

Boone Lake is BACK!

**Help Boone Lake Association (BLA) sustain TVA's
\$400+ Million investment in our Community**

BOONE LAKE ASSOCIATION

Piney Flats, TN 37686

423.360.5057

www.boonelakeassociation.org



www.facebook.com/boonelakeassociation

WATCHING THE WATERS

March 2022

Greetings Friends of Boone Lake,

The Business of Keeping Boone Lake Clean and Safe

Your Association is not only a Nonprofit 501(c)(3), but also a “Business”. Sometimes, while focusing on the environmental good that we do, we forget that underlying that “good” is a business organization, staffed by volunteers and employees, which seeks to provide the foundation that supports our on-lake efforts. Thankfully we have volunteers from all walks of life who bring all manner of skills to our organization. We work hard to make BLA more efficient, and therefore effective in all we do.

Last year we partnered with TVA and BDRC to undertake the massive effort to remove years of debris out of our lake to ready it for recreational enjoyment in all forms. We purchased and rigged our first skimmer boat. We bought new chain saws, generators, and a new crane with which to load heavy objects onto our boats. We outfitted our crews with safety gear. We put in place a mobile phone GPS-enabled timeclock system to better manage staff responses and fleet maintenance. BLA also became a drug free workplace to lower our insurance costs.

Lastly, we upgraded our accounting and timekeeping systems to enhance financial reporting. We still need volunteers in Social Media, Education, Grants, and Corporate Fund Raising.

You may not see these business system upgrades which are allowing us to respond to the “please help me” calls through our Hot Line to remove thousands of tons of material from our lake with our various partners. But these efforts enable us to be a better steward of Boone Lake and the environment.

This year, like every other small business, we are faced with surging labor costs. We compete with many other employers at \$15 per hour, leaving a projected shortfall of over \$60,000 this year. With your help we believe we can “balance the budget” and sustain our Boone Lake for the Community. If there is a place where you wish to volunteer, reach out to me at (423) 360-5057.

For the Association,

Val Kosmider

Welcome to our new Major Sponsors:

Cutting Edge Contracting | (423) 946-1078 | Docks

East Tennessee Rent-Alls | (423) 282-3221 | Equipment

Kerwin's Volunteer Motors | (423) 573-2629 | Transportation

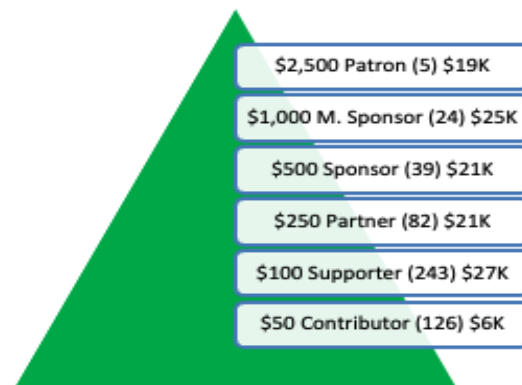
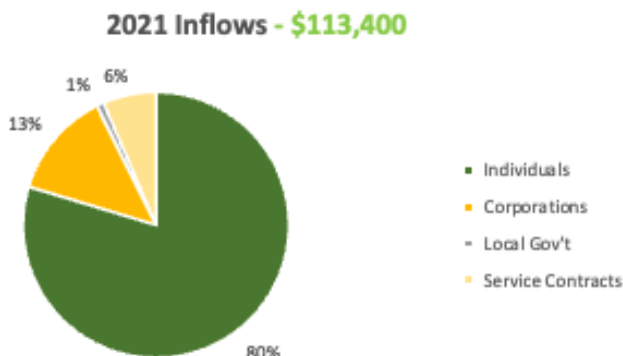
Mickey Ellis, CPA | (423) 787-0855 | Services

Special Thanks to:

Mr. and Mrs. William Holtzclaw who graciously donated the Smoker-Craft to BLA, motor and canopy intact, for use as we wished. We could rehabilitate it and sell it to raise cash for operations or convert it for our needs in cleaning Boone Lake. We are in the process of retrofitting it for the crew to use.

Contributor Report – Gary Parker

Last year (2021) was a good, but still challenging for Boone Lake Association (BLA) Although our contributor count was up (448), it was still a far cry from the 601 we experienced in 2014 preceding the dam repair.



This year we are experiencing a mix of contributors, some reducing their regular donations and some first-time contributors. Over all our contribution total is running slightly behind last year at this time which is unfortunate since BLA is being hit with the same inflationary wage and equipment cost pressure as the rest of the country. We are working hard to expand our income base and we ask that you continue your great support for BLA, the only organization that ensures the beauty, safety and water quality of Boone Lake. With your support we can continue to keep the Lake one of the most beautiful in the TVA system.

On the Cover: With TVA completing the planned \$457 million dam repair, help Boone Lake Association (BLA) sustain TVA's investment in our community. Boone Lake is one of Tri-Cities' biggest economic assets: electric generation, fishing, boating, recreation and entertainment events at Winged Deer.



BooneLakeAssociation.org



23rd Annual Boone Lake Cleanup Day

CASH for TRASH - PICNIC

Saturday – April 30, 2022

Register and receive your trash bags starting at 9AM at 1 of 5 trash collection sites.

Return your full bags no later than 3PM - Food at 4PM - Cash Prizes at 5PM

Trash Collection Sites:

#1 Boone Lake Marina

#2: Davis Boat Dock

#3: Pickens Bridge Ramp

#4 Sonny's Marina

#5: Winged Deer Park 11E ramp

CASH for TRASH: Pick up trash/Debris in the bags provided. Bring the bags and larger items (large wood, appliances, Styrofoam, tires and other items) to the trash collection site by 3pm and receive a prize drawing ticket for each item and a wristband for access to the music, picnic, and drawings at Winged Deer Park.

PICNIC & MUSIC: The Winged Deer Park picnic includes food served at 4pm to the cleanup participants. Each participant will receive an event t-shirt. Please bring your lawn chairs to enjoy the food and music.

The cash prize drawings will begin at 5:00 pm. You must be present to receive a prize.

We thank you for helping to keep Boone Lake clean.

For more info call BLA at: (423) 360-5057 Or email: boonelakeassociation@gmail.com

Presented by the following Major Sponsors (2021 Included)



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Boone Lake



FOOD CITY

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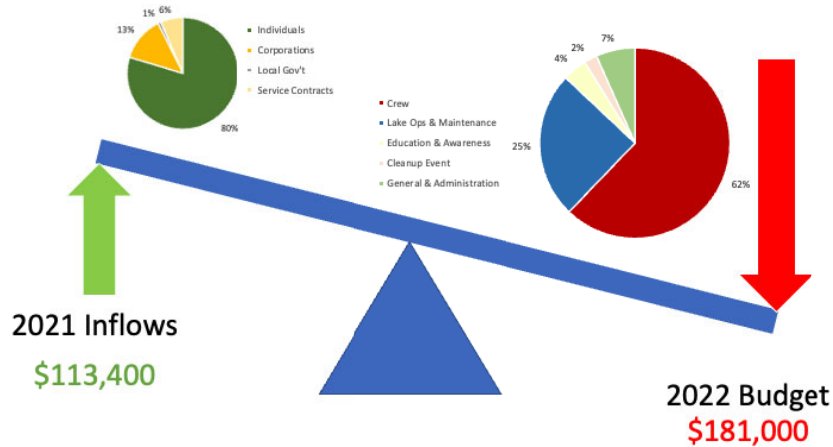
KERWIN'S VOLUNTEER MOTORS

TVA restored the Dam – *and they will depart July 2022*

.....**BDRC** was formed to restore the Shoreline – *and they will disband July 2022*

.....**BLA** cleans, restores and serves Boone Lake – *from 1983 → into the future*

.....**Help BLA Balance the 2022 Budget and keep Boone Lake CLEAN & SAFE**



Why is BLA's 2022 Budget projected to be a deficit?

- Crew wages were increased \$11 to \$15/Hour, w/o benefits, to obtain quality crew
- Lake Operations are very labor intensive and make up 87% of the total BLA Budget
- 2 Channels (S. Holston & Watauga) require 2 BLA crews to meet the needs of 130+ miles
- Contributions are beginning to return, but inflows need to be 50% higher in 2022

Can I have confidence in BLA's 2022 financial numbers?

- Yes, thanks to Professionals and Professional Organizations supplementing BLA's \$\$\$
- With *Blackburn, Childers & Stegall's* help, BLA was able to file an expanded disclosure
- With *Micky Ellis, CPA's* help, BLA produced first-ever Audited Financial Statements

Why is 2022 more demanding than past years?

- 6 years of shoreline-accumulated trees and debris are now floating into the channels
- TVA vegetation cuttings will also float this Season, and TVA's crews will depart July 2022
- New homes being built, marinas expanding and TVA lake system visitors now increasing

If I increase my 2022 giving will that lead to more 2023 pressure on Individual Contributors?

- No, BLA is working to obtain more inflow help from area Corporations and Governments
- More local companies are joining in as Major Sponsors for BLA's annual Cleanup Event
- Washington Co., Sullivan Co. & Johnson City contributed to BLA's automation project in 2019-20
- BLA is still waiting for Bristol and Kingsport to share some TVA economic impact \$\$\$

Footnote: Thanks to past support from our 2 Counties, Johnson City and hundreds of Individual Contributors BLA can begin 2022 with an adequate cash reserve, 1 of 2 planned Skimmer boats procured and operational on the lake—and a second for the S. Holston channel pending Bristol joining together with Sullivan County and Kingsport's contingent support.

Water Quality Monitoring

- Jim Slaight

Boone Lake water levels are beginning to rise toward full summer pool and we're sure that most of you are looking forward to getting back on the lake for a full measure of boating, fishing, and swimming. Beginning in mid-April, your Boone Lake Association will be re-starting the monitoring of the lake's water

quality in our effort to make your recreational activities as safe and as much fun as possible. We have one crew returning from last year for the South Holston side and have spoken to volunteers for the Watauga side. If you're interested in helping, please let us know.

As a reminder and to all our new friends, Boone Lake Association partners with the Johnson City Water

Treatment Plant to monitor water quality. In 2022 one of our major sponsors, Inframark who operates the Bristol Wastewater Treatment Plant, has offered to support BLA's water quality efforts. We notify TVA, TDEC and TWRA of any abnormal readings or lake conditions such as unidentified biologics or fish kills. For further information about our testing procedures, please visit our website at www.boonelakeassociation.org

Boone Lake Fishing Report

- Capt. Jonathan Black

Boone Lake is on fire right now! As an angler this is a magical time of the year. The Bass are awakening from the winter doldrums and are ready to move shallow. Look around main lake points and heading into the backs of coves. Try using a shallow crankbait, or jerkbait, to entice them to bite. Spotted Bass, Largemouth Bass, and Smallmouth Bass, will all be ready to take a bait with the water rising. Worms fished slow on the bottom with a slower twitch action will also be another key bait this time of year.

If you're after Stripers and Hybrids, and are ready to feel the line screaming

action these big fish bring, try using live bait drifted behind the boat. If you love Crappie fishing things are really heating up, try fishing around Marinas, and/or over tree tops in mid-range water depths. Small jigs and live shiners are the key to filling your limit, and bringing home a tasty meal. If you're after those big Brown trout, use night Crawlers under a float. If you're on a vessel you can troll shad lures 2-3 knots behind your boat at various depths.

Whatever the species you are targeting, this is a wonderful time of year to be on the water. While you are enjoying the water make sure you keep a watchful eye out for debris floating in the water from the lake coming to full pool. And as always when you visit our beautiful lake, please remember to pick up any

trash and dispose of it properly, leave the lake better than it was when you came. Together we can keep Boone Lake clean and safe!

Hope to see you on the lake, and as always keep those lines tight!



Captain Jonathan Black with a recent catch

Meet BLA's 2022 Lake Operations Crew... dedicated Outdoorsmen

- Jay Wise

How does BLA secure an experienced "Captain"? Well, please welcome Capt. Jon Black to our Lake from Florida as your new Crew Chief! During the week he will be leading the crew and learning the lake from our long-time Lake Ops Manager Jay; but on weekends this 15-year member of Bass Pro's fishing team earns his living from fishing tournaments throughout the Southeast. Capt. Jon has a Coast Guard Captain's License where he operated coastal fishing charters and as an avid fisherman holds several world records. Jon loves being on the water and wants to

make a difference cleaning Boone Lake.

Supporting Jon and Jay are BLA's two new crew members, Gene Miller and Nick Fuller. Gene comes to BLA from Summers-Taylor and has an extensive background as an industrial forklift operator. Gene lives on the lake and likes kayaking and fishing so that led him to want his "day-job" to be on Boone Lake. Nick is also new to the area, having recently completed 5 years in the Marine Corps, proudly serving our country in Afghanistan. Nick enjoys the outdoors, hunting, fishing and now, working on Boone Lake.

All have a Love for Boone Lake and are working diligently to help make the lake cleaner and safer for everyone to enjoy!



BLA Lake Ops crew: Nick Fuller, Captain Jon Black and Gene Miller. Be sure to say hello when you see them at work on the lake.



Boone Lake Association
P.O. Box 111
Piney Flats, TN 37686

January 1 – December 31, 2022

**THANK YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING
GENEROUSLY TO KEEP BOONE LAKE CLEAN**

CONTRIBUTION LEVEL:

_____ \$2500+ **Patron**
_____ \$1000+ **Major Sponsor**
_____ \$500+ **Sponsor**
_____ \$250+ **Partner**
_____ \$100+ **Supporter**
_____ \$50+ **Contributor**

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Check payable to Boone Lake Association
or on our website

Please print clearly

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☐ Contact me about volunteering.

www.boonelakeassociation.org



Watching
the Waters

Cleaning Boone Lake since 1983

PINEY FLATS, TN 37686

P.O. BOX 111

ASSOCIATION

BOONE LAKE