

# Rec Center Report, February 4, 2012

submitted by Scott Armstrong

## Facility Update:

Recently, I have never seen the Rec Center so busy. One Jan. 30, we broke the one-day visit total with 221 people using the Rec Center that day, without any special event. Over 700 people were members in January. Our martial arts classes continue to expand and the pool lift is being used more.

We have discovered that the pool also has a significant leak, losing about 1700 (3/4") daily. We are contracting American Leak Detectors to visit on Feb. 9 to find both this leak and the one in the hot tub. Installation of the saline chlorination system in the pool will have to wait until we fix the leak.

In looking up our records after a recent inspection, I have learned that our pools are not certified for compliance with the Virginia Graeme Baker law. I was under the impression that a report done by Water Technologies Inc in 2009 had completed the process. Upon closer examination, the report featured only recommendations. I am working to contract an engineering firm to complete to process as quickly as possible. Please see the attached letter for a further explanation.

Dave Doering's tech ed class installed the majority of the sauna in January. There is still some finish work to do (benches, siding). Electrical work will start in February for a hopeful completion of the project by March 1. Thank you to the school for supporting this project, which involves donations and volunteer work from many in our community.

The Friends are offering the polar bear plunge on March 3 as an opportunity for outside groups to raise money for their organizations. Groups can do the plunge and we will split their funds raised 50-50. Both the Electrathon and TAP Outdoor Club have done this in the past.

## Programs update: The following were offered in January:

Aqua Fit	Mah Jong
Northern Lights physical therapy sessions	Birthday Parties
SilverSneakers	Women's Fitness Training
Martial Arts	Little Kickers
Bayfield School PE and special class swims	Get Fit Fast Boot Camp
Boy Scout swim	Youth Swim Team
Indoor Cycling	Sea Scouts
Walleyball	Get Fit Boot Camp
Red Cliff Head Start swim and play	more

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

**TOTAL 706 people who were members on January 31, 2012 315 member units**

**FACILITY USE      January 2011    Total number of visitors    3024**

Seniors 782, Adults 1488, Children 754

Programs 802

covers from Hayward today. Second is that we have discovered that one of the two drains in the whirlpool is not functioning. Our strategy to comply with VGB was based on two connected drains more than 3' apart. With one drain not drawing any water, the whirlpool is now functioning as a single blockable drain. I am currently researching compliance solutions, which may require a suction vacuum release system. I have talked to engineers who struggle to give me definitive answers on a proper solution, describing recent interpretations and recalls that have added uncertainties\*.

While our path to compliance is not clear, we are trying to work quickly to address the situation. I thought it best to contact you with this information now, and will update you as we learn more about a strategy and timetable. If you have any questions, please call me.

Thank you.

\*(<http://www.recmanagement.com/201111by01.php>)

Sincerely,

Scott Armstrong  
Executive Director  
Recreation and Fitness Resources



Recreation and Fitness Resources  
Bayfield Area Recreation Center  
PO Box 1146, 140 S. Broad St.  
Bayfield, WI 54814 715-779-5408



Ann Marie Coy  
Bayfield County Health Department  
PO Box 403  
Washburn, WI 54891

February 3, 2012

Re: Virginia Graeme Baker compliance at the Bayfield Area Recreation Center

Dear Ann,

Approximately one month ago you visited the Bayfield Area Recreation Center and asked me to look into our compliance with the Virginia Graeme Baker Act (VGB). This letter outlines our current status.

We currently do not have compliance certificates for either the pool or whirlpool at the Rec Center. This problem is due to my improper understanding of the entire certification procedure. When VGB first came into effect in 2008, we contacted the engineering firm Water Technology Inc. to assist us in the process. Steve Dunn, head of maintenance in the Bayfield School District, contracted for the consulting work. I, as director of the Rec Center, researched and purchased VGB compliant covers for our drains. Water Technology generated a report with data and analysis. I installed the new drain covers, filed the report, and thought our compliance was complete.

Your visit last month led me to review the process and discover there is another step that needs to be made. I now understand that an engineer needs to submit plans to the WI Department of Commerce and an on-site inspection must be made. Steve and I both thought Water Technology was going to do that for us. Water Technology acknowledges that they now complete the VGB process with clients, but at the early stage that we contacted them, their report only included recommendations. Upon closer reading their report (dated April 27, 2009), I see their work was only a "limited evaluation".

We are currently working to bring an engineer to our facility to help us complete the needed plans, review and inspection process. In the meantime, other problems have come up. First, the suction outlet covers that we installed on the whirlpool (Hayward WG1032) have been recalled. I ordered replacement