

Beaver Lake June 2024 News

President's Letter

Presidents Newsletter 1 June 24

I want to start by thanking Ron Prchal and Brad Renner for their service to the community on the board! It was great working with you! I want to congratulate and welcome Mike Langford and Jon Baumgart to the Board of Directors. It'll be interesting to see the new perspective and ideas they bring.

My last quarterly newsletter had "water restriction" talk included. Seems silly now with water rolling over the spillway and us firmly in the middle of "rainy season"! It sure makes for a lot of mowing! I'll take mowing and an inability to work gardens over a drought any day.

Please take a minute to read the report on the dam posted in the news section of the BLA page. Here is a link to the [Dam Report](#)

Please remember we have zebra mussels which are reproducing with water temps now well above 58. This means we must be diligent on cleaning our vessels, removing any water, and drying both before entry to the lake and before going to another body of water. It's important that we realize there are other invasive species we don't want in our lake like quagga mussels, Eurasian Milfoil, Hydrilla, etc... Bottom line we still need to protect against the spread of invasives. Ballast boats need to be particularly careful since their systems require special procedures to clean. Now that the mussels are reproducing, every 3 or 4 weeks after, they'll again start attaching to hard objects. This will repeat all summer into the fall. Keep your lower units out of the water, operate your shore stations up and down periodically, clean your lawn watering pump intakes, etc... [US Fish Wildlife Service Aquatic Invasives](#)

Only 236 people took advantage of the email ballot system this year. With 307 ballots cast it was honestly a disappointing turn out. Only 19% voted!! Does it mean everyone is mostly satisfied with the way things are or is it complacency? Hard to say but email voting is so easy I'm not sure why everyone wouldn't sign up next year.

Don't forget to observe our 25 MPH road speed limits and be especially cautious on hills and other low visibility locations. We want to keep our community safe.

I posted a version of the following article on the property owners Facebook page. I include an edited version here for those who don't do FB and didn't attend the public meeting or board meetings but have been the recipient of private message claims from certain individuals or have heard various rumors or claims about the lot sale effort.

Another perspective on the sale of 6 lots (RL14, RL16, 462, 719, 968, 1030)

I've read a lot of information on this subject on social media and decided I better give my perspective for those who haven't attended the public meetings or board meetings where this has been discussed for well over a year. This is 100% MY PERSPECTIVE so hold only me accountable to these words. The PowerPoint presentation with the lots and access lot maps along with the latest proposed covenants change are available on the Beaver Lake web page in the "News" section and links will be provided at the end.

Why is Russ Parmer, with over 20 years of continuous community representation through committee and board membership, promoting and supporting the sale of 6-lots? Because I 100% believe it is in the community's best interest. Why do you say? Because for 12 years on the board I've watched us be unable to afford modernization efforts because the budget is

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consumed predominantly by maintenance and operations. Our facilities are in a state of decline and the amount of money left for these efforts isn't adequate. The problems compound year after year.

A couple of years ago the board started looking for ways to fund modernizing facilities. Special assessments, 10% annual dues increase, loans, etc. and concluded that the best way was to do a deep dive into the association owned assets. It had the potential to generate needed money without impacting the membership in a big way. The criteria were simple. Identify lots that are underutilized by the membership, have no operational requirement, are marketable and buildable. The lots that emerged from this discovery are lots RL14, RL16, 462, 719, 968, and 1030. The "estimated" street value of these assets is between \$900,000 and \$1,000,000.

The board has been adamant that the money raised by lot sales will be held for facility modernization. The Infrastructure Committee will champion the improvement projects.

I've read many conspiracy theories, innuendos, and even bizarre perspectives on my motivations in both private messages that have been shared with me and on social media posts (I posted on "Let's Talk Beaver Lake FB" quoting some of the bizarre claims). I've also been personally insulted and shouted down at board meetings. On a bright note, I've also been asked good questions and we've adjusted our approach based on some of the questions and concerns. Thanks for helping improve the process.

Adding covenants protection for the access lots is one of those requests and we've posted that language and are starting the process. Additionally, it was asked that we consider protecting other non-access lot properties that are important to the community and we've started the process to identify those assets and will draft that language. That language should be available at the June board meeting.

I'd ask that everyone PLEASE do their research on this subject. The contention centers mostly around lots 462, 719, and 968. Please go to lot 462 and ask yourself, do I use this lot? Have I ever seen anyone use this lot? Why does the association own this lot when the access lot people utilize is "Access Lot 1" **right beside lot 462**? Why is a shore station blocking use of lot 462 for 5-years and no one has complained? They ask on social media, in private messages, and at board meetings that you to be skeptical of my motives, please apply that same skepticism of their motives. Check out lot 719, drive over and look at it. Is this an access lot you use? Is it an access lot you see others using often? Do you see this lot as potentially excess to our needs? Same for lot 968.

Go check out the clubhouse. Look at the upstairs floor, bathroom, walls, chairs, tables, and the exterior. Look at the deck, the indoor bathroom facilities, and offices. The need for exterior accessible bathrooms. Check out The Coconuts rotting floor, the need to expand the jetties to protect the beach, expanded beach and need for pavilions and more boat parking. Look over the pool area. Check out the boat ramp and visualize a floating dock that protects your vessel while parking to load and unload. Look at the landscape in the area and paving. Drive to our heavily used access areas and visualize pavilions, landscaping, and other amenities. The need for shore work, and other upgrades at the access areas is clear and obvious.

Weigh these questions against the membership loss of barely used lots 462, 719, and 968. Think about the community impact the influx of revenue for improvements will have on the assets **we use**. Look at the long-term money generated by these 6 lots in circulation for Beaver Lake, the County, and the school district compared to the minimal use, mowing, and trivial taxes we pay on these lots annually. Do your due diligence and conclude.

Links – please read thru these!

[Public meeting link](#)

[Covenants change 17](#)

[Access Area Map](#)

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Please reach out if you have issues, concerns, or improvement ideas. The best place to start is the office and I'd also say that our committees (Infrastructure, Lake, Fish & Habitat, and Finance) meet monthly and having members get on their agenda is the right way to initiate ideas and suggestions. Contact info: Contact Us - Beaver Lake Association ([beaverlakene.org](https://www.beaverlakene.org))
Committee info: <https://www.beaverlakene.org/bl-a-committees/>. I'm also available, so please feel free to contact me as well.

I hope everyone has a safe and great summer!
Russ Parmer – President, BLA Board of Directors



BLA Annual Election Results

Mike Langford and Jon Baumgart were elected to the Beaver Lake Board of Directors on Sunday, May 19, 2024

Results:

61	Judy Simpson
167	Jon Baumgart
227	Mike Langford
134	Ron Prchal

Votes were cast as follows:

236	Proxy Ballots Counted
72	Walk-In Ballots Counted
307	Total Proxies + Walk-Ins

New Boat & GAU Stickers Hours

Starting May 1, 2024 – New hours at the Boat Ramp will be:

Monday to Friday:	1:00pm to 5:00pm **
Saturday:	9:00am to 5:00pm **
Sunday:	11:00am to 5:00pm**



**ALL stickering is weather permitting. We will not sticker if it is below 50 degrees or wet.

All vessels on BLA water as well as golf carts, ATVs & UTVs on BLA roads must have a 2024 sticker by May 1, 2024.

Current Boating Regulations can be found in the Handbook on the Beaver Lake Website. Online Boat Registration is also available: [Online Boat Registration](#)

For more information – Contact the BLA Patrol Office: 402-235-2243

Women's Auxiliary News

The Beaver Lake Women's Auxiliary met May 6th at the clubhouse. The main thrust of our meeting was finalizing plans for our garage sale which will be held May 31 through June 1st at the clubhouse. We will also be serving lunch those two days.

On the 17th, several of us attended the movie, "Unsung Hero", and enjoyed lunch together at Culvers.

We will not be holding business meetings in June or July, but we will be taking field trips to Lincoln to tour the Capitol building and the Governor's mansion and another time to visit the Sunken Gardens.

If anyone would like to be part of these trips, please let me know at annmcgee.mcgee@gmail.com and we will let you know dates and times. Our next regular business meeting will be held August 5th at 1:00 at the clubhouse. Membership is open to anyone who is a property owner at Beaver Lake.



From our Patrol Office

Congratulations to Mike who recently completed CPR and Stop the Bleed Training as part of our Lake Patrol Team!



BLA Website Advertising

Now that the Beaver Lake Online News is our only source of official BLA News, we'd like to offer all area businesses a chance to advertise on the BLA Website.

Yellow Page ads can link directly to your company's website and are very inexpensive.

Rotating Banner ads are also a great option & show on every page of the BLA Website.

Check out the BLA Website at <https://www.beaverlakene.org>.

Contact Jill at the BLA office for more information: jillp@beaverlakene.org

Swimming Lessons



Beaver Lake will be offering group swim lessons three weeks this summer:

June 10-14, June 24-28 & July 8-12

Times are either 9:00am or 10:00am.

Classes will be 45 minutes long. Cost is \$40 per week.

Pre-registration is required. Class sizes are limited, so sign up early.

Sign up form can be found on the Beaver Lake Website in the Forms Section:

<https://www.beaverlakene.org/forms/>

We reserve the right to move your child up/down based on their abilities.

If you have any questions, reach out to BLA Security at: 402-235-2243 or security@beaverlakene.org.

Data from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's site on drowning](#):

- The most common cause of drowning in the U.S. is the inability to swim.
- There are around 4,000 fatal unintentional drownings yearly and approximately 8,000 nonfatal drownings yearly. The nonfatal drownings can result in long-term health problems (such as brain damage and other long-term disabilities).
- Children are definitely at risk, especially when not closely supervised around water. Drowning is the number one cause of unintentional death for children aged 1-4.
- Approximately 75 percent of child drowning fatalities (aged 15 or younger) occur in a private residential pool.
- For teens and adults, alcohol consumption is involved in 70% of the fatal drownings.
- Nearly 80% of drowning victims are male with increased exposure to water, risk-taking behaviors, and alcohol use as contributing factors.

Swimming Pool & Coconuts Open

The swimming pool and Coconuts snack shack opened Saturday, May 25, 2024

Hours for both are Noon to 7:00pm, 7 days per week, weather permitting.

(It must be above 70 degrees, not raining, etc.)

We look forward to seeing you this summer!

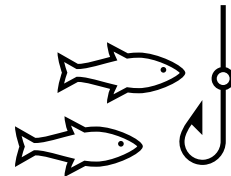
Murray Volunteer Fire Department Fundraiser



Save the Date! The Beaver Lake Association is excited to help host the annual Beach Party and fundraiser for Murray Volunteer Fire & Rescue. The event this year will be held on **Saturday, August 17, 2024**. More information will be available in the June and July News. Thank you for supporting this outstanding event!

Fishing Club

Don't forget that the Kids Fishing Derby is June 8, 2024!



From Your Friends at the BLA Office

Beaver Lake's 2023 Water Quality Report Posted:

Check out the Forms Section (under Information) on the BLA Website to see the [2023 Water Quality Report](#)

New Property Owners

- Check out the Beaver Lake Website! There is a plethora of useful information.
- You can also stop by the Beaver Lake Office for a Welcome Packet.
- We'd love to have you fill out a Membership Information Form if you haven't already!

Online Payments

Don't forget you can pay your Beaver Lake bills online by clicking [Pay Online](#) from the main menu of the website! Call the office if you have questions.

BLA Website: www.beaverlakene.org

The BLA Website is your home for all official Beaver Lake News, Calendar info, Advertising, Handbook, Documents, Board & Committee minutes, Information and Online Payments.

Make sure to check it regularly and see what you find!