



Simonton Says...

Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc. Newsletter, Elkhart, Indiana

November 2008

Volume 1, Issue 3

Special Points of Interest

- Veterans' Service Scheduled
- Lake Environment
- "Bugeye", a Long Time Resident
- T-shirts for sale



Photo provided by Diane Marlow

LIFE ON THE LAKE

- by Amy Matherly

Well, it's definitely fall. I know it's a beautiful season. The trees are on fire—reds, oranges, yel-

lows. The little lake has turned into a mirror. Breathtaking! The water has resumed being the domain of fish and fowl.

See **Life**/pg. 8

An 1890's summer on Simonton Lake

-1890's photo on page 10 and text below is reprinted from a newspaper article published on August 16th, 1987, supplied by Brad Pletcher.

Breaking away at the "Old Yanks Tavern" for this group of friends shows that people haven't changed when it comes to water and fun times. This 1890's photo was submitted to Good Ole Days by Mrs. Russell Oakes, 215 N. Michigan. She said this was the only cottage located on the south side of Simonton Lake at the time and the picture was taken before her mother and father were married in 1898. Obviously ready for some fishing, food and good spirits are Charles Cracknell and "buster" Martin (fourth and fifth from the left), and E.D.E. "Ed" Melcher (at far right), father of Mrs. Oakes.

See **Simonton**/pg.10

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Migratory Loons of Simonton Lake

- by Lisa Kime, Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator

You would think there would be plenty of "Loons" on Simonton Lake. But most Hoosiers seldom see the Common Loon. Only people who live near the larger bodies of water in the state have much opportunity to observe this bird. And, since it is usually silent except in nesting season and does not currently nest in Indiana, there is little likelihood of our hearing its memorable wailing calls.

There isn't a great deal of information regarding the Common Loon (*Gavia Immer*), in relation to Simonton Lake and Northern Indiana and the lakes of lower Michigan. The appearance of a Common Loon is one of a large duck or small goose. Its plumage is mostly black and white with some grey intertwined. All species have spear shaped bills made to dive for fish.

See Loons/pg. 16



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Association's 1st General Meeting September 4, 2008

The first General Meeting of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association was held September 4th. Attendance was in excess of 100 residents/members.

Captain Sean Holmes with the Elkhart County Sheriff's department was a guest speaker and addressed the Association on *Community Policing*. In hopes to expand the Sheriff department's resources, *Community Policing* started about three to four years ago. With hopes of recruiting neighborhoods and associations, such as ours, an officer is assigned to the area as a liaison to filter calls, emails, reports, etc., as a direct line of communication. Focus patrols are then assigned to the area of concern. Currently there are over 25 neighborhoods participating in the Community Policing efforts in Elkhart County. Corporal Casey Lehman has been assigned to the Simonton Lake Area Homeowner's Association as our

liaison. Captain Holmes closed with, "it is the responsibility of the residents to watch out for each other and to be aware of their neighborhoods-to know what is normal, what is suspicious and to report suspicious activity. It is our right to feel comfortable and safe in our homes and in our neighborhood." Contact information will be made available on the website.

Bob Evans addressed the membership on the Weir Project. See the latest update on page 13.

Reports from each of the four committees can be found on page 6. Read about the Lake Environment Committee discussion of a watershed diagnostic study and an aquatic plant management plan being considered.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 2009 and will serve as the Association's Annual Meeting.

Please visit the website to read the Meeting Notes in their entirety.

Submitted by: Connie Anderson, Secretary

Treasurer's Corner

Below is a brief financial update on the association (as of 10/20/2008):

Item	Subtotal	Total
Membership Dues	\$4,540.00	
Advertising	3,537.00	
Other (e.g., T-shirt sales, carryover, donations)	1,146.37	
Total Gross Revenue		\$9,223.37
Cost of Goods Sold (T-shirts)	\$104.69	
Total Gross Profit		\$9,118.68
Board of Directors (e.g., General meeting expenses)	100.90	
Membership / Outreach	52.21	
Newsletter / Website	786.79	
Total Expenses		\$939.90
Net Position as of October 20, 2008		\$8,178.78

Erin Harding, Treasurer
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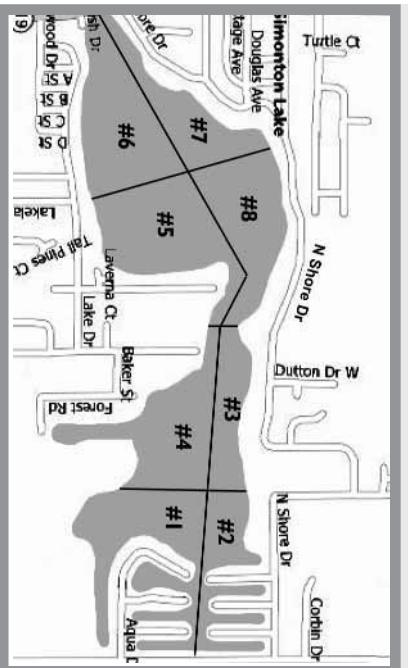
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1. Tim and Phyllis Nusbaum 264-0965
2. Ann and Jerry Broderick 264-1331
John and Pat Brown 264-2258
Ken and Sue Ward 206-0450
3. Susie Broderick 262-0818
4. Jon Hart 262-1404
Randy Hoff 262-3432
5. Bob Meyers 675-0970
Cindy Nickell 262-3105
6. Dave Brown 266-0188
7. Jack Griffith 264-5460
Dave VanZile 264-5201
8. (Representative needed)

**Membership/Outreach Committee**

The committee is selling sharp-looking T-shirts with the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Assoc. logo on them, for \$10.00 a shirt. If you are interested in purchasing one, please contact Sue Ward, 50959 Twilight Drive, 574-206-0450. The area reps are filtering questions from residents to the perspective committees, so they will have a unified voice within the Association. The Outreach Committee is looking to welcome new residents to the area and are hoping to put together a Welcome Package. They are also collecting ideas for additional clubs and activities.

Lake Safety Committee

The Law Enforcement Committee met at Rodger Anderson's home on August 25th. The committee agreed to better identify the focus and to serve the Association, the name should be changed to Lake Safety Committee. All members agreed and the new name was submitted to the Board. The committee will continue to work on obtaining signage for the

www.simontonlake.org

public access. Contact will be made with the assigned officer, Corporal Sean Holmes, to begin facilitating the "community policing" efforts. Next meeting date to be determined based on need and agenda.

Newsletter/Website Committee

The committee met on October 8th to finalize the November issue and plan for the one coming out February 1st. We are excited to have received some material for the newsletter from area residents. The newsletter is for and about the community and we welcome your input, suggestions, photos and stories.

We discussed our new "color" cover for the newsletter, thanks to Mike Smith (lake resident), from Graphics Group. We are encouraging people to visit our website and join the **Fall Photo Contest**, contribute a recipe to the **Recipes on the Lake**, and keep up with the latest **Lake Alerts**. The committee tossed around many excellent ideas for future issues. Be prepared for some exciting and interesting topics coming up in the new year. Visit us at www.simontonlake.org.

Lake Environment Committee

- by Lisa Kime

First and foremost, we need to protect and preserve our lake and the entire Simonton Lake Area Home Owners' defined boundaries. The Lake Environment Committee has tackled its first task together. We would like to focus on our lake and its watershed, beginning with the aquatic plant life. The watershed issues affect all homes and the safety and condition of our drinking water. Secondly, recycling proposals are being obtained for leaves and recyclables. Our committee agreed that in order to accomplish the aforementioned, we are considering proposals from the J.F. New Company, for a watershed diagnostic study and an aquatic plant management plan. Keep in mind the study may take several months to complete following the natural cycle of our lake. Proposals for recycling in our neighborhoods and leaf pick up are being established with our State Representative, Tim Neese, through the Elkhart Recycling Initiative.

A lake diagnostic study does require a substantial amount of money. Good news for our association and our lake, there are state grants and funds available.

See **Committees**/pg. 16

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Life from page 1

Those swans aren't very friendly. But on a clear day when they float by and the water is a cold blue with the trees as a backdrop—well, it's picture perfect. On a day after Labor Day when it was especially calm I wondered if this was how the lake looked back when it was just part of Mr. Simonton's farm. But then a speedboat roared past, a neighbor fired up his leaf blower and the beagles began barking at a squirrel who taunts them from our maple tree. Back to reality.

You know my problem with fall? It means permanent cloud is coming. After the new year begins it seems like a season of GRAY. It's dark when I leave for school and dark when I come home. When it isn't dark, it's gray. GRAY! GRAY! GRAY! It is amazing how many gray days we have in a row. Maybe we should advertise it in those Indiana tourism brochures. "Welcome to Indiana, home of friendly people, beautiful country, sparkling lakes and eight to ten weeks of gray skies." Well, maybe not. I'm envious of those of you who can go south for part of the winter. Maybe some of you miss the gray skies. Say, we could take daily pictures and email you. Maybe I'll put a plant light on myself.

OK folks, this is our third newsletter and I'm not getting any news. You know, weddings, new neighbors, births, engagements. We don't want to pry but we'd like to celebrate with you. I mean it's not just every day that your uncle gets out of prison or your cousin conquers the heartbreak of psoriasis. Here's what I do have:

.....

Long time lake residents **Dick and Ruth Lambright** have decided to sell their home on North Shore and downsize. The Lambrights bought the old Warner property (D. and Fran) and built their home in the early 90's. We'll miss them. They were good neighbors. . .

.....

Chad Winchester and **Erin Nickell** were married at Winding Waters Brethren Church on Oct. 11. Parents of the bride are **Vaughn and Cindy Nickell** (Big Lake). . .

.....

The old swamp willow in **Viola Thorpe's** yard began to lean after all that rain we had in September. (By our rain gauge it was 11 inches.) The tree had always leaned a bit towards the shoreline. By Sunday of that rainy weekend the roots near the house began to protrude through the grass. Right away boats and piers were moved in preparation for the fall. But, the tree's still standing. Brud Thorpe, Viola's son, is planning to take the tree down this winter. Folks tell me there used to be swamp willows all along the shoreline on the north side. We found the stump of one big old tree when we put in our seawall years ago. Another one laid in the lake where it

had fallen some time before we moved into our house in 1982. When we cleared the lot six years ago the tree was still living. . .

.....

Freda Baskerville a long time resident on North Shore celebrated her 90th birthday recently. Congratulations, Freda. . .

.....

Katie Ulery, daughter of **Jim Ulery** (Big Lake) will be married to Jason Barrydt at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Elkhart next May.

.....

Let me tell you about my uncle, John Kroh. John passed away on September 1 after a battle with cancer. He was 75. The older I get the younger that sounds. He grew up in Syracuse, Indiana and played basketball for Syracuse High School (now part of Wawasee High School). John got his pharmacy degree from Purdue, served in the U.S. Navy and then returned with his bride, Gail, to live in Syracuse. He worked for his father, my grandfather, Charles (Jim) Kroh at Thornburg's Drugs in Syracuse and North Webster.

When Grandpa passed away he bought the stores. About 15 years or so ago he sold the stores and moved to Florida.

See **Uncle John**/pg. 13



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Simonton from page 1

Also, Fred Melcher (leaning out the cottage window and brother of Ed), and L.G. Pancost (second from right), Ed Melcher was an engineer with the New York Central railroad at the time. She said the cottage was owned by Charles Melcher, who was uncle to her father. Names of others in the picture include E. Pencost, P. Pendall, Adam Tickert, B. Isenbice, and Will Specht. The four-mile trip to the lake was something of an expedition in a "democrat"

wagon drawn by Old Dobbin

and his mate. The reward for a long trip was blue gills, perch and an occasional pickereel. Martin was well known in later years as an organizer of the Grange movement. A tall tale from this picture of the past is that it was a sizzling hot day and at least one of the three bottles sitting atop the nail keg exploded moments after the picture was taken.

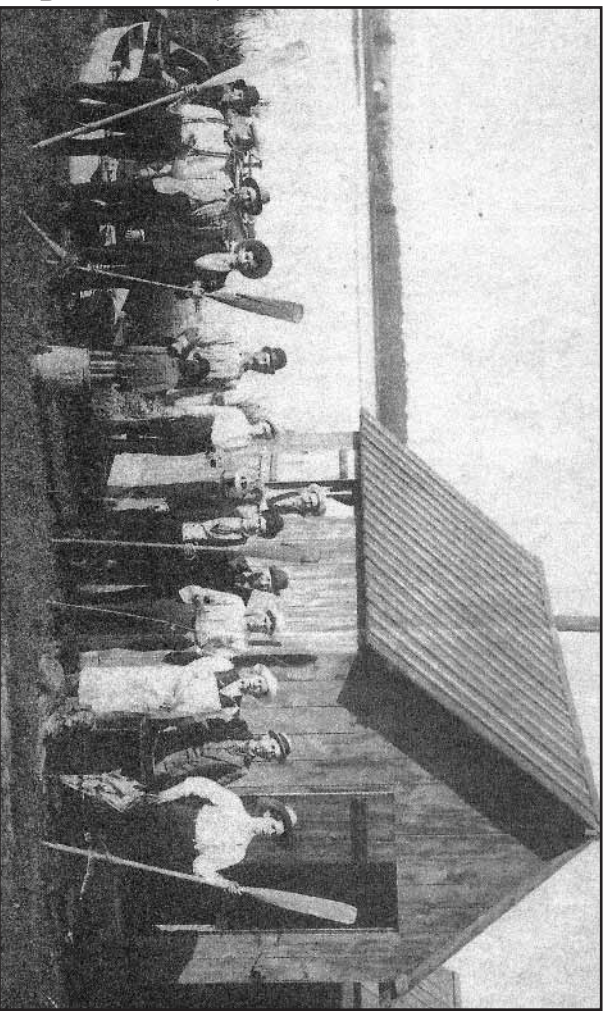


Photo provided by Brad Fletcher

Brad's wife, Deb, received the picture from her mom and dad, the late Wayne & Corabelle Replogle, who lived on Maplewood Drive.

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Weir Update

- by Dave Foutz

Trying to find someone who will assume responsibility for construction of the Lilly Creek weir in a political abyss murkier than the bottom of Simonton Lake has eluded residents since 1992. However, Simonton Lake Area Home Owners Association members have been very active on many fronts attempting to affect a positive resolution and move forward toward construction of the weir. Conversations with County Commissioners and State Representatives make it apparent that SLAHA members have been writing elected officials and advocating the construction of the long over due project. This kind of action is vitally important and may need to be begun again before actual construction begins.

Currently, the council for the Indiana Department of

See **Weir/pg. 18**

Uncle John

from page 8

Now you might think—why is she including this in “Life on the Lake”? Be patient. I’m getting there. John lived on Syracuse Lake. He taught about living on a lake. I know you understand that. It’s a unique experience, one that many folks don’t understand or will never have the opportunity to know. And there’s a responsibility, a shared responsibility to keep your lake a healthy, safe place, to maintain its beauty and wildlife and provide us, the caretakers of the lake, with a place of enjoyment. John headed up the Syracuse 4th of July fireworks for many years. He was a one man campaign: fund raising, hiring the company, designing the show. There was always a party at John and Gail’s on the Fourth. He was a great skier himself and taught his three sons to water ski. He never met a stranger but if you cheated or lied or hurt a family member you wanted to stay clear of big John.

John stood 6’5”. He actually tried out for the basketball team at Purdue and made it to the final cut. He was rarely sick and could work all day and party until 2 a.m. and do it all again the following day. Then there came the cancer. It was a bad kind, not many survivors. But surely, we thought, he would beat it. He didn’t. In May his doctors told him, “If there’s anything you want to do, do it now.” So, he and Gail came home. John had 5 brothers and sisters. My mother and the other siblings never sold Grandma’s house after she passed. When her brothers and sisters come home to visit and spend time at the lake, they stay there. That’s where they gathered, around Grandma’s big kitchen table, the table where we cousins spent so many Thanksgivings and Christmas dinners. They had lunch together and talked. They took pic-

Natural Resources has asked for and been given a continuance from the previous court date of October 17. The new court date is scheduled for Friday, November 21, at 3:30 P.M. in Superior Court 3, at the courthouse in Goshen. It is difficult to know how this will impact the situation, but by moving the hearing to after the election could reduce some previous political leverage. The reason for the hearing is to close the case and free the state from further action in the matter.

On Monday, October 13, Bob Meyers, Dick Rhodes, Dave Foutz and Vaughn Nickell attended a political function where they had access to State Representatives William Friend and Tim Neese. From those conversations it became apparent that Representative Neese was the most concerned regarding the plight of lake residents.

tures. John was in a wheel chair. He didn’t look like John. He looked like Grandma.

There was a memorial service in Florida. And then, the last Saturday in September they brought him home to stay. You know how you can tell that you’ve done life well? When the church is packed at your service. People came, and came, and came. Near the altar was a floral display and his picture. The North Webster American Legion members came forward one at a time down the center aisle of the church and saluted. His grandchildren were his pride and joy. One played a piece on the piano to begin the service. One, a student at his alma mater, Purdue, spoke about her grandpa. And then one of his three sons spoke. It was hard but his dad would have been proud. You know, he looks just like John.

We went to my folk’s house for a family dinner. It’s too bad but we don’t get together much anymore except for weddings or funerals. My goodness my cousins have gotten old looking. I’m so glad that hasn’t happened to me.

It was a warm sunny day. At about 3:00 Gail and her sons and some of the cousins fired up two speed boats. Gail had John’s urn. She took him for his last spin around Syracuse Lake. The rest of us sat on shore and watched. I feel like those moments will be something I will always remember. I’m not going to tell you what they did with his ashes because I don’t think it’s legal. Use your imagination. Then one of his sons put on slalom ski and took a lap for his dad. It was beautiful. He cut through the wake like a pro. The spray behind him flashed like diamonds in the sun. Some folks might not get it. But I think that is about as good as it gets.

Until next time. . . live each day on the lake as if it is your last.



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Who IS Bugeye?

- by Carole Foutz

Only if you just moved to Simonton Lake or moved away before 1925 would you not know the name of our local lake inhabitant, Bugeye. Like so many things, we know the name but little more. So, who or what is a Bugeye? When we moved to the lake in 1999, it wasn't long before we were asking the same question. You see, Bugeye is a legend on Simonton Lake. After 10 years, it became clear that it was time to search out Bugeye and meet him.

As the writer of the section for "Simonton Says" that chronicles the history of the lake and its most interesting people, I decided that Bugeye should be one of my first residents to interview. So I picked up the telephone and called Mr. Harry Hostetter, AKA Bugeye, to schedule an interview. When Harry answered and I explained that I wanted to interview some of the "real old timers" on Simonton for the paper, Bugeye instantly replied that he had only lived here since 1925, and I should first talk with Johnny Pugh since he had lived on the lake since he was born some 90 plus years ago! "Awesome," I replied. "He can be the subject of my next article and interview."

Of course, most of us are most curious as to the source of the unique nickname "Bugeye". Bugeye related that his given name is Harry and was named after his father. He worked along-side his father and brother at the C.G. Conn musical instrument factory following the war. The "boys" in the family were planning a fishing expedition up north the following weekend and decided they might need a little liquid refreshment to prevent frost bite. In 1946, beer was still being rationed and there was a two case limit. But Harry, being a resourceful young man made a beer run to Toledo, Ohio, the home of "Buckeye Beer," where he was able to secure a more reasonable fourteen cases. At that point his father began to call him "Buckeye." After time, the younger Harry finally pointed out to his father that he wasn't from Ohio and he wasn't a Buckeye! Harry Sr. quickly responded, "Ok, then we'll call you Bugeye". And now, nearly sixty years later, Harry is still Bugeye!

Bugeye was raised on the corner of Cassopolis and Bell Streets. Growing up he became quite familiar with the Simonton Lake and Christiana Creek area. In 1942, Bugeye was called to action in World War II. He served in the artillery in the US Army, fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and was awarded five Bronze Stars for distinguished service. Following the end of the war he returned to Elkhart, where he was married. Harry and his new bride moved back to Simonton Lake where they bought a small home on North Shore Drive. Over the years, as savings would allow, the house was repeatedly

remodeled, added on to until it became the house he lives in today.

Over the years, Bugeye has seen the lake change from a quiet, country retreat to an extremely busy lake. He recalls how clear the lake used to be and he suspects that many of its natural springs are now covered and clogged with silt from the increased motor boat traffic. He has fished this lake the better part of 70 years, and recalls endless fish stories from the past. Bugeye is one of the founding members of the Sportsmen's Club of Simonton Lake.

So, who IS Bugeye? Harry Hostetter is a true legend on Simonton Lake, a military medal winner, an outstanding fisherman, a friend to countless many in our neighborhood, an organizer, and just a "real guy" who enjoys life.

Next issue - February 1st

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Loons

from page 2

The European name "The Great Northern Diver" comes from the bird's behavior of swimming along calmly and then abruptly plunging into the water's depth to catch a fish. We as North Americans call the Gavia immer "Loon" due to it's haunting yodeling cry. The eerie yodel of the Common Loon is the symbol of the wild north. It is difficult to tell the sexes of these birds with exception to the male being larger. The conservation status of the Loon is on the rebound. Discovery of mercury poisoning in aquatic ecosystems and lead poisoning from fishing sinkers can be the significant cause of death in our beautiful Loon.

Little is known about the loon's migration, wintering habits and its molt sequence. Like its song and appearance, it's a very mysterious bird. The Common Loon is surrounded by an aura of myth and magic. There are many Native American tales about the loon. Chippewa stories believe the loon is a messenger from Glooscap, a tribal hero. They believe the loon created the world. My

uncle, Jonathon Shinos, a Chippewa living with the Sioux tribe in Sioux Saint Marie, believes that when a loon is heard, "your life is going to change."

From an interview with Vic Riemenschneider, Bird Recorder, South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society: "Ken Brock's book on the *Birds of the Indiana Dunes* shows the peak times for loon sightings are late October and the month of November with a few extending into December. Spring sightings occur less frequently in late March and April. I checked our South Bend-Elkhart Audubon database and the sightings there correspond to the dates shown in Brock. Our sightings seem to be about equally divided between spring and fall. Late March and April are the most common spring dates and November is the most common fall month."

Sources:

www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/BirdGuide/Common_Loon.html
bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/313/articles/introduction
wikipedia.org/wiki/Loon

Committees

from page 6

These funds are available through the Lake and River Enhancement Project. J.F. New and Associates are at the helm applying for these grants and are familiar with what monies are available, the deadline for application and where to file the paperwork. This is part of their service. Part of the charges can be worked off by anyone who has a love of wildlife and our lake by learning to take water samples of the lake. The diagnostic company has agreed to train individuals to perform water readings of Simonton Lake. If you are interested please call the Lake Environment Committee at 574-903-6791.

Our lake and water, aquatic and wildlife are the key-stone of our neighborhoods, home values and our enjoyment. We have to protect it in order to keep it and help it evolve. Can it be better? ...only if we do something now. The Department of Natural Resources 2007 Fisheries report by Rodney Edgall, states Simonton Lake's status on all fronts has not changed from 2005. Prior to 2005 there was an alarming drop in fish populations and the overall health of our lake.

The current state of our nation's energy and natural resource crisis should influence your consideration about the validity and urgency of this study and our recycling initiative. It is an investment which deserves proper con-

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sideration by all whether you live on the shoreline or surrounding area. **READ ENTIRE REPORT** on our website: www.simontonlake.org



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Skiing Happenings... even on Christmas??

- by Maria Hopman

I have been skiing for almost 50 years, having been taught by my brother Paul on the St. Joseph River behind his 40 horsepower Evinrude. The last 30 years have been on our lake with my skiing buddy, Theresa Maier. Our group waxed and waned over the years. Brad and Deb Pletcher stayed with us until they turned 40 when they hung up their ski ropes and skis. Anne Harbaugh also joined our group for a number of years. Most of our initial group is retired, but a few years ago Deb Weaver joined Theresa and I. We are all now 5 decades plus in age.

I wish we had kept count of all the people that we taught to water ski! It is a lot. The oldest skier we ever pulled was Andy Liberton at 69!

This summer I have been taking a few cuts with Erin and Ryan Harding. They are very good skiers. Theresa and I have about done it all – we have skied the big lake, the little lake, behind the wave runner, skied five people at one time; we even skied through the main channel at 6 a.m. thanks to our boat driver! (I don't recommend this, it's against the law). But nothing we've done compares to what happened on Christmas Day, 26 years ago. On that day four people, Dave Obendorf, Ryan Matherly, John Ball and Jeff Kasamis decided to go skiing! Ryan had received a new E.P. Competition Ski for Christmas from his wife Amy and could not wait to try it out! He told Dave if he would get his boat out of storage (a red tri-hull Aero Glass Cheeta, that was stored at John Ball's House) he would pay for re-winteriz-

ing it. The lake had frozen and thawed that year with temperatures in the 60's or 70's. Dave had surgery and was not supposed to ski yet. So without a wet suit, he fell into the water, and remembers thinking the boat had better get back quickly! He could not feel his hands grabbing the ladder. When asked if he would do it again he replied "no"! Dave said he was younger then and had a fun time. As an afterthought, he thought he might, if he was physically able.

Ryan remembers being on call that Christmas Day, so he had to stay home while Amy went to Syracuse to be with family. She missed the great event! With not much to do he decided to try out his new ski! He thinks a wet suit was passed around. They started in front of Chet Matherly's house on Lake Drive and used the one foot in the water, one foot in the ski hopping method. Two of the four who went, fell into the water. Br-r-r! Asked if he would do it again Ryan said "no", but he would pull his kids if they wanted to go.



Ryan Matherly, Dave Obendorf, John Ball & Jeff Kasamis
Christmas Day 1982 -Photo provided by Amy Matherly

Veterans Day Service at Memorial High School

- by Dave Foutz

Memorial High School is pleased to invite area military service veterans to the second annual Veterans Day observance. Delighted with the positive response from last year's program, the Memorial High School staff is looking forward to once again recognizing the military service of veterans from the local community on Tuesday, November 11, 2008.

Guests are invited to visit the Hospitality Suite just off the front entrance lobby from 9:45 until 10:15 A.M. Parking will be available in the front parking lot facing the

school building. Guests should check in at the main office and will be directed to the Hospitality Suite. Veterans will be escorted to the Auditorium at 10:15 and the program will conclude with a Moment of Silence at 11:11 A.M.

In order to have sufficient refreshments at the Hospitality Suite, it is requested that you please notify Peggy Presser, EMHS staff member with your attendance plans at 574.262.5842 or email ppresser@elkhart.k12.in.us

Let us remember the sacrifice of our lake area veterans on Veteran's Day, November 11th, 2008. We would like to make a list of our lake area veterans. Please contact us by mail or email - simon@simontonlake.org

www.simontonlake.org

To place a classified ad, email: ads@simontonlake.org. Classified ads are **free for paid members of the association**. Non-members pay \$5. Ads will have to be resubmitted for additional issues. *Ads are limited to 100 characters. No commercial business ads will be accepted to protect our sponsors who are supporting this newsletter.* Deadline: 20th of month prior to publishing date.

REAL ESTATE

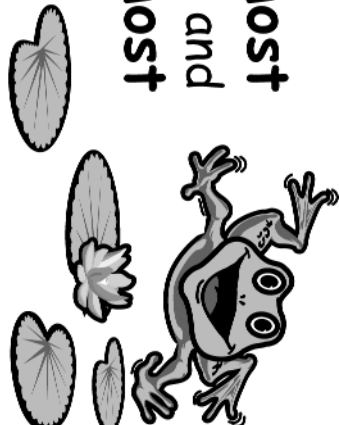
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ON AIR SCHEDULE

5:30 - 10am	The Froggy Morning Show with Beau Kennedy	
10am - 2pm	Katie Cruz	
2pm - 7pm	Ron Stryker	
7pm - 12mid	Paul Weaver	

Next issue - February 1st
In the meantime, get the news at:
www.simontonlake.org

Weir from page 13

In regard to the project, Representative Neese said the following: "The importance and success of the weir project will be beneficial to residents of Simonton Lake in addition to a wide range of individuals. I pledge my full support on behalf of its completion." Representative Neese has had numerous conversations with county officials, Deputy Attorney General Sierra Cutts, and Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association members.

On September 12, Vaughn Nickell, Bob Evans, and Dave Foutz met with county officials, including County Commissioner, Mike Yoder, County Surveyor, Blake Doriot, and County Attorney, Gordon Lord. At that meeting county officials recognized the value of the weir to the lake, the surrounding environment, and the general community. County officials agreed to cooperate with lake and community resident in implementing a strategy that contained a number of fall back positions, that would result in completion of the weir in the most expedient and cost effective manner.

Residents should pay close attention to the SLAHA web site for weir updates and directions as to how they might be able to join in some type of collective action directed toward moving this project toward completion. Thank you to all of you who have been involved up to this point.

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Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1706
Elkhart, IN. 46515-1706
www.simontonlake.org
info@simontonlake.org

*The **MISSION** of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowner's Association is to foster the safety and quality of life in our neighborhood. We strive to protect the value of our homes, the wildlife and the environment surrounding our lake, support local and state law enforcement for the safety of our families and lake visitors, and encourage active involvement in the northern Elkhart area growth and development.*

Simonton Lake Events

Ice Golf Tournament -
January 17th, 2009 (held at
Lakeshore Bar & Grill)

Community Contacts

Simonton Lake Conservancy
(574) 206-8485

DNR
Main office: (317)232-4160
or toll free 1-877-928-3755
Fax: (317)233-4579

Sheriff Elkhart County
(574) 533-4151
Association contact person:
Cpl. Casey Lehman
General Information or
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clehman@elkhartcountysheriff.com
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(574) 264-1066
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**Would you like to
contribute information, pictures, or
stories to "Simonton Says...?"**

Email to: info@simontonlake.org
or mail to:

Simonton Says... Newsletter
Simonton Lake Area Homeowners'
Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1706
Elkhart, IN. 46515-1706

The newsletter is published 6 times per year - Feb, May, Jun,
Jul, Aug, & Nov. For advertising information, call: Dick Rhodes - 574-
370-7884 or Bob Meyers - 574-361-4445 or email: ads@simonton-lake.org

IN THE NEXT ISSUE: which will come out February
1st (until then, check the website for current news)

~ Snowmobiling & Ice Fishing on the lake...
~ Getting ready for spring... brush up on
Boating rules