

# BUTTERNUT/SCHNUR LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2024

## PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

by *Scott Stenger*

Another summer is on our doorstep and trust you have plans to enjoy lots of time at the lake this summer! There is much to report in our Spring newsletter and hope you find it a useful resource. Our Membership is growing, and our budget is strong. We always want to hear from you about issues you would like the BSLA to work on or feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Given our temperate "winter" we were concerned about ice quality for our annual BSLA Fishery on January 20<sup>th</sup> at Bobbers on the Lake. Thankfully the only cold weather of the winter occurred the week before our Fishery, and we had good ice and a terrific turnout!!! We will be adding a special Kids Fishing category for next year's event which is set for January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

In the hope of encouraging a larger attendance we are moving our annual summer meeting from Labor Day weekend to August 17<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 pm @ Bobbers on the Lake. We will email you all the details well in advance of our annual meeting. There are four seats on the Board up for election at the meeting and we welcome anyone interested in running for the Board.

Look for BSLA welcome signs coming soon on both the north and south end of the lakes. We are hoping to have the signs up before Memorial Day!! In addition, we will have our Kids Don't Float kiosk up early in the Spring with the free use of life jackets available to anyone who may not have enough or forgot them. The BSLA partnered with the DNR and the new kiosk is at the Hoffmans Rocks boat landing.

We will email you the details for the Annual Meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup> and if you have not yet done so, please follow us on Facebook to stay up to speed on everything we are doing with the BSLA.

Sincerely,

**Scott Stenger**

*BSLA President*



## Join us AT UPCOMING EVENTS!

**Memorial Day** | May 27<sup>th</sup>

**Free Fishing Weekend** | June 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Butternut Pioneer Days** | July 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>

**FlambeaRama** | August 1<sup>th</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>

**BSLA Annual Meeting** | August 17<sup>th</sup>

**Labor Day** | September 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Packer Opener in Brazil** | September 6<sup>th</sup>

Next BSLA Newsletter – September 2024

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### President

Scott Stenger (*Butternut*)

### Treasurer

Vic Peth (*Schnur*)

### Secretary

Matt Nichols (*Butternut*)

### Past President

Vic Peth (*Schnur*)

### Directors

Dylan Borne (*Butternut*)

Dan Patenaude (*Butternut*)

Eric Scharp (*Schnur*)

Rocky Soper (*Butternut*)

Skip Sommerfeldt (*Butternut*)

Joe Wolf (*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](#)

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# What's Happening WITH BSLA?

### **2024 Fisheree - Great Success!!**

Our 2024 BSLA Fisheree was our most successful one yet!! A crisp cold morning greeted nearly 300 registered anglers for our premier fishing event of the Northwoods! Thank you to the following groups who contributed prizes to ensure a successful event – we could not have done it without their support! Proceeds raised from our Fisheree help with our Fall BSLA Stocking program.

A big thank you to the following BSLA Affiliate Members and supporters of our Fisheree:

- |                              |                                     |                              |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Bobbers on the Lake</b>   | <b>Northwoods Credit Union</b>      | <b>Park Falls True Value</b> |
| <b>Baders Sports Center</b>  | <b>Joe and Cierra Kraetke</b>       | <b>Ron Ernst Lumber</b>      |
| <b>Butternut Lake Lodge</b>  | <b>Kountry Kafe</b>                 | <b>Park Pharmacy</b>         |
| <b>Butternut Feed Mill</b>   | <b>Kwik Trip</b>                    | <b>Super One</b>             |
| <b>Double Ds</b>             | <b>Napa Auto Parts</b>              | <b>Signature Signs</b>       |
| <b>Carquest Auto Parts</b>   | <b>MT Pockets</b>                   | <b>Ridge Runners</b>         |
| <b>Fifield Grocery</b>       | <b>O'Reilly Auto Parts</b>          | <b>Ross Sports Shop</b>      |
| <b>Eagle Point Lodge</b>     | <b>Park Falls Building</b>          | <b>Silly Goose</b>           |
| <b>Fifield Feed and Seed</b> | <b>St. Croix</b>                    | <b>Tan Me</b>                |
| <b>JDP Warrior</b>           | <b>Park Falls Family Restaurant</b> |                              |



### **Annual Meeting – August 17<sup>th</sup>**

Please mark your calendar to attend our 2024 Annual Meeting on Saturday, August 17th 1:00pm @ Bobbers on the Lake.

**Note the date change** – we are hoping to have a larger turnout moving the meeting from Labor Day weekend. We will be emailing you a detailed agenda and more information on our Annual Meeting as it gets closer.

There are 4 seats up for election at the Annual Meeting. We welcome all interested in serving on the Board to run for election. Only one person per household is eligible to serve on the Board and membership must be paid prior to the meeting in order to be eligible to vote.

### **Stocking Report**

We had a perfect day for stocking both lakes last October. We successfully stocked over 300 walleye in Schnur Lake and 1000 crappie in Butternut Lake. We plan to stock both lakes again this year with the same species. The DNR has approved walleye stocking for Schnur Lake but not Butternut Lake because they have indicated the high success rate of natural reproduction on Butternut Lake.



# BSLA NEWSLETTER CONTINUED...

SPRING 2024



## Wake Surf Regulations

We are fortunate to have two beautiful lakes to enjoy year-round. One of the primary reasons the BSLA was formed over 30 years ago was to work to protect and enhance our resources for future generations.

A number of recent studies have concluded that enhanced wakes from wake boats can damage property, erode shorelines and churn up lake beds while disrupting fish habitat. We should all be concerned about the consequences wake boats can have on area lakes, including wake boat owners. Research has concluded that enhanced wakes should be a minimum of 700 feet from shore and other lake users and only operate at a depth of at least 20 feet.

To help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and diseases, Wisconsin law requires all boaters to completely drain all water from boats, motor, and all equipment. Ballast tanks must be completely drained before transporting the watercraft. Ballast water from a boat used in the Southern part of the state must not be dumped in Butternut Lake.

This spring the Wisconsin Conservation Congress surveyed Wisconsin residents on this important issue. There is overwhelming support to regulate the use of wake boats and restrict the transfer of ballast water from lake to lake.

## **Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Question results:**

- 75% of Wisconsin residents support a state law to restrict wake surfing on lakes smaller than 1500 acres and less than 20 feet deep and maintain a distance of 700 feet from the shoreline and other lake users.
- 72% of Wisconsin residents support a state law to prohibit the use of wake boat ballast systems on Wisconsin's lakes and rivers.
- 71% of Wisconsin residents support DNR regulations to require all ballast systems used in boats have a reasonable practical means of inspecting the system to confirm no water is retained in the system.

## 2024 Spring Spearing

Butternut Lake had tribal spearing on April 14 and 15 this Spring. Tribal spearers harvested 307 walleye and 1 musky on Butternut Lake.

## BSLA Water Testing Update

Each Spring the BSLA conducts water tests on both lakes to determine water quality. Results have been positive for both lakes. For detailed information please visit:

<https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/lakes/waterquality/Stations.aspx?location=51>

## Hoffman's Rocks

As you access the lake through Hoffman's Rocks this summer you will notice fewer large rocks in the water at the landing. We worked with the DNR last fall to remove a number of large rocks which were hazardous to launching and loading at the landing.

The renovation of the Butternut Lake Hoffman Rocks boat landing site has been awaiting federal funds in order to move forward with this project. This project is competing with numerous other federal funded boat landing projects statewide. At this time it is on hold for those funds and has been entered/moved to the 2025-2027 biennium project listing. However, this project was part of previous biennium project timelines and could continue to get pushed further out. These all keep getting pushed back until funds become available.

We will continue to push for the completion of this renovation with state and federal elected officials and keep you posted on the timing of the 2025 renovation.

**Summer  
FULL  
MOONS**

May 23	<i>Full Moon - Flower</i>
June 20	<i>Summer Solstice</i>
June 21	<i>Full Moon - Strawberry</i>
July 21	<i>Full Moon - Buck</i>
August 19	<i>Full Moon - Sturgeon</i>
September 17	<i>Full Moon - Harvest (Supermoon)</i>

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## **Yellow Iris Eradication with Blue Iris**

Over the last few years, we have been working to eradicate the invasive yellow iris on both lakes. The Ashland County Aquatic Invasive Species office provided us with a plan to work to eradicate the invasive yellow iris by planting blue iris which will overtake the yellow. Yellow Iris is not native but naturalizes easily in wetlands. All parts of the yellow iris are toxic to humans, cats, and dogs.

### **To eradicate yellow iris, you can:**

- Control small stands of yellow flag iris through hand removal. Plants should be dug, taking care to remove as many rhizomes as possible. Gloves should be used when handling this plant, as the sap can cause skin irritation in some people.
- Be prepared for a long haul, as total control of yellow flag iris may take several years.
- Use a shovel to dig out mature plants, along with a pickax to get the long taproots.
- Wear sturdy gloves and long sleeves because the resins in the plant can irritate the skin.
- Be vigilant about cleaning up debris because even tiny pieces of rhizomes can resprout if left on the ground.



Blue Iris is available at your local nursery or online at [www.prairienursery.com](http://www.prairienursery.com).

## **Keep Our Lakes Healthy!**

Fertilizers used on lawns can harm lakes by causing nutrient imbalances and algae blooms, impacting water quality and biodiversity. Follow these guidelines from the DNR to minimize the use of fertilizers near the lake – it makes a big difference and keeps the lakes clean and safe!

[What you can do | Nonpoint Source Pollution | Wisconsin DNR \(dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Nonpoint/whatyoucando.html\)](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Nonpoint/whatyoucando.html)

## **Kids Don't Float Kiosk**

Look for the BSLA sponsored Kids Don't Float Kiosk at Hoffman's Rocks this summer. If you are short of a life jacket, feel free to borrow one but don't forget to return it. The KDF Kiosk provides the free use of life jackets for anyone needing one. Stay safe this summer!!!!



## **Wisconsin Fishing Regulations**

May 4<sup>th</sup> kicked off another fishing season in Wisconsin. Enjoy a great fishing season but please make certain you know the laws and regulations. [Fishing | Wisconsin DNR \(https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Fishing\)](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Fishing)

**May 25<sup>th</sup>** Musky Opener

**June 15<sup>th</sup>** Small mouth bass opener

Butternut/Schnur daily bag limits. Possession limit is no more than two days of daily limit per species in your possession.

**Walleye - 3** (only 1 over 14 inches)

**Panfish - 25 in total** (no more than 10 per species)

**Musky - 1** (minimum length 40 inches)

**Northern - 5**

**Large/small Bass - 5 in total**

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# BSLA NEWSLETTER CONTINUED...

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## **BSLA Adopt – A – Highway**

This spring BSLA volunteers helped to clean our nearly 5 mile stretch of Hwy 13 from Park Falls to Butternut. The BSLA has adopted the stretch of the highway, and two signs note our efforts. Over 15 bags of trash were collected on an unusually cool Saturday in mid-April. Thanks to all who volunteered their time to keep our roadways clean!!!

## Did You Know...

Wisconsin has 15,074 lakes (not counting Michigan or Superior) and Minnesota has 11,842. And unlike Minnesota (or Illinois) Wisconsin also has a professional football team!!!!



## **BSLA 2024 ANNUAL MEETING**

**August 17<sup>th</sup> | 1:00 pm | Bobbers on the Lake**  
11633 LakeView Drive , Butternut, WI, United States, Wisconsin

**JOIN BSLA TODAY**  
for only \$25/year!

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ATTACHED!**

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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:**



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# 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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