

BUTTERNUT/SCHNUR LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



FALL 2023

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

by Scott Stenger

Despite my best-efforts winter is fast approaching. We had a terrific summer; the only complaint is that it went by too quickly!! Thanks to you we have a strong BSLA membership and a growing number of area businesses who have joined the BSLA as an Associate Member!! We have all our Associate Members listed in the newsletter – thank you for your support!!

It has been busy since our last newsletter. In early May, a proposal was considered by the Town of Lake to establish a permanent water ski course on the south end of Butternut Lake. We communicated with our Members regarding the proposal and the response was overwhelmingly opposed from all of our members who weighed in on the proposal. Through the efforts of our members the proposal was withdrawn and never considered by the Town of Lake Board. We will continue to monitor this issue moving forward.

We partnered with the DNR to place a Kids Don't Float kiosk at Hoffmann Rocks boat landing. A big thank you to the Chequamegon high school shop students who built the kiosk for us!! Unfortunately, we ran into some unexpected delays with the DNR and were not able to get the kiosk fully equipped with life jackets. Life jackets are the most forgotten item by recreational boaters. The Kids Don't Float kiosk allows anyone to borrow a life jacket for their time on the water and return it when done.

Our annual Fisheree is fast approaching!! Mark your calendar for Saturday, January 20th at Bobbers on the Lake. We will have great raffle prizes and door prizes as well as food and entertainment – details to follow!!

Lastly, I would like to welcome Dylan Borne and Rock Soper to the Board. Both were elected at our annual meeting on September 2nd. Thank you for your membership and please let us know if you have any questions or issues you would like us to work on. Also, be sure to follow us on Facebook – Butternut/Schnur Lake Association, we provide timely updates on our FB page. Enjoy winter and longer days aren't far off!!

Sincerely,

Scott Stenger
BSLA President

A Special Thank You to Our BSLA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS!

We want to say a special thank you to our growing list of BSLA Associate Members. The help from local business helps us and we greatly appreciate it! Please patronize our supporters and encourage other area businesses to join the BSLA – **it is only \$25/year.**

AC Carpet Plus
Bobbers on the Lake
Butternut Feed Store
Butternut Lake Lodge
Double Ds
Eagle Point Lodge

Elite Dock
Fifield Feed and Seed
Kane Services
MT Pockets
Northwoods Service Center
Park Falls Print and Copy

Ridge Runners
Signature Sign & Graphics
Village Pit Stop
Frank Drzenski
Jim Panke

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Matt Nichols (*Butternut*)

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Dan Patenaude (*Butternut*)

Eric Scharp (*Schnur*)

Joe Wolf (*Butternut*)

Dylan Borne (*Butternut*)

Rocky Soper (*Butternut*)

Please encourage your friends and neighbors on Butternut and Schnur Lakes to join the BSLA.

We work for our members to work to protect our lakes and fishery.

JOIN BSLA TODAY
for only \$25/year!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ATTACHED!



Learn more on our Facebook page:
[Butternut/Schnur Lake Association](#)

BUTTERNUT/SCHNUR LAKE ASSOCIATION (BSLA)

P.O. Box 245 - Park Falls, WI 54552 | (715) 518-5612 | butternutschnurlakeassociation@gmail.com

www.butternutschnurlakeassn.com





What's Happening WITH BSLA?

Wake Boats

Wake boats have grown in popularity over the last few years and recent studies have discovered some serious problems can be created on some lakes by large wakes and prop discharge. Wake surf boats take in large quantities of ballast water to increase their displacement and create much larger than normal waves from 3 to 5 feet high. Several thousand pounds of water are taken into tanks of wake boats to increase their wakes. Under Wisconsin law, "Any person who removes a boat from any inland or outlying water, shall drain all water from the boat including any water in any ballast tank immediately after removing the boat." In many cases the ballast water is not completely drained from the wake boat when taken off the water. Ballast water is one of the ways aquatic invasive plants and species are moved from lake to lake. Wisconsin law makes it illegal to possess or transport certain invasive species. These provisions apply to ballast water, live wells and boat hulls to ensure invasive aquatic invasive plants and species are not moved lake to lake.

Large wake boats have extremely powerful motors, and they are often tilted downward to increase the size of the waves. Wake boat manufacturers recommend the boats are meant to run in deep water to not disrupt the lakebed. Use of wake boats on shallow lakes creates a variety of problems including drastically diminishing vegetation and aquatic life along the lake bottom as detailed in a recent report. The lakebed is also disrupted, and chemicals can be agitated, creating dangerous algae blooms year-round.

The DNR and state lawmakers need to address these issues to make certain that the use of wake boats does not permanently harm inland lakes and the fishery. We will be monitoring the issue and working with the Last Wilderness Alliance and state legislators to work to provide a fair solution for all recreational boaters and others utilizing our public lakes. For more information, please visit [Last Wilderness Alliance](#).

We all need to promote responsible and courteous boating to ensure everyone can enjoy the beautiful lakes any way they choose.

BSLA 2023 Stocking

Again, this year we stocked both lakes. Over 1000 crappie were stocked into Butternut Lake and 300 walleye for Schnur Lake. A number of people have asked why we haven't stocked walleye into Butternut Lake. The DNR has said the reproduction of walleye on Butternut Lake is very good and does not support the stocking of walleye for Butternut Lake. We are able to provide stocking each year thanks to the generous support of our membership as well as all those who attend our fisherie and purchase raffle tickets – thank you!!

BSLA Trash Pickers

BSLA Board members volunteered to help the Town of Lake with their Spring Clean by picking trash on area roads. Each year we work with the Town of Lake to keep area roads clean and we now have earned two Adopt a Highway signs on Highway 13 for our volunteer efforts lead by BSLA Board member Dan Patenaude. In 2024 we will also be partnering with the Town of Chippewa to help clean up their roads as well!!

BSLA Annual Meeting

We had a terrific turnout for our annual meeting at Bobbers on the Lake on Saturday September 2nd! DNR Warden Tom Heisler gave us an update on the summer activity and enforcement issues on Butternut Lake. State Representative Chanz Green provided us with an update on the renovation of the Hoffmann's Rocks boat landing on Butternut Lake. Barring any further delays, the renovation is set for the spring of 2025. Town of Lake Chair Dave Wagner also attended the meeting and gave us an update on town issues. After the meeting we enjoyed some fantastic pizza and music from the South Fork Junkie!! Thanks for all who attended and look for a bigger party next year!



BSLA NEWSLETTER CONTINUED...

FALL 2023



Schnur Creek Clean Up

At the request of one of our members we contacted the DNR to get their ok for a clean up of Schnur Creek to greatly improve the flow between the lakes. We had a great turnout of BSLA volunteers and were able to remove trees and other debris which had been in the creek for quite some time. Thanks to everyone who came out to help out!

Yellow Iris Update


After working with the Ashland County invasive species coordinator we started a pilot program on Schnur Lake to work to eradicate yellow iris by planting a non-invasive blue iris to overtake the yellow iris. We do not use any chemicals, instead we are implementing a program suggested by the County to naturally control the invasive yellow iris plant. If we are successful we will expand the program to anyone interested in working to naturally control the yellow iris. To learn more about yellow iris please visit: [Yellow flag iris | \(Iris pseudacorus\) | Wisconsin DNR.](#)

Riprap

A recent change in Wisconsin law gives lakeshore owners more flexibility in control erosion control and building of rip rap. To see if a permit is required for any repairs or rip rap along your shoreline please visit: [Exemptions | Waterway protection | Wisconsin DNR](#)

BSLA 2024 Fisheree

Our annual Ice Fishing Contest is set for Saturday, January 20th at Bobbers on the Lake. Prizes for big fish in all categories, raffle prizes, door prizes and new this year we will have entertainment after the raffle drawing and food throughout the day!!! Fishing is from 7:00am to 5:00pm. We will once again have a great list of raffle prizes and many new door prizes!! Follow on Facebook for all the updates and how to get your raffle tickets!!

**BSLA 2024 FISHEREE
ANNUAL ICE FISHING CONTEST**
January 20th | 7am-5pm | Bobbers on the Lake
11633 LakeView Drive , Butternut, WI, United States, Wisconsin

2023 Tribal Harvest

The DNR set a safe tribal harvest limit of 546 walleye on Butternut Lake in 2023. The Lac du Flambeau reporting harvesting 392 walleye in the spring of 2023. Each year the DNR sets a safe tribal harvest limit for lakes within the ceded territory.



Hoffmann's Rocks Dock Renovation

The project to renovate the boat landing at Hoffmann's Rocks has been delayed nearly 10 years since the DNR unveiled plans for the renovation. We are currently scheduled to have the renovation begin in the spring of 2025. We have been in contact with the DNR and local area legislators to push for completion of this project. The landing has deteriorated and can be problematic for launching and loading pontoons and larger boats. We will keep you posted and we do not expect any further delays with the project.



Winter
**FULL
MOONS**

October 28
November 27
December 21
Winter Solstice
December 26
January 25
February 24

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Park Falls Print and Copy
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Signature Sign and Graphics
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GET CONNECTED TO BSLA!

SCAN QR CODE
WITH YOUR SMART PHONE
CAMERA TO LEARN MORE!

Visit us on Facebook:



Visit us online:



BUTTERNUT/SCHNUR LAKE ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP FORM

If you have not yet paid your 2022 Membership Dues

P.O. Box 245 - Park Falls, WI 54552 | butternutschnurlakeassociation@gmail.com

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Lake Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please make \$25.00 check payable to BSLA and send to:

BSLA
P.O. Box 245
Park Falls, WI 54552



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