

# BURDEN LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION



Spring 2017

## Letter From The President



The BLIA Board of Directors would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer season. Please read this entire newsletter. In addition to providing information on events for the upcoming season, we will be addressing issues related to water quality, boating and other water safety issues that Members have brought to the attention of the Board over the last several seasons.

With the increase in numbers of boats and PWC (jet skis), coupled with the tremendous influx of canoe, kayak and water board traffic, the Board felt it was time to establish specific changes and reinforce existing water safety/boating regulations to ensure adequate safety for users of ALL water activities on the lake. The details of our modifications are explained in more detail further in the Newsletter. Please read this information and adhere to these changes in the upcoming season.

As you can see on the enclosed 2017 Calendar of Events, we have a full slate of events again this year...some new, lots of old favorites and the return of an old stand-by. These events are a very important part of our organization's efforts to not only maintain the clubhouse but disseminate information and updates on water quality topics and provide a forum to discuss other issues that could potentially impact our lake community. All these events are open to the public. Please plan on attending these events whenever possible.

For those of you who may not be aware of this, the Clubhouse is available for rent to all members. In addition to a minimal fee, we require you to sign a rental agreement and provide us with an event insurance certificate. If interested, send an email and we will provide details.

I would like to thank all the directors for their continued commitment to this organization through their voluntary efforts to maintain the Clubhouse, overseeing events and dealing with ongoing water quality issues.

### Board of Directors

President: ***Tony Ilacqua***  
Vice President: ***Scott Vandenberg***  
Secretary: ***Lisa Toomey***  
Treasurer: ***Pat Mackey***  
Water Quality Chair:  
***Dennis Ryan***  
BLIA Preservation Corp Reps:  
***Paul Yonkers***  
***Wendy Will***

If you have any questions or concerns or would like to become more involved, please contact a Board member or send us an email. On the topic of email, we are trying to establish an email list of all members, primarily as a means of quickly disseminating information related to BLIA or local lake community issues. This email list will NOT be shared with any other organization. If you have not previously done so, please send us a quick email at [burdenlakeny@gmail.com](mailto:burdenlakeny@gmail.com). Lastly, please visit the BLIA website at [www.burdenlakeny.org](http://www.burdenlakeny.org). Note that this site is a "work in progress"....your comments and input would be greatly appreciated!



*Tony Ilacqua*  
BLIA President



BLIA Club property clean up  
Saturday Morning May 20th, 9:00-12:00  
Please come help for a little while if you  
have some time to spare!!

## 2017 Water Quality Report

As a reminder, in 2015 the entire Third Burden Lake was treated to control the growth and spread of Eurasian Milfoil. The results of that treatment were very successful, with follow-up testing indicating a high percentage of invasive plant eradication.

2016 was an interesting year with regards to water quality on the Lake. The mild winter of 2015-2016 resulted in short periods of ice and snow cover on the Lake. As a result, the aquatic plants continued to grow throughout the winter. With minimal snow melt in the Spring, and relatively dry summer, low water levels were prevalent throughout the Summer months. In the shallow areas and coves around the lake, submerged aquatic plants seemed to grow unrestricted and presented a major impediment to recreational boating and swimming in those areas.

While complaints from residents about the excessive weeds were numerous, we found through many investigative trips around the lake that aside from the Curly-leaf Pondweed in the early part of the season, the majority of "weeds" were actually native plants that just "took over" in the absence of the milfoil. While more desirable than the invasive milfoil, and actually beneficial for a healthy lake environment, the rate at which these plants grew last year caused considerable concern, primarily for residents in those areas of the lake where shallow water predominates.

As the 2017 season progresses it will be interesting to see the effects a more normal winter, with extended periods of ice and snow cover, will have on the growth of aquatic plants. We will keep a close eye on this situation as the season progresses, and try to develop a monitoring and reporting system with input from residents. Please remember that treatment for invasive plants is only a control measure, and must be repeated every 3-4 years. Your contributions to the Water Quality Fund are essential to ensure funds are available when treatment is required again.

Anyone wishing to become involved in the Water Quality Committee, please contact Dennis Ryan at 727-2019 or email [dsryan03@gmail.com](mailto:dsryan03@gmail.com).



## Treasurer's Report



As stated in my previous letters, the BLIA must collect \$15,000 per year for the Water Quality Fund to ensure funds are available when treatment for milfoil and other invasive plants is required. We request \$200 per year from property owners for this fund. To date we have 38 families who have contributed.

Thank you for your generosity. The modest Membership dues are used for upkeep and improvements of the Clubhouse and to pay administrative expenses. So far we have 51 memberships.

If you have not done so, please remember to mail in your membership dues. Everyone is welcome to become a member. The special summer events are so critical to our fundraising efforts. Our gratitude goes to all who have given their ideas and donated their time and talents to make these memorable occasions successful.

Burden Lake is TRULY a special place to be. Please help by stepping up and becoming involved - you will be glad you did!

Gratefully Yours,

Pat Mackey, Treasurer, BLIA

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## **2017 RAFFLE !!**

This years raffle is a Cozy Propane Fire Pit!



Also included in the raffle is a handmade blanket, hand painted wine glasses, pint beer glasses, gourmet s'mores making kit, accessories and much much more!

Raffle tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased at any event. Grand drawing will be held at the Adult Lip Sync at the end of summer....No need to be present to win.

# Water Safety Issues



At the BLIA General Meeting last season several members made comments relative to boat/jet ski traffic on the lake. The primary concerns were safety issues resulting from excessive speed, driving too close to adjacent watercraft and swimmers, and in general a lack of consideration for others trying to enjoy their time on the water.

Many of the situations described seemed to be occurring in certain areas of the lake. Some of the instances were very specific, barely avoiding serious injury to kayakers and water boarders. All could have been avoided.

As a result, the Board has decided to take some preventative measures to try and mitigate the known problem areas, and also identify areas around the lake where subsurface hazards or shallow water are to be avoided. Towards this goal, the Board will be implementing the following:

1. Establishment of "No Wake" zones in the South Cove and entrance to Brook Spring Cove. Travel in these areas will be restricted to idle speed (5 MPH). Signs will be posted at these areas.
2. Buoys will be installed at those locations where known underwater hazards or shallow water exists.
3. All powered watercraft will travel around the lake in a counter-clockwise direction, especially on weekends and Holidays. (A map indicating these changes is attached to this Newsletter.)

## Water Safety Reminders

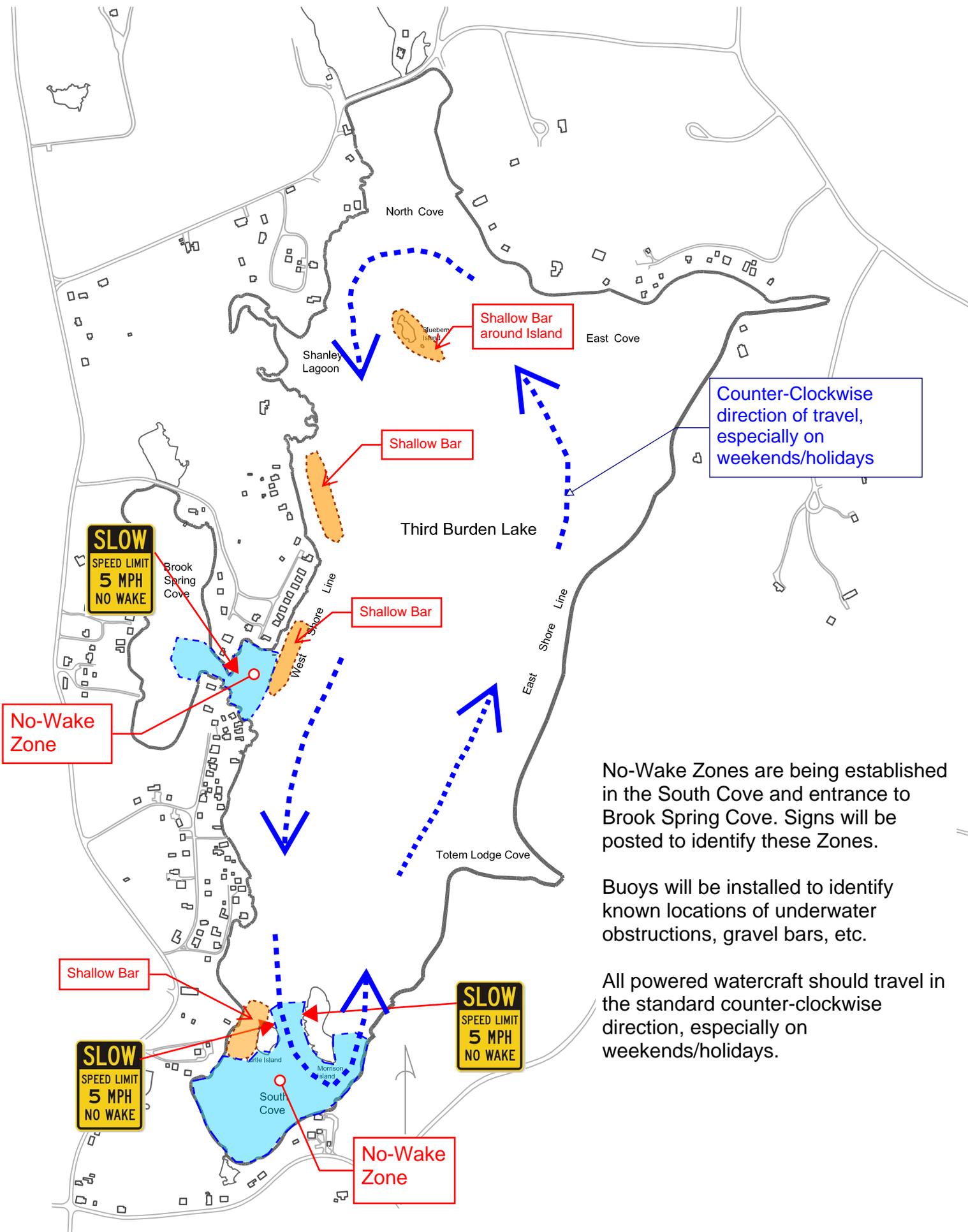
To ensure the lake remains fun and safe for everyone, even on crowded weekends, please adhere to the following rules, as defined in the New York State Boating Guide:

(<https://parks.ny.gov/recreation/boating/documents/NYSBoatersGuide.pdf>):



- Life jackets are required for:
    - PWC (Jet ski) drivers and riders
    - Children under the age of 12 aboard pleasure boats, canoes, kayaks or rowboats.
    - Anyone being towed (skis, tubes, etc.)
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- Operators of a PWC must be a minimum of 14 years old and possess an approved Boating Safety Certificate (or accompanied by a person over 18 who holds a Boating Safety Certificate.)
  - NYS Law prohibits operation of any PWC between sunset and sunrise. [As Burden Lake is a family oriented environment, PWC operation is prohibited between 8PM and 8AM.]
  - PWC and boats should stay far away from boats that are towing skiers or tubers, and go slowly close to shore and designated swimming areas such as Camp Adventure.
  - Follow the standard rules when overtaking other watercraft (pass to the left of a slower boat/PWC; the boat/PWC on the right has the right-of-way when your paths will cross; steer right when coming head-on to another boat/PWC)
  - When circling the lake travel in a counterclockwise direction.
  - Use lights at night
  - Provide enough seats for everyone on board plus persons being towed
  - Swimmers need to be careful and aware also: remember that you may be hard to see from a moving boat, especially on a crowded or windy day.
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Finally, please show consideration for those who live on the lake, as well as families who want to enjoy their brief time lakeside. Sound carries over water GREAT DISTANCES! We can all still have fun and lively conversation without screaming and use of foul language (particularly at 2AM).



Counter-Clockwise direction of travel, especially on weekends/holidays

No-Wake Zone

**SLOW**  
SPEED LIMIT  
5 MPH  
NO WAKE

Shallow Bar

Shallow Bar

Shallow Bar around Island

Shallow Bar

**SLOW**  
SPEED LIMIT  
5 MPH  
NO WAKE

**SLOW**  
SPEED LIMIT  
5 MPH  
NO WAKE

No-Wake Zone

No-Wake Zones are being established in the South Cove and entrance to Brook Spring Cove. Signs will be posted to identify these Zones.

Buoys will be installed to identify known locations of underwater obstructions, gravel bars, etc.

All powered watercraft should travel in the standard counter-clockwise direction, especially on weekends/holidays.

# 2017 Boating Safety Enhancements



# 2017 Calendar of Events

May 20, 2017  
Saturday

Clubhouse Clean-up  
9AM till ?  
Help Spiff up Clubhouse for Summer Events



Volunteers Needed

June 09, 2017  
Friday



Summer Kickoff Party!!  
6 to 10pm @ Lakeview Restaurant  
Pizza! Wings! Cash bar \$15

Lakeview

June 28, 2017  
Wednesday

General Meeting  
7 PM @ BLIA Clubhouse  
Everyone Invited



President Tony Ilacqua

July 02, 2017  
Sunday



Pancake Breakfast  
8am to 11pm @ BLIA Clubhouse

Rick Kopcho/Dennis Ryan

July 13, 2017  
Thursday

Ice Cream Social  
Games & Face Painting  
6 - 8 PM @ BLIA Clubhouse



The Dunigans

July 29, 2017  
Saturday



Oldies Night with live band "The Protones"  
Dance from 8pm to - Midnight  
@ BLIA Clubhouse \$10 per person

Bo Weidman

Aug 04, 2017  
Friday

Professional Comedy Show  
8pm @ Clubhouse  
\$20 @ door or \$15 pre-sale

Contact Janice Tighe 477-8152



August 11, 2017  
Friday



Burden Lake History Night  
Snacks and fun  
7PM @ The Clubhouse

Connor Kopcho

August 17, 2017  
Thursday

Augtoberfest  
\$20 Adults - German Dinner and Beer  
\$10 Kids = German Dinner and Soda  
6PM to 9PM @ Clubhouse



Matt Baugartner

August 26, 2017  
Saturday



Kids Lip Sync  
Doors open at 6:30pm Show starts @ 7 pm  
BLIA Clubhouse \$6 per person

The Dunigans

September 2, 2017  
Saturday

Adult Lip Sync  
8 pm @ BLIA Clubhouse  
\$15 per person



Bo Weidman