

# SHORELINER



**BOONE LAKE ASSOCIATION**  
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**WATCHING THE WATERS**

**June 2022**

 [www.facebook.com/boonelakeassociation](https://www.facebook.com/boonelakeassociation)



## Letter from the President / CEO, Boone Lake Association



To Our Wonderful Supporters:

As usual, I have many more things to speak about than space in which to say them

The GREAT news: YOUR Lake is back at full pool (and above due to some recent rains). The not-so-great news: there is a ton of “stuff” out there which nature has deposited for us to clean up.

We’re on it! The local marinas are on it. TVA and BDRC are on it! And we’re all pretty good at it. Out hotline rings constantly, and our email box receives hot tips on places where logs, brush, old docks and trash are creating a hazard to recreational activity.

May 25th was the “official” re-opening of Boone Lake. \$450 Million dollars later, our Lake is back. TVA held a ribbon cutting ceremony with local dignitaries and the many folks who have been instrumental in completing this enormous project in a safe and timely manner. Your Boone Lake Association was recognized as one of the partners who helped to bring our lake back in pristine condition. The TVA CEO also noted in his remarks the value of Boone Lake to the region: \$1 Million dollars of economic impact for every one of the 130 Miles of shoreline! Our mantra has always been about the importance of Boone Lake to the Region. Representatives from the Senate, Congress, Counties and Cities were present: we hope they heard his message and will help to fund support for the area’s largest environmental resource.

A tip of the hat must be given to Mary Ellen Miller, Public Relations person for the Boone Dam Repair project for TVA. Mary Ellen (Mel) was a critical conduit for our group into the TVA world. We accessed so many important people in the TVA organization through Mel, without whose help we could never have partnered with, and accomplished the presentation of a clean lake, through TVA.

The Boone Dam Repair Coalition (BDRC) joined with us and TVA to provide logistical services as part of the long-term vegetation removal from Boone Lake. They regularly toured the Lake, mapped areas of need, knocked on doors to gain permission and access to the water’s edge, and followed up to cross off items which were remedied. Truly a grass roots efforts of the people, by the people and for the people.

**On the Cover:** Celebrating summer and Independence Day at America’s Bash on Boone Lake. Photo courtesy of Frank Hahne.

Johnson City has also been a valuable partner in helping us to remove cuttings and logs from Boone Lake. If you have been to Winged Deer Park you have perhaps seen the literal mountains of logs and brush which we have piled there. Johnson City then comes with their brush truck (but not before the fire marshal called and wanted to know how large a bonfire we were planning (by the way, the stuff is SO waterlogged it will not burn!) and could we please get it removed) and, along with a private trucking firm, carted the stuff away to be recycled, as possible, and dumped when not.

As we go to press there are two large slicks on the lake. One each on the Holsten and Watauga sides of the river. Please be cautious when out on the water. The Watauga side will be cleaned when our equipment for unloading the skimmer boat comes back from repair. Thankfully, with your help and smart money management, our coffers will allow us to expend the resources necessary to repair our 20-year-old Caterpillar Telehandler. But not cheaply!

The Holston side is not so easy as we are still awaiting funding for the second skimmer from Bristol and Kingsport, both of which have passed legislation to provide partial funding, but with conditions which are not acceptable to a small, not for profit organization like BLA. As a result, we are now developing the most cost-effective alternative for the Lake within the limits of the appropriated and acceptable funding.

In April of this year, BLA held its annual Clean Up. You can read the details elsewhere in this publication. Suffice it to say, this was our best ever clean up. We attracted more volunteers, more financial backers, fed more people at our picnic and collected more junk than ever before.

Get out and enjoy YOUR lake.

For the Association,

Val Kosmider

Your 2022 BLA Board of Directors: Val Kosmider, Frank Hahne, Jim Slaight, Ann Larson, Jerry Frank, Gary Parker, Jeanette Bailey, and Laurie Spring.

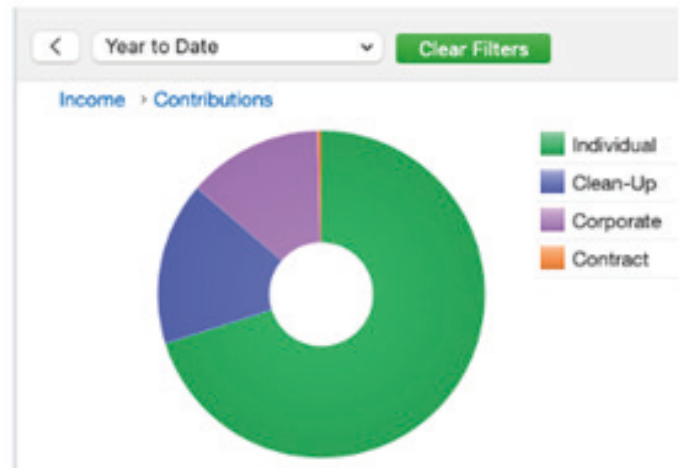
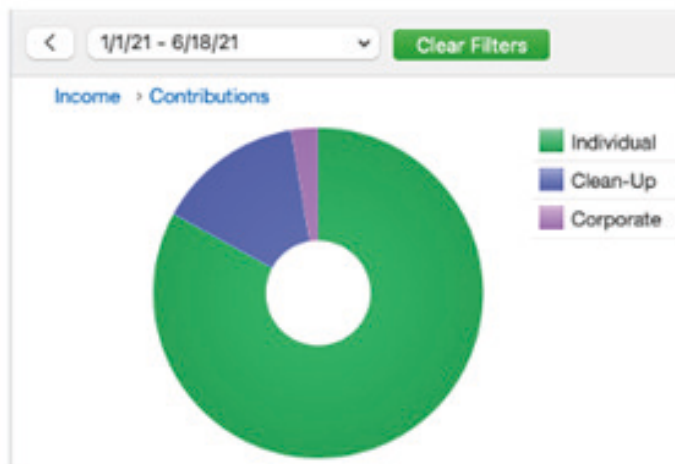


.....*Help BLA Balance the 2022 Budget and keep Boone Lake CLEAN & SAFE*



**Thank you all!** New Sponsors, long-time Contributors and local government agencies. Year-to-Date you have helped BLA close the potential gap to **HALF** what the budget projected—**BUT we are still only 72% of 432 contributors compared to 601 before lake drawdown!** Encourage your neighbors, volunteer your time, care for your shoreline and a follow up contribution would be outstanding.

Between cost savings and your generous support donations **we will manage to balance the 2022 Budget shortfall** while serving you, supporting TVA crews and all who are COMING BACK to Boone Lake this year. You can see the progress below comparing 2022's increase in both Cleanup Event Major Sponsors and Corporate Sponsors coming alongside all our Individual Contributors.



**We are only 1/2 way there** to balancing the 2022 Budget and keeping Boone Lake Clear, Clean & Safe. **Let's finish 2022 strong** and help us make BLA the sustainable environmental organization you are proud to support. Thank you again!

#### 435 Contributors climbing towards Pre-Repair level of 600+...Gary Parker

BLA's contributions are on pace with last year. In 2021 our year-to-date receipts were \$80,254 compared with the current \$82,494. The 2022 contributor count is 435 compared with the 2021 year-end total of 446. This is still far short of our all-time total of 601 in 2014 prior to the dam repair. On a bright note, the 2022 annual cleanup was a great success in terms of participation, effectiveness and the income collected from the event sponsors. Our total cleanup income for 2022 is \$23,500 compared with \$15,750 collected in 2021. If you have an opportunity, please reward these great sponsors with your business. BLA continues to see an increasing demand for its services and faces the same inflationary cost pressure as everyone else in society. To achieve steady-state sustainability we need your support to get our contributor count back above the 600 level of the past.... or even greater!!!



# 2022 Cleanup Event: “Hundreds Helping Thousands”

- Ann Larson

What do you get when you add a beautiful day, over 300 volunteers, 27 Major sponsors, a picnic with music, a cash drawing, free t-shirts and a grand prize kayak? You get a very successful 2022 Annual Boone Lake Clean Up. On Saturday April 30th, volunteers collected 15 tons of trash, 152 tires, 101 large blocks of Styrofoam 5 derelict docks and 93 miscellaneous items. And the end result is a cleaner, healthier, and safer lake to welcome kayakers, canoeists, paddleboarders, boaters, water skiers, wake boarders, jet skiers, fishermen, and anyone who enjoys the lake. THANK YOU! Special thanks to Gary Parker and Laurie Spring, 2022 Clean Up committee co-chairs, who organized this event.








**The Annual Clean Up day is BLA's largest turnout to help, but Cleaning Up is a Year-round effort for the Crew...**



The Boone Lake Association is a not-for-profit 501c3. Your contributions to BLA may be tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations. Please check current rules for tax purposes as IRS tax codes may change. We appreciate your support! Every dollar you contribute goes to helping to keep Boone Lake clean and safe for everyone's enjoyment.



## Major Sponsor Directory

 <p><b>Ballad Health:</b> an integrated community health improvement organization <a href="http://www.balladhealth.org">www.balladhealth.org</a></p>	 <p><b>David M. Ellis, CPA:</b> a certified public accountant (423) 787-0855</p>	 <p><b>Kerwin's Volunteer Motors:</b> largest selections of used vehicles in the area. (423) 455-5892 <a href="http://www.kerwinvolmotors.com">www.kerwinvolmotors.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Bass Pro Shops:</b> your trusted source for quality sporting goods. (423) 990-5200 <a href="http://www.basspro.com">www.basspro.com</a></p>	 <p><b>East Tenn Rent All:</b> a rental company of new and used products (423) 282-3221 <a href="http://www.etra.biz">www.etra.biz</a></p>	 <p><b>Lakeview Marina:</b> Located on Boone Lake and home of the famous Marker 2 Grille (423) 323-1054</p>
 <p><b>Boone Lake Marina:</b> a family-owned marina, (423) 391-7283 <a href="http://www.boonelakemarina.com">www.boonelakemarina.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Food City:</b> a locally owned and community focused grocery <a href="http://www.foodcity.com">www.foodcity.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Modern Woodmen of America:</b> offering financial services (423) 360-7908. <a href="http://www.modernwoodmen.org">www.modernwoodmen.org</a></p>
 <p><b>BrightRidge:</b> your local non-profit utility. (423) 952-5000. <a href="http://www.brightridge.com">www.brightridge.com</a></p>	<p><b>Herndon, Coleman Brading McKee:</b> providing the Tri-Cities with exceptional legal services (423) 434-4700 <a href="http://www.lawyerfirm.com">www.lawyerfirm.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Republic Services:</b> an American waste disposal company (423) 357-6777 <a href="http://www.republicservices.com">www.republicservices.com</a></p>
 <p><b>BTES:</b> a municipally-owned electric utility (423) 968-1526 <a href="http://www.btes.net">www.btes.net</a></p>	 <p><b>Holston Distributing:</b> serving the Tri-Cities since 1934. (423) 975-5200 <a href="http://www.holstondistributing.com">www.holstondistributing.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Rockingham Marina:</b> Tennessee's largest pontoon dealership, repair shop, slips and restaurant (423) 207-6016 <a href="http://www.rockinghammarina.com">www.rockinghammarina.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Carefree Boat Club:</b> an alternative to owning a boat 844-2GO-BOAT <a href="http://www.carefreeboats.com">www.carefreeboats.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Inframark:</b> an independent, American-owned company (423) 989-5570 <a href="http://www.inframark.com">www.inframark.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Tennessee Valley Authority:</b> a federally owned electric utility corporation managing Boone Lake Dam. <a href="http://www.tva.com">www.tva.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Cumulus Tri Cities Media:</b> an audio-first media company (423) 477-1000 <a href="http://www.cumulusmedia.com">www.cumulusmedia.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Jay's Boat Dock:</b> a marina and a restaurant on Boone Lake. (423) 773-9236 <a href="http://www.jaysboatdock.com">www.jaysboatdock.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Waste Management:</b> trash collection, recycling, and dumpster rentals <a href="http://www.wm.com">www.wm.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Cutting Edge Contracting:</b> a local general contractor - new docks (423) 946-1078. <a href="http://www.cec423.com">www.cec423.com</a></p>	 <p><b>JC Parks &amp; Recreation:</b> operating 18 parks (423) 283-5815 <a href="http://www.johnsoncitytn.org">www.johnsoncitytn.org</a></p>	 <p><b>Wheels Contracting:</b> Custom Home Building Local Business. (828) 898-5510</p>

Additionally, we would like to thank the following government agencies for their support: Sullivan and Washington Counties, and Washington County Sheriff Dept. And as always thanks to TVA, our year- round partner in keeping Boone Lake clean and safe.



## What happens after you call/contact BLA

- Frank Hahne

1. Call line or email message picked up; 2. Search BLA database for requester; 3. Lookup where crew(s) are located;



4. Enter request into Call Log spreadsheet to plan when/how to balance "watching the waters" for all;

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BLA is striving to have 2 paid Lake Ops Crews to remove large floating and partially submerged logs that are the greatest threat to navigation and recreation of those families and boaters first, and then servicing the requests from Contributors up and down the 130 miles of Boone Lake shoreline. One does not have to be a BLA contributor for us to respond to a request or report—especially if it is a threat to those using the lake. BLA currently has 5 boats that we move up and down the lake using slips at different, cooperating marinas balancing the latest Lake Operations plans and the backlog of requests. BLA has implemented GPS tools for our staff and boats to help our Lake Operations respond. Please be patient if we do not have resources close enough to you when you make your request. We assure you we have not forgotten your need—just trying to be the best steward we can be for all you have entrusted to us!

## TVA is Transitioning

- Frank Hahne

— Thank You. We will miss YOU, and your BIG equipment!



BLA has some big shoes to fill, but with your help in meeting our 2022 budget and the use of some limited capital funds from local government entities (<1% of TVA Economic Impact funds received during the draw-down) we intend to serve you and the Lake Stakeholders to the best of our ability and resources.

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## Water Quality Monitoring

- Jim Slaight

Boone Lake water levels are at full summer pool and I'm sure that most of us are enjoying the boating, fishing, and swimming. Phil and Dee Dee Mehringer graciously took time out to take water samples on the South Holston side on June 14th and the E.coli readings met EPA standards for swimming and other water related activities.

With Boone Lake up to full pool, the lake is much larger than when the dam was under repair and one crew can't monitor both sides, within the time constraints

required, to provide viable water samples to our partners, the Johnson City Water Treatment Plant Lab. The Johnson City Water Treatment Lab provides us with E. coli testing which is a major factor in determining whether the water meets EPA safety standards for boating and swimming. We need two crews to gather water samples, one for each arm. We have Phil and Dee Dee returning from last year for the South Holston side and are in desperate need of volunteers for the Watauga side. If you can take samples on a weekday in order to get E. coli samples to the lab and you're interested in helping us out, 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 and we notify TVA, TDEC and TWRA of any abnormal readings or abnormal lake conditions such as unidentified biologics or fish kills. There's no single governmental entity that has comprehensive responsibility for the water quality of Boone Lake and given Boone Lake's position in the TVA system, Boone Lake's environmental problems could be felt far downstream, affecting other lake's communities and wildlife.

## Boone Lake Fishing Report

- Contributed by Derrick Paduch,  
Account Representative, Modern Woodmen  
and Pres. Outdoorsmen Inc.

Most striped bass and hybrid bass are up in the mouths of both the South Holston and Watauga Rivers searching for cooler water, while some have moved into deep water areas of the lake. Remember, it can be harmful to the larger fish to be caught in the deep and brought into the much warmer water surface temperatures. All around the lake we are starting to see good quantities of F1 bass being caught, so it looks like survival rates from last year's stocking are good. Although these fish are small now, there is hope that Boone Lake will become a fishery for 10lb+ Largemouth Bass in the future. And speaking of 10+ fish, there were many Brown Trout being caught earlier in the Spring. However, for now, those fish have moved deep with little chance of being caught until surface temperatures cool again.



## Crew News

- Jeanette Bailey

New Hires: Dakota McDaniel from the Elizabethton area joined BLA as a full time crewmember in June. He is young and strong. We hope he gets Boone lake fever so he becomes a long-term member. Blake Poland also joined the BLA crew in June as a summer time member. He is a senior at ETSU. Go Bucs! Blake lives on Boone so he brings boat driving experience. Nick Fuller, our Marine veteran, is currently running the daily shifts and we all appreciate what he is able to get done each day leading the Crew.

Jay Wise is our Supervisor over all BLA crew employees. He has lived on Boone his entire life and well known for his knowledge and assistance provided to Boone lake property owners. His devotion to BLA and Boone are very much appreciated.

Your contributions pay for our crew and boating expenses. Please give a wave when you see their smiling faces on the BLA boats. Thank you!

Life insurance,  
**retirement planning**  
and financial services



Derrick Paduch, FIC  
B 423-360-7908

Let's talk

Modern Woodmen  
FRATERNAL FINANCIAL



423-391-7283  
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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:**

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\_\_\_\_\_ \$1000+ **Major Sponsor**  
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*BLA is an IRS approved 501c3*

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☐ Contact me about volunteering.

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Watching  
the Waters

Cleaning Boone Lake since 1983

PINEY FLATS, TN 37686

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