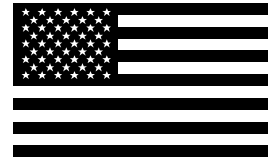




Lake Living



LAKE OF THE WOODS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
Bremen, IN 46506

Proud to be an American

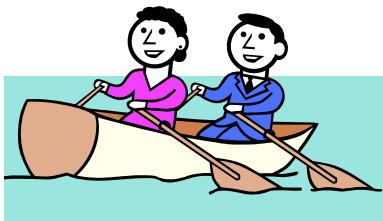
August/September 2011

Calendar of Events

****Lake Association General Meeting****

**Saturday August 6th
Saturday September 3rd
Saturday October 1st**

Free Continental Breakfast at 8:30
Meeting starts at 9:00am
at the Community Center



LAKE EVENTS

**FUNDRAISER AT APPLEBEE'S IN
PLYMOUTH – AUG 18 & 19**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 20TH – DAY
AT THE LAKE**

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 30TH –
HALLOWEEN PARTY**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 3RD –
CHRISTMAS PARTY**



FACEBOOK

LOWPOA now has a Facebook Fan page with updated pictures! Search for Lake of the Woods Property Owners Association (LOWPOA) and "LIKE" it. We will be posting pictures, events and comments. Be sure to suggest this page to friends.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Lake Residents:
It's that time of year again...the dog days of summer and LOWPOA elections.

I am pleased to announce the nominees for the 2011 – 2012 Board of Directors:

President: Wil Smaka
Vice President: John Paolucci
Treasurer: Sharon Galminas
Secretary: Nancy Paolucci
District One Directors: Bunny Byrne, Jim Moon
District Two Directors: Marilyn Smaka, Pete Pequet
District Three Directors: Lowell Michaels, Betty Spruit
District Four Directors: Sue Turpin, Lin Hall
District Five Directors: Frank Collins, Rick Keller

I invite all Lake Of The Woods residents to come to the August 6th meeting to elect the new board. Voters need to have their membership dues paid in order to vote. Memberships are open to all lake residents and dues are just \$30.00. Applications and/or dues may be sent to Sharon Galminas, Treasurer, 3119 Sea Lane, Bremen, IN 46506.

LOWPOA continually strives to maintain clean, safe, and healthy water for the enjoyment of all lake residents and their guests. Activities and fundraisers are held throughout the year. New ideas are welcome.

In recent years, LOWPOA has gained some new members who

have brought fresh ideas and enthusiasm to the association. They complement the "tried and true" members who have participated for many years, lending their time and energy for the betterment of the lake.

During this year, a sediment study was initiated which will help with future projects designed to keep Lake Of The Woods a thriving lake. LOWPOA continues to strive to keep the good weeds growing in the lake and the problematic invasive ones out of the lake. A Community Watch program has been initiated in cooperation with the Marshall County Sheriff Department.

Come on over to the Community Building on North Shore Drive at 8:30 AM on August 6th to chat with your neighbors and meet new ones over a freshly brewed cup of coffee and a donut. At 9:00 the meeting will begin. Most meetings last about an hour. Hope to see you there.

Best wishes, Wil Smaka, LOWPOA President

LOWPOA MERCHANDISE

NEW! Beginning this fall, you will be able to purchase LOWPOA merchandise at the Windmill Market in Bremen! Stop by 911 W. Plymouth St. and check out what we have. New merchandise will also be available in the fall. Don't forget to check out the towels and bags for the summer! Call John Paolucci, 847-373-6803, to order.

WEED MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Thanks to all lake residents who participated in the treatment of the lake, On June 14th. the lake was treated with Navigate a 2,4d gradual by Pinecrest Industries, in order to kill the Water Milfoil. It took over two weeks to take affect because of the Filamentous algae present in the lake that attached its self to the milfoil.

Filamentous Algae is in most lakes and ponds this year mostly because of the weather conditions this spring. It can be seen in the Spatter Dock and other parts of the lake not treated. The Milfoil is killing parts of the Spatter Dock at the north end. The south east end needed to be treated again on July 7th because of the high concentration of Milfoil since then it seemed to have worked.

Without a whole lake treatment this issue will have to be addressed every year by the people who are affected. Hope everyone will enjoy the lake for the rest of this summer

2011 - 2012 ADVERTISING

If you would like to advertise in the newsletter, please contact Nancy Paolucci, 708-606-8276. All ads will be the same size and run for 1 year (six issues). The cost is \$50.00.

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TRIED AND TRUE RECIPES

Picnic Bean Bake



- 1 lb. bacon
- 1 1/2 lb Hamburger
- 2 cans (16 oz) pork & beans
- 2 cans (16 oz) white navy beans
- 1 cup each: Brown sugar, BBQ sauce
- 1 envelope Lipton Onion soup mix

Fry hamburger and bacon separately. Drain both and crumble bacon.

Combine all ingredients and bake uncovered for 1 hour at 350 degrees.

A DAY AT THE LAKE

The Lake of the Woods Property Owners' Association and the Bremen Conservation Club will, for the third year, co-host "A Day at the Lake".

The day will begin with a pancake and sausage, biscuit and gravy breakfast. Other events during the day will include a cornhole tournament, a "moonwalker bouncy house", and a balloon twister/face painter for the youngsters. Food - hot dogs, brats, burgers, sweet corn and more will be available during the afternoon and evening.

The day will be capped off with a return concert by the very entertaining bluegrass band, "Gravel Creek" at 6:00 p.m.

This will be a fun day for all. There is no admission charge for any event—donations will be accepted. Look for more information soon. See you there!

2nd ANNUAL RUN WALK AND ROLL

The second annual Run Walk and Roll at the lake took place on Saturday, June 11th. Over 70 participants and volunteers of all ages attended. Wearing their safety green tee's they biked, ran and walked around the lake.

Along with the shirts, participants received a water bottle, breakfast and the satisfaction of knowing that they conquered the 4 plus miles. Thank you to all of our volunteers and to the Bremen Conservation Club for the use of their building!



Participants waiting for the starting horn.

Wanted, Buy, Sell, Trade

Wanted – Kayak and Full size Air Hockey Table. Call 546-3337 OBO. John at 847-373-6803

For Sale – Gas Dryer Maytag \$75 Patsy 546-5559 or cell 574-248-0076

For Sale – Rave Raft Blue and Gold Trampoline (\$1550 new) for \$750 Patsy 546-5559 or cell 574-248-0076

For Sale – 1995 Bayliner 17ft 120 IO motor Call Ted for details at 546-4129.



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A CLEANER LAKE OF THE WOODS By Joe Skelton

I am sure that everyone who has been on the lake has noticed it is clearer than previous years and you're right.

First let me explain what organizations have been testing the lake for more than 10 years. The Lake of the Woods is tested by lake resident volunteers Tom Rzepka and myself through the Indiana Clean Lakes Program. This program is sponsored by Indiana University through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency. Tests include water clarity, chlorophyll content and phosphorus content. The agriculture ditches entering the lake, of which there are 6, are tested through the Hoosier River Watch program through the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. This is done by lake resident volunteers Bob Spruit, Dan Smith, Frank Collins, Virgil Hess and myself. The tests include water clarity, phosphorus levels, oxygen levels, e coli levels and nitrate levels of the water entering the lake from the ditches. This testing has been going on for more than 10 years. All these people involved in testing Lake of the Woods are dedicated to protecting and improving the water quality at Lake of the Woods.

2010 and this year we have noticed some positive changes in the water quality in our lake. To test for water clarity Tom and I go to a point in the middle of the lake and lower a disc called a Secchi Disc into the water. A secchi disc is a round disc about 10 inches in diameter that is painted into black and white quarters. This is attached to a tape measure. You lower the disc into the water until you can't see it and measure the depth on the tape measure. This is the gage the EPA uses to determine water clarity on lakes. The measurement in July 2010 was 4.6 ft

which is good. The measurement in July of this year was 5.6 ft. which is better. Usually the July measurements are 2.2 – 2.6 ft. So you can see how good we are doing. The Hoosier River Watch testing has shown the phosphorus entering the lake from the ditches is lower and the oxygen levels in the water are better.

The question is why is this happening these last 2 years? We think it is a combination of things that help. We have been stressing for people to use phosphorus free fertilizer and I think that has finally started to work. You have to remember 1 lb of phosphorus will grow 10,000 lbs of wet weeds. Phosphorus also is the biggest contributor to algae growth on lakes. We know the lake water level has been higher and we haven't had to drain the lake down which in turn pulls more water in from the ditches. We are getting less runoff from the farm fields (one private ditch was re-routed around the lake so this water does not enter the lake). Farmers are getting their fields planted so when the rain comes the crops soak up the water and there is less runoff which means less phosphorus from the fields.

Two years does not make a trend. We have to see how the next three years tests are. Imagine how more clear the water would be if filter strips, wetlands and sediment traps were added to the ditches entering the lake. But in the meantime we can all enjoy a cleaner lake and be proud we are helping to contribute to that by using phosphorus free fertilizer.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

John and Sharon welcome there 10th grandchild Ryan Galminas born on June 30th 6 lbs 4 ozs.

DEATH NOTICES

Joe Srencik Jr. part time resident on West Shore Dr. died on May 30th our condolence to his wife Barb and family. Shirley Gallager of west shore Dr. and Fl. died on July 20th our condolence to Jim and her family.

LOST AND FOUND

\$100.00 Reward For information which leads to the return of a Garmin GPS unit and an orange Fire Storm tool box, tools intact, taken from vehicles on Lake Shore Drive on July 14th or 15th. Call Wil at 574-229-0336.

LAKE OF THE WOODS REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT MEETINGS

The Lake of the Woods Regional Sewer District 2011 schedule of board meetings is as follows: Aug 23, Sept 27, Oct 25, Nov 22, and Dec 27 (subject to change)

REFERRAL LIST

Painting: Dave Kominkwicz at 574-656-8535

Roofing: Tod Hardy 574-274-4667

Engines: Joe's Small Engines 574-546-4413

Sewing: Leslie Town 574-546-4638

Boat Work: Kevin King at 574-936-8641 or cell 574-930-6563

Handyman/Contractor: Steve Mirowski at 574-360-6129

Construction: Stone Wood Construction Steve Witgau 574-546-4356

Carpet Cleaning: Advanced Tech Carpet Cleaning Steve Robertson 574-936-1191

Lowry's Carpet Cleaning 574-935-4144

Please send in your referrals to share with your lake neighbors. Call Sharon at 546-4100 with your referrals.

**MAINTAIN STATE'S
INVESTMENT IN THE
ENVIRONMENT** by Pete
Hippensteel

When I returned to Indiana in early March, the lakes were still frozen and so were the Lake and River Enhancement funds.

The next week I spoke at the Senate Natural Resource Committee hearing in Indianapolis related to House Bill 1343, which proposes expanding the use of LARE funds by adding the phrase "but not limited to" and adding logjam removal from rivers to the Indiana Code related to LARE. How can you consider expanding the use of these funds when the state has either reverted to the general fund \$3.5 million of these dedicated funds (in June 2010) or indefinitely suspended their use for 2011? The bill passed! The LARE fee is still being collected from boat owners and continues to generate about \$3.7 million a year. These funds are specifically to be invested in lake, river and watershed projects. A third is to be used for law enforcement for water safety, a third for invasive aquatic weed control and sediment removal, and a third for watershed land treatment that helps prevent sediments and nutrients from flowing into streams and lakes. Sheriff Tim Troyer of Steuben County stated that the usual grant of \$30,000 from LARE for funding the sheriff's lake patrols has been reduced to \$15,000 for the coming summer. The same numbers of boats that generate the LARE fee will still be using the lakes. Gov. Mitch Daniels and the State Budget Agency stated that education and public safety were the priorities when the LARE money was reverted last summer.

The Indiana Lakes Management Society held its annual conference at

Pokagon State Park. I presented information gathered during the winter months on one aspect of the economic effect the lakes have on our local communities. I reviewed data collected from LaGrange, Noble, Kosciusko and Steuben counties. The DNR's list of public freshwater lakes indicates that LaGrange County has 52 lakes, Noble County 84, Kosciusko 67 and Steuben 78. The total lake area of each county is LaGrange, 4,823 acres; Noble, 3,617 acres; Kosciusko, 9,688 acres; and Steuben 8,316 acres.

The assessed land value of shoreline parcels was determined for each county based on its GIS data. Although these shoreline land parcels make up about 20 percent of the total land parcels in each county, they contribute a significantly higher portion to the tax base. In LaGrange County these lake properties make up 38 percent of the county's land assessed value. The lake properties in Noble contribute 29 percent of the tax base. In Kosciusko the shoreline properties comprise 56 percent of the county's assessed land values. And in Steuben County these riparian properties contribute 66 percent of assessed land values. These assessed land values are the basis for the tax revenue that supports local government functions and local schools.

In another session at the conference the Soil and Water Conservation districts of DeKalb, LaGrange and Steuben counties discussed the wide range of partners that they work with to enhance their efforts in helping protect the water and soil resources.

They have used LARE funds, along with Clean Water Indiana funds, to leverage federal dollars from USDA programs, IDEM grants, local

government projects and funds from environmental groups.

Some of these efforts are being curtailed because of the lack of LARE funds. Therefore, this multiplying affect is being lost. It is obvious to me and many others that LARE funds play an integral role in helping protect and enhance the water quality of our public lakes, which in turn provide a significant source of tax revenue that supports the lake communities.

The state politicians need to be reminded that investments in the maintenance of healthy environments are just as important as education and public safety to the lake communities.

And at the same time, it helps protect the local tax base.

Now that the surface waters of the northern lakes and the legislative process are moving again, it is time for our state legislators to include the appropriate LARE funds in this year's budget to be used for their intended purposes – protecting and enhancing the valuable natural lakes and streams of Indiana.

Taken From Maintain state__146_s investment in the environment | The Journal Gazette Page 1 of 2

Pete Hippensteel, a retired biology professor for Trine University, is vice president of technical affairs for the Steuben County Lake Council. He wrote this for The Journal Gazette.

Although it is a very small portion of Indiana's total budget, it is paid for by the users of the lakes and streams, about 200,000 boat owners.

Trust in government is predicated on knowing what you are being taxed for and that these funds are being used for their intended purposes. Can you imagine the fervor that would be created if school taxes were given to an environmental group for their use?