

Spring 2007

Spring has sprung! Time to get back to the lake and fun in the sun. Your lake association has been busy with a number of issues on the lake. A number of board members have contributed to this newsletter this year and therefore there is more comprehensive information included.

The BCLA fisheries subcommittee continues to partner and work with the DNR to monitor the health and population of the various fish species in Big Cormorant Lake. We have been working on some joint projects with the DNR and are happy to report that our lake is generally in good shape with most classes of walleyes and other species in the appropriate ranges. Pollution of our lake poses the biggest threat to the fishery. As a reminder, please do not use any phosphorus fertilizers on your yards and use caution when filling gas in your watercraft to prevent spillage.

Thank you and have fun fishing out there this summer!

COLA

We had our first COLA meeting of the year on April 12th. RMB Environmental Labs in Detroit Lakes discussed the continuing process of monitoring lakes for positive and negative trends to help lake associations head off potential problems with lake water quality. They have a great website

with a tremendous amount of information on the area lakes for anyone who is interested. The website is www.rmbel.info. Once connected click on the Lakes Monitoring link.

COLA has stressed and written letters of concern to Becker County about old septic system inspections. Becker County is going to start rotational septic inspections beginning with septic systems that are more than 10 years old. They will start with the lakes that have the worst TSI (Trophic Status Index) first. It will be a long, slow process, but it is at least a first step. COLA is asking for all Lake Associations to continue to push Becker County on this issue to get septic systems up to date.

4th of July Boat Parade

The annual 4th of July Boat Parade is on again! Don't miss this opportunity to show your patriotic spirit. All boats are welcome, decorated or not, to tour the lake together. We will meet on Wednesday, July 4th, at 11:00 a.m. in front of the north shore boat landing. We hope to see you there!

BCLA Foundation

We are asking again for donations to the Big Cormorant Lake Area Foundation (BCLAF). Remember, all donations are tax deductible to the maximum allowed under IRS regulations and will be used for the betterment of the Big Cormorant Lake area. To quote a founding member of the foundation, "The fund provides for us to be good stewards of the natural resources, which benefits everyone, and becomes our legacy for future generations!" Any donations, large or small, will be

very much appreciated. It is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization with the funds managed by the West Central Initiative. All donations are entirely tax deductible and a separate check payable to BCLAF may be included with your dues.

BCLA Website

Check out the new look of the Big Cormorant Lake Association website. It still can be accessed at www.bigcormorant.com. There you can find the latest lake water levels, pictures from last year's boat parade, BCLA board meeting minutes, a lake events calendar, past ice-off dates, links to great sites like RMB laboratories for lake sampling reports and a whole lot more. For suggestions contact the Webmaster by clicking the Contact Us button found on the left hand navigation bar of the website.

BCLA dues

The BCLA Board has decided it is time to update the dues structure for the organization and strengthen our treasury. We voted unanimously to raise the dues to \$20.00 per year beginning this year. Again we will furnish lunch at the annual meeting.

BCLA monitors water samples and clarity measurements during the summer months. We also have dramatically improved the looks and usefulness of the web site.

The board also feels it necessary to maintain a reserve fund for those emergencies as they arise.

We have included an envelope for your convenience to pay your dues rather than stand in line at the door to the annual meeting. Please complete the address information and include it with your dues if there are any corrections to be

made.

Annual meeting

Our annual meeting will again be at the Cormorant Town Hall in Cormorant Village. June 16th, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to noon—with lunch. The Becker County Sheriff will update us on water safety rules along with Karen Terry from the University of MN. Extension Service regarding shore land management.

Door Prizes, Door Prizes Galore!!!

We also need a board member. If you would like to volunteer! E-mail president@bigcormorant.com or give me a call at home at 218-439-3359.

—Joe Lightowler, President

Annual MEMBERSHIP Meeting June 16, 2007

Cormorant Community
Center, Cormorant Village

10:00 AM:

- Business meeting
- Special speakers
- Door prizes

11:30 AM (approx.)-Lunch

**Dues are again due. \$20
—payable to the BCLA.**

***Please use the form with this
newsletter & Include any
information changes.***

BIG CORMORANT LAKE ASSOCIATION • 2006 MEMBERSHIP DUES (\$20)

Please print:

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Lake Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____



Return this form and your check for \$20, payable to BCLA, to:

Greg Pung, BCLA Treasurer, PO Box 9013, Fargo, ND 58106-9013