

SHORELINER



BOONE LAKE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 111

Piney Flats, TN 37686

www.boonelakeassociation.org



www.facebook.com/boonelakeassociation

WATCHING THE WATERS

February 2017

Letter from the BLA President



Zenda Nichols

Every day, your Boone Lake Association’s focus is on protecting Boone Lake’s water quality. For 33 years, the Boone Lake Association has guarded your Lake, protecting it from e-coli; defending it against invasive species; reducing water pollution (in the lake and from storm water run-off); and educating residents and businesses about how they can protect it now and for the future.

For our entire history, *our ability to protect our Lake is directly tied to people like you.* Boone Lake looks as good as it does because of the Boone Lake Association’s members and its focus!!

Even though our beautiful lake is now a beautiful river, it still needs attention. Total membership was 321 at the end of 2016, which is almost half of the all-time high in 2013 before the seepage was announced. We need you!! Without our members, Boone Lake Association would cease to exist!

If you have had Basic Membership in the past, please go up a notch to Supporter! It is still less than ten dollars per month. Your membership is tax deductible. If you haven’t paid your BLA membership dues, BLA needs you!

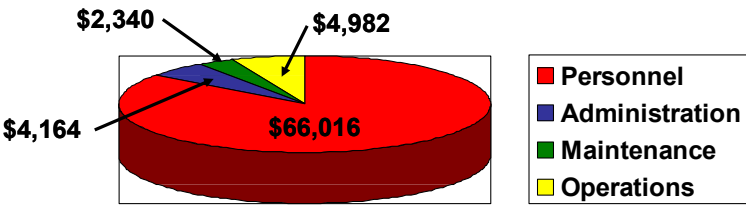
You may ask, “what do we get from our dues since the lake is below Winter pool all year round”? Over 90% of your BLA dues go to pay the three full time employees who navigate the Boone Lake waters collecting debris and burning it when allowed. There are three boats and motors which require maintenance. Your officers and Board Members are all volunteers!

By joining or renewing your membership in the Boone Lake Association, you are a critical part of the protection of Boone Lake, and you are part of a team whose sole focus is caring for our beloved lake!!

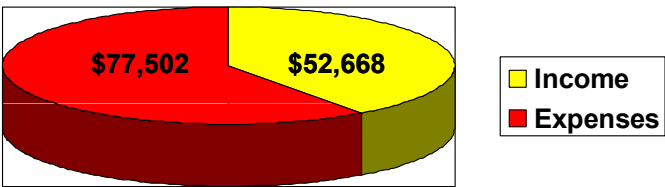
Let’s make this our best membership year yet! Recruit your friends and neighbors to be members of Boone Lake Association so we can continue to protect our beautiful lake!! In addition to membership going down, our committees have become one or two people doing all the work. We need help there too! So renew your membership ASAP and join us on a committee (or two)!!

BLA NEEDS YOU!!

Boone Lake Association 2016 Spending



Boone Lake Association 2016 Income/Expenses



Your 2017 Boone Lake Association Board

Officers

Zenda Nichols.....	President
Tom McKee.....	1 st Vice President
Val Kosmider	2 nd Vice President
Ann Larson	Secretary
Larry Larson	Treasurer

Members

Ron Siegfried
Chris Runyon
Frank Young
Aaron Warren
Jerry Frank

Won’t you consider joining us!! We’d love to add your name to the list of Board members.

Lake Operations



Ron Siegfried

The Lake Operations Committee (Frank Young, Jerry Frank and Ron Siegfried) and our great crew (Aaron Warren; Keith Britt; David Whitaker) met several times in 2016 to set schedules and discuss various strategies on cleaning Boone Lake in its current condition. We have to remember, litter does not take a holiday!

Boone Lake is fed by over 600 tributaries, each continuously feeding trash and logs throughout the year. Heavy rains mean more trash and logs. In past spring, summer and fall months, our crew has been able to tow large logs into one of our retention sites. During the winter months, after the lake level was dropped, our crew would cut and burn all the accumulated wood in each site. We did not have that luxury again in 2016. Our crew has had to tie up the logs along the bank out of harm's way to the boaters. In the past several months, we have been towing these logs to a designated spot on both the Watauga side and South Holston side. We cut and stacked the logs waiting for the weather to change so burn permits could be obtained. Finally, in early Dec the rains came and we were able to start burning by mid-December.

As I have stated before, with the lake down to record levels, much of our lake at each end is now just river with rapids. With this phenomena, the lake has developed two recurring trash slicks. On the Watauga side, we have one at the mouth of the cove leading into Sonny's Marina. On the South Holston side, we have one near the Rainbow Bridge. In both cases, they form where the cold river water meets the warmer lake water, a thermal effect. These two areas have to be cleaned every two weeks.

Our goal for 2015 and 2016 was to clean all shorelines and exposed banks of Boone Lake. The exposed banks have been cleaned, but the shoreline is continuously being cluttered with litter. One interesting and recurring phenomena we experienced this summer was the surfacing of very old logs, probably dating back to when the dam was constructed. We had numerous calls reporting these logs on both the Watauga and South Holston sides of the lake. They were highly dangerous to boaters and fishermen as many were barely visible. Many were over 30 feet in length. The crew towed them to the shoreline and tied up, out of harms way!

We sincerely want to thank **Johnson City** for the exclusive use of a trash receptacle at the Pickens Bridge ramp. This receptacle gets filled every week and their crew empties the receptacle weekly. We also want to thank the Boone Lake Marina and Davis Marina for allowing us to place collected lake trash in their trash receptacles.

Also, Johnson City graciously constructed a concrete pad for their trash receptacle at Pickens Bridge. Thank you!

These are great partnerships in keeping Boone Lake clean.

In all, 2016 was a great year for cleaning Boone Lake. We picked up trash that has been covered for many, many years. This effort will continue throughout 2017. A special thanks to our great crew (Aaron Warren, Keith Britt and David Whitaker)!

We have all seen it while boating on Boone Lake. As it decomposes, the lake and shoreline are covered with it. What is it? Styrofoam. Older dock construction used Styrofoam in all shapes and sizes. As these older docks age and fall into disrepair, the Styrofoam breaks loose. Add this phenomenon with the current lake situation with numerous old docks hanging off of cliffs slowly dropping Styrofoam into the lake and the magnitude of the problem greatly increases.



Ron Siegfried

Our crew has been busy removing Styrofoam off of Boone Lake over the past two years and storing it. Disposal of Styrofoam has always been a problem. Through the joint efforts of our crew, Jay's Dock (James) and Advanced Disposal (HWY 394), we were able to dispose of all the Styrofoam. This was no small project! With the use of James and his dump truck and Aaron's truck and trailer, they disposed of over 7 tons of Styrofoam. It took around 16 trips to Advanced Disposal. Quite the haul!

A special thanks to Advanced Disposal and Jays Dock (James) and our crew.

If you have any Styrofoam to dispose of, please call 423-956-6615 or Aaron at 423-956-8727. Our crew will be happy to coordinate its disposal.



One of 16 loads of Styrofoam!

“Is it 1983 All Over Again?”

It is 1983. Boone Lake is a dump that no one wants to go anywhere near. Virtually none of the housing developments which exist around the Lake today were in place. The Lake was considered a sewage hole, a dump, a place to be avoided at all costs. Certainly nobody but the bravest would swim in the waters, and the fishing? Pretty much the same.



Val Kosmider

Enter a small group of concerned citizens who thought this was no way to manage a precious asset. Law suits were filed against the City of Bristol for alleged dumping of sewage into the Lake. Johnson City, among others, discussed how to deal with the pollution and it was decided that a major effort needed to be undertaken to process City sewage—not just for reasons of saving Boone Lake, but in order for the City to grow and prosper. There would be no new housing, no new restaurants (and liquor by the drink was on the horizon), and growth would be stifled if the sewage issue was not addressed.

And that group of concerned citizens? It grew in number as residents saw an opportunity to get the Lake cleaned up and put to productive use. That was the beginnings of what we know today as the Boone Lake Association.

Fast forward to 2016.

The records seem to indicate that it was around 2010 or so. Bluff City Sewer System, which pumps its sewage into the Bristol system for processing, was having problems with overflow during periods of heavy precipitation. Numerous times are recorded by Tennessee Department of Environmental Conservation (TDEC) where sewage overflow from the Bluff City system, which combines sewage and storm drain run-off) was bubbling from sewer drains and making its way down to Boone Lake!

And then in late 2015 the situation became so bad that TDEC performed a “complaint and follow up investigation” which concluded that “The (Igloo) pump station had overflowed and that Bluff City personnel had taken action to install a pump to bypass flow around the station until such time as it could be fully repaired and returned to service.”

In early spring of 2016 the Boone Lake Association took water samples during a heavy rain event. The water samples indicated that the sewage overflow was depositing higher than normal amounts of e-coli into the full pool Boone Lake basin, and ultimately down into what is currently the Lake itself:

During 2016 Bluff City submitted an action plan to the State, but various delays caused the completion date of the corrective plan

to be extended further and further, such that now the final Date for complete remediation just occurred, in January 2017.

During the delay, TDEC issued fines, local citizens filed legal action, and the Boone Lake Association collected water, and then earth/soil, samples and followed up with various groups such as the Tennessee Clean Water Network to exert pressure to stem the flow of tainted water into Boone Lake. TDEC records indicate that the amount of sewage actually entering the Lake was only in the tens of gallons, but by observation of the overflow from manholes and the depth of the rut created by the flow, it appears that the gallonage could have been much higher. One recent event, where a tanker truck was used to bypass overwhelmed pumps, reportedly carted away 26,000 gallons of toxic water.

By late 2016 the repairs were in place, and scheduled for final inspection and approval in early 2017. The good news comes to this matter in a strange sort of way: The tainted water flowing into Boone Lake is, as measured by Boone Lake Association water testing, quickly dispersed in what is now a narrow and relatively swift moving, section of Boone Lake/The Holston River. This condition is an unintended consequence of the Lake being lowered significantly to accommodate repairs to Boone Dam. Completion of the repairs, by local reports, has stemmed the flow of sewage onto the full pool Lake basin and, subsequently, into Boone Lake.

That is not to say that vigilance and monitoring of the Bluff City situation is not warranted. Our last sediment samples of the full pool basin soil in and around the ruts created by the overflow indicate that this soil is not in good health. High levels of coliform (the land based form of water borne e-coli) are present in the soil. Whether these levels will drop over time with natural dispersion from rain (which flows into Boone Lake) before the Lake re-floods from completion of the Boone Lake Dam repair remains to be seen. Your Boone Lake Association will continue to monitor developments in Bluff City in an effort to keep Boone Lake from ever again facing the issues which were present in 1983, and started to assert themselves again in the

current century. There simply is NO justification for sewage ever running into Boone Lake ever again.



***Boone Lake Association wishes to give special thanks to The Environmental Health Sciences Lab at ETSU and to Environmental Sciences Corporation for the costly processing of soil sample on our behalf.*

Boone Lake Association—Water Quality Testing 2016

Your Boone Lake Association actively monitored the water quality of the Lake during 2016. In addition to this effort, TVA conducted a survey of fish health during October. Both efforts reveal the Lake, with one potentially serious exception noted in another article in *Shoreliner*, to be in reasonably good health.

Boone Lake flowed fast during 2016 as rain in the mountains came down through a narrower channel of water. This meant that the water was cooler than “normal” during most of our tests. One significant effect of the cooler water temperatures was healthy levels of dissolved oxygen. This is good for the fish, although many of the fishermen, who are noticeably active on the Lake,

commented that “their fishing was not a threat to the fish population”!

Ph Readings, a measure of acidity in the water, were normal. E-coli tests were also well within acceptable ranges except in the Bluff City area. We tested in the area of the new TVA beach and boat ramp, as well as our traditional areas of Davis/Beaver Creek, Reedy Creek, Wagner Creek, Rainbow Bridge, Boones Creek and Candy Creek -- where there was significant cattle activity. All of these areas tested within acceptable ranges.

Along with many members of the Boone Lake community, we noted, but with our current budget, are unable to test for, levels of Algae Bloom. This chlorophyll tends to

tint the water an unappealing opaque greenish-gray. These blooms form in nutrient rich waters (there are some 600 streams bringing fertilizer/phosphorus run-off into Boone Lake and are enhanced when we have lengthy periods of sunshine, such as during this past summer. While not particularly appealing to the eye, this algae is an important element in the food chain, and ultimately contributes to game fish health. Generally, this algae, while unsightly, does not contain toxins but does contribute to a foul smell as it dies and rots in the late summer.

Overall, Boone Lake is healthy and a wonderful place to enjoy a variety of outdoor sports.



Val Kosmider

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR BOONE LAKE ASSOCIATION

Have you given any thought to what our lake would look like if there was no Boone Lake Association? The BLA employs three crew members who work five days a week, year round, removing trash and debris that litters the shoreline and the lake. We are the **only** organization that cleans the lake! If we are to continue this worthwhile and necessary endeavor we need your help. Not only are we asking that you renew your membership, but we have included an extra membership form for you to share with a friend or neighbor. According to county records there are over 2,000 lake front properties in Washington and Sullivan Counties, and at least as many in lake communities with lake access. In addition there are people from the area that use the lake for recreation. That's over 4,000 potential BLA members; yet in 2016 we had only 321!! Our highest membership on record is just over 630 in 2013 still a far cry from the 4,000 potential members.



BLA crew at work

The fate of our crew and the BLA in 2017 is in your hands. Thanks to the financial stewardship of your BLA Board, we had sufficient funds to carry us through 2016. But as you can see from the following charts we will not survive 2017 without an infusion! As of the end of January we have operating funds to last us until late April. The Board has been contacting local businesses seeking corporate sponsorships with limited success. We would like to thank J. A. Street and Associates, S. J. Gregory Investments and Eastman Credit Union for coming on board in 2016, and we are hopeful that they will continue their support in 2017. If you know of a local business or company that we should approach or if you work for a company that has a matching funds program please let us know.

Let's make 2017 a banner year for membership!!! If you were a member in 2016, renew now, if you were a member in previous years, rejoin your BLA...Share our story with others and ask them to come on board...Let's all be Boone Lake Proud!



A slick on the Watauga side of the lake.. before and after clean up by the BLA crew

In an effort to conserve money you will not receive a separate dues notice in the mail. Please use the membership form on the reverse to remit your dues....and then recruit a friend or neighbor to join also!

Please help us in our effort to meet our 2017 expenses and insure our crew that we will be able to continue their employment by paying your dues prior to March 31, 2017.

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

Membership January 1 – December 31, 2017
Please pay prior to March 31, 2017

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

DUES LEVEL:

Please print clearly

_____ \$40+ **Basic Membership**

_____ \$100+ **Supporter**

_____ \$250+ **Partner**

_____ \$500+ **Platinum**

_____ \$1000+ **Major Sponsor**

Name: _____

Spouse/partner: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Property Address _____

Can we contact you about volunteering with the BLA? Yes___ No___

Share with a Friend or Neighbor

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

Membership January 1 – December 31, 2017

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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Name: _____

Spouse/partner: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Property Address _____

Can we contact you about volunteering with the BLA? Yes___ No___

Your opportunity to win

CASH for TRASH

www.boonelakeassociation.org

18th Annual

Boone Lake Cleanup Day

Saturday ~ April 29, 2017

Register and Pick up your bags starting at 9AM at the locations listed below. Return your full bags no later than 3PM.

****NOTE CHANGES****

Accessible by Land Only

Bluff City Ramp
TWRA/11E Ramp

****NOTE CHANGES****

Accessible by Water & Land

Boone Lake Marina Davis Boat Dock
Rockingham Marina Lakeview Marina
Jays Dock (at Pickens Bridge Ramp)

Pick up Lake Litter using the trash bags provided.

1. Take your trash to the marinas / docks / ramps named above and get a "door prize" ticket for every bag of trash you turn in. Each registered participant will receive a wristband for admission to the volunteer picnic and an event T-shirt.
2. **Come to Winged Deer Park for free picnic. Food serving starts at 4PM; prize drawings start at 5PM. (You must be present to win.) Bring along your lawn chairs.**

For more info, call the Boone Lake Association at (423) 956-6615

Johnson City Parks & Recreation at (423) 283-5827

Presented by the following sponsors (note: 2016 Sponsors listed).....



BOONE LAKE ANNUAL CLEANUP 2017

**** Mark Your Calendar ****

2017 will mark the 18th consecutive year that the local community has come together to collect "TRASH FOR CASH". The cleanup will kick off at 9:00 am on Saturday, April 29, 2017 and end at 3:00 pm. This one-day event will conclude with a picnic at the Winged Deer Park's Pavilion. We will begin feeding at 4:00 pm with prize drawings beginning at 5:00 pm. The water level may be down but trash continues to collect in the lake and along the shoreline.

The funding is provided by \$1,000.00 donations from our "Major Sponsors":

- Republic Services, Severn Trent Services, Bristol Motor Speedway,
- Bristol Tennessee Essential Services, City of Johnson City, Johnson City Power
- Board, Mountain States Health Alliance, Tennessee Valley Authority and
- Washington County Tennessee. Equivalent "In Kind" service is provided by
- Advanced Disposal Services, Cumulus Media, Johnson City Parks and Recreation,
- Food City, Sullivan County Litter Pickup, Washington County Sheriff Department
- and Boone Lake Association.

We are indebted to these organizations for their dedication to community service.

Let's make this year's cleanup the best ever! SUPPORT your local cleanup – SHOW UP to help!

Growing up on Boone Lake

by Chris Runyon

As a young boy, I couldn't wait to go to the lake every summer. We have an old houseboat (on styrofoam) that my grandmother grew up on. It has been in our family for almost 60 years. Since I could remember my family would spend most weekends on the lake. With the water levels low, things have changed, but our family is still making the best of it.

I have some of the fondest memories growing up on Boone Lake such as; learning to swim, 4th of July fireworks, riding jet-skis, birthday parties, Boone Lake Clean-Up, and countless others. Boone Lake has always been a special place to me. Like many others, I was devastated when the news of the sediment leak was announced. At first I didn't want to believe that it would take several years to completely solve this issue. I thought there has to be a faster way for it to be fixed. Now with each passing year, we get closer to that day, and I have accepted the fact and have tried to make the best out of it.

Things have obviously been different on the water for the majority of people, but there are still many activities that can be done. I have been fishing, kayaking, and just walking on the shoreline more frequently. We also still have bonfires, and social gatherings every now and then. With the water being down it is also a great time to cleanup and try to keep our lake beautiful. Cleaning now would do wonders for when the water is raised back to the correct levels.

I am proud to be a member of the Boone Lake Association, and be involved in a non-profit organization that has the best interest of Boone Lake and keeping our area beautiful.

Many would say that with the Lake down for Boone Dam repair we have been handed lemons...well when life gives you lemons make lemonade....or in the case of this recipe Lemonade Pie!!!

This recipe was found on Pinterest.

Cream Cheese Lemonade Pie

Ingredients

One purchased graham cracker crust....or if you are ambitious you can make your own.

- 1 - 5oz can evaporated milk
- 1 - 3.4oz box of instant lemon pudding mix (small box)
- 2 - 8oz packages of cream cheese
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup frozen lemonade concentrate

Instructions

- * In a small bowl, combine evaporated milk and pudding mix.
- * Beat on low speed for 2 minutes (mixture will be thick).
- * In a medium bowl, beat the cream cheese until light and fluffy, about 3 minutes.
- * Gradually beat in lemonade concentrate.
- * Gradually add pudding mixture.
- * Pour mixture into your pie crust (cooled if you choose to bake your own).
- * Cover and refrigerate at least 4 hours.

Boone Lake Association Board of Directors Looking for Volunteers

The BLA Board needs volunteers. Our By Laws allow for 12-15 Board members, 5 elected officers and 7-10 members at large who supervise one of our committees: Lake Operations, Facebook/Website maintenance, Membership, Public Relations and the Shoreliner. We currently have only 8 active volunteers. Can you spare some time to serve on the Board as a member at large or assist a member on one of the committees?

If so, please contact us via Facebook, or by checking the box on the dues renewal form, or by calling (423) 956-6615 and leaving you name and contact information. **Be Boone Lake Proud!**

2016 Supporter List

THANKS TO **ALL** OUR MEMBERS



Independent Sports Catering

Boone Lake Marina



Davis Marina



Jay's Dock



Lakeview Marina

Rockingham Marina

Rockingham Marina



Sonny's Marina

Serenity Cove
ON BOONE LAKE

Serenity Cove

Dues that were received and posted between August 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016

PLATINUM \$500+

Gary and Cara Anderson

PARTNERS \$250+

Joe and Lorena Davis

James and Amber

Koonce

Rhea and Linda

Robinson, Jr.

SUPPORTER \$100+

Buff and Lyn Barrett

Marian Bertotti

Jack Bumgartner and

Rebecca Milhorn

Steve and Stephanie

Burdett

Eric and Paula Guy

John and Joan Hendricks

David and Michelle
Hodge

Ken Hood

Griff and Sheila Johnson

Lake Meadow

Homeowners

Association

David and Kathy

McKenna

Vicki Pierce

Leroy and Rosa Russell

Dennis and Susan
Scheer

Peter and Patricia Schick

Jeff and Mary Shapiro

Mary and Corky

Steadman

Jerry and Peggy

Townsend

Don and Sandy Williams

Dennis and Wanda

Willingham

2017 Early Birds

A special thank you to members who have already renewed their membership

PARTNERS \$250+

Jerry and Donna Coffey

Larry and Ann Larson

Steve and Joan Scheu

Ron and Alice Siegfried

Frank Young

\$40+

Ray and Kath Bouch

Joe and Donna Camper

Don Cross

Charles and Reba Flanary

Claudia Miller

Chris Runyon

John and Louise Willingham

SUPPORTER \$100+

Val Kosmider and Deborah Berlt-Schraven

Daniel and Mary Ellen Miller

Zenda Nichols

Newton and Carmen Raff

A Lake for All Seasons



**BOONE LAKE
ASSOCIATION**
P.O. BOX 111
PINEY FLATS, TN 37686

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
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