

# SHORELINER

**Alex and Corey hard at work keeping  
Boone Lake beautiful**



## *Greetings Friends of Boone Lake.*

All who have passed by the lake recently have seen the results of the most recent flood. Nasty giant slicks of trash and debris are ebbing and flowing down both river channels. The crew has been overwhelmingly busy. This situation gives us a little preview of how things might look with the lake rising and falling in the next 2 years. The skimmer for the Watauga side is built and has been delivered for final fit out at Boone Lake Marina. There has been some misunderstanding floating around that our crew will no longer work on the Holston side of the lake and this is not true. Our crew tries to divide the time equally between the sides and will always do so. When the new equipment that was paid for with donations from Johnson City and Washington County is operational, it will make the work on the Watauga side more efficient but the crew will spend an equal amount of time on the Holston side. It is important for Sullivan county, Bristol and Kingsport residents to appeal to their representatives to fund the equipment needed for the Holston side. What that amounts to is about \$125,000 which is a small fraction of the nearly \$8 million given/scheduled by TVA to Sullivan County, Kingsport and Bristol for impact of the dam repair project. That equipment will support the lake at the center of the Tri-cities region for years.

Jon Wireman, President

**BOONE LAKE ASSOCIATION**

**P.O. Box 111**

**Piney Flats, TN 37686**

**[www.boonelakeassociation.org](http://www.boonelakeassociation.org)**



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

**WATCHING THE WATERS**

**May 2020**

# New Equipment Helps Boone Lake Association

Val Kosmider and Jay Wise

The Boone Lake Association continues to upgrade equipment to be more efficient in our clean-up efforts. While the lake remains at lower levels many of our traditional containment/burn areas are inaccessible.

Our first purchase was a crane/hoist which was deck mounted to one of our boats to help lift heavy objects onto the boat and to help tow the bigger logs. A portable winch was acquired to drag the bigger logs onto the shore so they could be sawed for disposal. A new electric trolling motor was installed to help maneuver the work boat in tight spaces and in the trash slicks to save using and risking damage to the boats' outboard engines. New batteries were purchased to operate the winch and trolling motor. A generator was purchased to keep the batteries charged but is also used to operate an "electric hot knife" to cut large styrofoam blocks into manageable sizes for transport to a dumpster. As an added bonus the generator also powers a microwave oven so the crew could have hot meals and drinks on those cold days spent cleaning Boone Lake last winter.

**And now the wait is over** with the arrival of the first of what we expect to be two trash skimmers.

The Trash Skimmer authorized by vote



## *The new skimmer has arrived!*

of the Boone Lake Association Board and funded jointly by Johnson City and Washington County has been delivered. Once final fit out is complete, the crew is trained, and we acquire the skid steer with boom to unload the trash basket it will be operational on the Watauga side of the lake. Johnson City has graciously agreed

to provide dumpsters and trash disposal services.

Meanwhile, efforts are underway to purchase a second skimmer through Sullivan County, and the cities of Bristol and Kingsport. These entities also receive substantial TVA monies during dam repairs and we are presently working with these municipalities to get a portion of these funds directed to the purchase of another skimmer to be used on the Holston River side of Boone Lake. Recent rains and the onslaught of associated trash and logs have reinforced the notion that the Lake will be extremely dangerous for use when it returns to full pool unless we can get crews and skimmers working on both sides of the Lake. If you live in Sullivan County or one of the aforementioned cities, please reach out to your council person and implore them to fund BLA in this effort. Boone Lake provides well over \$100 Million in economic activity to the Appalachian Gateway. Giving back a small portion of TVA dollars has rewards well beyond just helping to keep Boone Lake clean and safe for enjoyment.

## Lake Bed/Shoreline clean up policy

Ann Larson

BLA currently supports one 2- person crew working 40 hours per week, weather permitting. Resources permitting, we are hoping to hire a 2<sup>nd</sup> 2- person crew for temporary work during the summer/early fall season. With the current lake levels, there is a significant amount of exposed lake bed. Our first concern is removing debris that impedes navigation. That said, we fully understand that water level fluctuations and storm runoff will float exposed lakebed/shoreline debris into the lake and so we will do what we can to address accumulated trash. Many homeowners are dumping yard waste, to include: leaves, grass clippings, brush and tree trimming debris on the exposed shoreline. We cannot be responsible

for removing this debris. It is the home owners responsibility to obtain a burn permit or otherwise manage this refuse. **Our current policy is to remove debris up to 10 feet from the waterline, where possible.** If you have an issue you need assistance with or deem appropriate for our attention, please call our hotline number and leave a message to include your name, location of the problem and contact information so we can get back in touch with you

BLA wishes we could remove every log, every plastic bottle, every hamburger wrapper, every tobacco tin, and every other piece of trash littering Boone Lake but that is impossible, especially with our current staffing.



# What happens to those water quality reports?

Jim Slaight

As most of our Shoreliner readers know, we check Boone Lake's water quality monthly, during the peak season, by monitoring 10 water quality parameters including E. coli. Additionally, our crew visually checks conditions whenever they are working. Some of the Hotline reports, such as those dealing with pollution or illegal dumping, also go into the monthly water quality assessments.

But what happens when we find one of the parameters out of normal or we spot something that's not right?

Boone Lake Association is the only public or private organization that is on Boone Lake year-round that's dedicated to keeping the Lake safe and healthy for recreational use. One of our services is to identify and/or alert the appropriate authorities if we see something wrong and continue to monitor the condition to see

if it's been fixed. We work in conjunction with local agencies that have jurisdiction and authority to address water quality issues. If we get an unusual or unhealthy reading be assured that information is passed on and we monitor to ensure the appropriate agency takes action

With your support we hope to continue monitoring Boone Lake's water quality and working to make it safe and healthy for your use.

## Boone Lake Association Contributor Update

Gary Parker

BLA needs your help. 2020 individual contributions are running behind the two previous years despite an outreach program to maintain/increase our annual revenue. BLA recently sent its Shoreliner newsletter and a President's appeal for contributions to over 2700 Boone Lake area residents. Beyond our loyal base we only picked up 15 new contributors as a result of the outreach and regrettably some 2019 contributors have not yet renewed for 2020.

The good news is many generous contributors have increased their

donations bringing the average contribution to \$136. BLA is anticipating the enormous workload when the lake recovers to full pool in 2021/2022 and would like to increase its work crews to manage the situation. This will not be possible without your support. We recognize these are trying times with the Coronavirus outbreak and it is likely having an effect on our revenue. Hopefully when things return to normal we will see an increase in our funding.

BLA would like to thank all its loyal contributors for their continuing support.

	Through 4/19		Avg.	Year End		Avg.
Year	Contributions	Revenue	Contribution	Contributions	Revenue	Contribution
2018	321	\$39,530	\$123	422	\$52,997	\$126
2019	331	\$39,395	\$119	409	\$53,870	\$132
2020	255	\$34,595	\$136			

## Boone Lake Association Board Changes

Since our last Shoreliner there have been some changes on the BLA Board of Directors.

Officers	Members
Jon Wireman, President	Jerry Frank
Pat Bunch, 1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Gary Parker
Val Kosmider, 2nd VP	Jim Slaight
Larry Larson, Treasurer	Jay Wise
Ann Larson, Secretary	
Changes in Red.	

**We are still left with some vacancies. As of now we have 9 of a possible 15 Board members. We need help. Will you answer the call?** Presently all officer billets are filled but 6 at large positions are vacant. This makes it very difficult for us to do everything that needs to be done. We will have additional upcoming vacancies with elections in Dec. As the VP's move forward, we will have a vacancy at 2dVP and after 8 years of service, our Treasurer has indicated that he will step down at the end of 2020. These positions are not easily filled without some Board experience. Won't you consider joining us now and becoming an integral part in keeping Boone Lake safe and clean...

## Annual Boone Lake Association Clean-Up Postponed

Val Kosmider and Gary Parker

By now you know that the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Boone Lake clean up was postponed. This decision was made with everyone's health and safety in mind. At the present time we do not have a new date for the cleanup. We are thinking about something in late summer or early autumn. Please watch our website and Facebook for updates as they become available.

Meanwhile, we have received requests from some who would like to volunteer to help now! If you know of an area that needs attention, you can volunteer on your own, or organize a small, socially-distanced group of family and friends to pick up and bag trash. Please take your safety seriously. Once bagged you can properly dispose of trash or pile the bags and leave in place on the shoreline, accessible to our crew. Then notify us by e-mail, FB message or by calling our hotline at 423-360-5057 and leaving a message. We will then have the crew pick up the bags for disposal. We have large TVA heavy duty bags for your use and can arrange for you to pick some up at a designated location. Please take pictures before and after and email to us at boonelakeassociation @gmail.com.



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

January 1 – December 31, 2020

**THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTE  
GENEROUSLY TO KEEP BOONE LAKE CLEAN**

**CONTRIBUTION LEVEL:**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50+ **Basic Contributor**  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$100+ **Supporter**  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$250+ **Partner**  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$500+ **Platinum**  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$1000+ **Major Sponsor**

Please Donate by  
Check payable to Boone Lake Association  
Or PayPal, "US Friends and Family",  
email [BooneLakeAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:BooneLakeAssociation@gmail.com)

**Please print clearly**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/partner: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Contact me about volunteering.

[www.boonelakeassociation.org](http://www.boonelakeassociation.org)



**Watching  
the Waters**

We can always use more help.  
We continue to look for lake loving  
folks interested in helping with  
outreach to include Facebook and  
our website, with organizing our  
Annual Clean Up, and our daily  
operations. **The Board meets  
the first Tues of the month at  
7:00PM at the Winged Deer Park  
Conference Room. Come check  
us out!!**

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