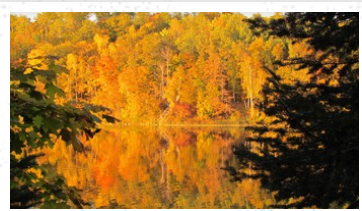
The presentation will follow up on last year's presentation detailing a study of "enhanced" wave impacts on water quality and sediment re-deposition in a medium-sized freshwater lake in SE Wisconsin. The research focuses on precise measures of subsurface wave impacts, nutrient spread by plume development and strategies for mitigation.



### Water Sports Law Passed in Ten...

[www.tradeonlytoday.com](http://www.tradeonlytoday.com)

The nation's first industry-supported model law on wakesurfing and wakeboarding has become law in Tennessee. Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee was joined by representatives from the boating industry for a special signing ceremony of the industry-backed wakesurfing and wakeboarding legislation . The law became effective July 1.



## BIG SUGAR BUSH LAKE ASSOCIATION

 Facebook

 [big sugerbushlake@gmail.com](mailto:big sugerbushlake@gmail.com)

 [big sugerbush.org](http://big sugerbush.org)

