

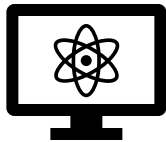
January, 2023



www.mybirchlake.org

*Dedicated to the Preservation and Improvement
Of Birch Lake and Its Environment*

***A new online membership system will be launched soon for
Birch Lake Association members!***



Over the fall and winter, a small group of your BLA board members have been working diligently to bring our Lake Association membership and payments online. We contracted with GrowthZone, a company in Nisswa, and have been uploading information and getting things ready for a launch on or about February 1.

Here is what will happen –

- You will receive an invoice for 2023 dues either via email or snail-mail, whichever you have indicated is your preference.
- You will be able to pay dues online via ACH or credit card, or you may mail your payment.
- The invoice will give you the opportunity to include a general donation or to specifically donate to the replacement of the martin house in the city park, a project for the 2023 season.
- Within 72 hours of making your payment, you will receive an email prompting to you create your account in our new Member Portal. You will have 48 hours to use that link to login. If your link expires, you will be able to call or email us to have it re-sent.
- Once you are in the Member Portal, you can look at your specific information and correct or update it. If you'd like, you can add photographs to your personal or family contact.
- There will be a place to sign up for emails and information about how to participate in a variety of BLA projects such as working on the garden, loon watching, monitoring water quality, and helping at various functions.
- You can see what is posted in the Family Directory and change it if you wish. The new Family Directory and contain the same information that we have always provided in our print directory. *The Family Directory is not public!!* You must be a BLA member to log in to see/use it.
- In the Member Portal, you will have access to a directory of our Business Partners.
- The app MemberPlus will be available if you prefer to do all of this on your tablet or phone.
- In the future:
 - We will be uploading a Resource Library that will have information such as our Lake Management Plan, updates on AIS, shoreland restoration, fishing regulations, and so on.
 - We also plan to establish a Forum for (positive) conversations about the lake and our community.

While we have been working hard, we fully expect there will be a bump or two in the road as we rollout this new system, please be patient with us! We are so excited about the opportunities this will provide for communication,

Rest assured, if you prefer your communication with us to be in print, we will continue to mail invoices, newsletters, and meeting notices to you.



2023 Dates to Know

Tuesdays June 8 thru August 10
Kids Fishing Contest
July 4 - Boat Parade

July 7-14 - Sweetheart Days
July 7 – Sweetheart Days Fireworks
July 7 & 8 Josh Duffee & his Big Band
July 29 – TENTATIVE BLA Membership Meeting
August 12 - Annual Northwoods Art & Book Festival

Stay Safe – Stay Healthy!

Birch Lake Association Website
<http://www.mybirchlake.org>

You can also keep track of lake happenings on our Facebook page –
www.facebook.com/mybirchlake/

Another resource for area happenings is the Hackensack Chamber Website
www.hackensackchamber.com

BLA is a member of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates:
<http://www.mnlakesandrivers.org/>



Come celebrate with Lucette Diana Kensack in Hackensack July 7th through the 14th for Sweetheart Days 2023

- **Friday;** Spaghetti Fundraiser at UCC Church, Electronic Horse Racing at the American Legion, Josh Duffee and his Big Band; play "Hittin' the Keys" the music of Duke Ellington and Count Basie at the Community Building
 - **Saturday;** Hackensack Lending Library Book Sale, Paws+Claws Rescue & Resort Furry 5K Fun Run, Lucette's Annual Arts & Craft Fair, the 7th Annual Dachshund Derby, Silent Auction, Car & Motorcycle Show, Hackensack Area Fire & Rescue Department BBQ, 2nd performance of Josh Duffee and his Big Band, Street Dance, **Fireworks at Dusk!**
 - **Sunday;** Corn Hole Tournament, Meat Raffle at the Legion
 - **Monday;** Hackensack Lion's Meat Raffle
 - **Tuesday;** Kid's Fishing Contest, Kids in the Park Games, the 3rd Annual Pet Parade, Sweetheart Days Parade
 - **Wednesday;** Flea Market & Craft Sale at Sacred Heart Church
 - **Thursday;** Raffle Drawing & Meat Raffle at the Legion
 - **Friday;** Live Music at Birchwood Char House
- Tentative Schedule! Updates will be posted when available at <http://www.hackensackchamber.com/sweetheart-days>



Deep Portage Scholarships

Every year BLA offers 2 FREE Deep Portage Learning Center summer camp scholarships for youth who are relatives of a BLA member. The youth should check out the camp offerings online, then hand write a letter indicating their interest and how they are related to the BLA member, as well as which session they prefer to attend. Deadline to apply for the scholarship is April 1, 2023. Send that letter to BLA, attention: Diane PO Box 125, Hackensack, MN 56452

[Deep Portage Learning Center](#)



Lakeside Concert Series 2023

FREE MUSIC • BIRCH LAKE PARK PAVILION • HACKENSACK, MN

Fridays, 5-7 PM

One Night Stand

June 16

Rock, blues, jazz and some great gospel music to kick off our Summer Concert Series.

Rick Adams

June 23

Over 30 years of musical experience and a reputation for giving audiences a great show.

Dos Guys

June 30

A two-man group from Brainerd, Minnesota bringing you some of your favorite songs.

July 14

***Wingin' It** Playing those rock and pop party tunes you love to hear on a great night out. They're all about the singing, dancing and a heap of laughs!*

Adessa and the Beat

July 21

A local Grand Rapids area band with a little something for everyone! Expect a tasty mix of country, classic rock, and pop including some forgotten oldies and top10 hits.

July 28

***Tami and the Bachelor** Come on out and hear songs by Megan Trainor, Lady Gaga, Adele, Patsy Cline, Johnny Cash, Neil Diamond, Fleetwood Mac, Journey... Well, you get the idea!*

August 4

***Acoustofiddle** Funky folk, punky polka, caffeinated celtic, cool classical, grassy blues and gypsy jazz... along with some original and cover songs.*

August 18

***Charley Wagner & His Band** An authentic americana/folk style music experience with guitar, harmonica and foot rhythm that captures moments from the past.*

August 25

***Daybreak** One of Central Minnesota's most versatile music groups, playing hits from the 40s through today's top classics.*

Saturday, 1-3 PM Labor Day Weekend

September Rockin' Hill Blues, jazz and rock presented by a great bunch of musicians from the 2 Brainerd and St. Cloud Minnesota areas.

Should inclement weather arise, the concert will move to the Hackensack Community Building... bring your lawn chairs!

Thank you sponsors!



From the Northwoods Arts Council:

 <p>NORTHWOODS ARTS COUNCIL <i>Bringing the Arts to Life</i></p>	<h1>Summer Events 2023</h1> <p>northwoodsartscouncil.org</p>	
<h2>Lakeside</h2> <p>CONCERT SERIES June - August Fridays 5 PM - 7 PM</p>  <p>LABOR DAY WEEKEND Saturday, September 2, 1 PM - 3 PM</p>	 <p>featuring JOSH DUFFEE and his BIG BAND July 7 - 8, 7:30 PM</p>	<h2>NORTHWOODS ART & BOOK FESTIVAL</h2> <p>Artists, Authors, Food Entertainment & More</p>  <p>Saturday, August 12 9 AM-3 PM</p>

We are also having an 'Afternoon with Allen Eskens'.

Thursday, June 8th, award-winning author, Allen Eskens, will give a presentation in Hackensack that will be open to the public. Allen Eskens is a *USA Today* bestselling author of *The Life We Bury*, which has been published in twenty-six languages; and five other novels, most recently *The Stolen Hours*, *The Shadows We Hide*, and *Nothing More Dangerous*. His books have won several awards. Following the presentation, there will be a Q and A period with the opportunity to buy autographed copies of his books. More details will be posted on the NAC website when available.

BLA Officers 2020

Paul Blomgren, President
Gary Martin, Vice President
Steve Hanneman, Secretary
Tim FunkMeyer, Treasurer

BLA Board Contact
Mybirchlake@gmail.com

BLA Board Members

Sue Holthaus (Website)
Shirley Johnson
Mary Knautz
Mark Larison (AIS)
Jim Madland (Water Quality)
Betty Martin
Katie Noonan
Jackie Schumacher (Newsletter)
Rick Zaske (Water Quality)



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Visit us at: www.mybirchlake.org

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"Let the storm rage on. The cold never bothered me anyway."

— Elsa from *Frozen*