



Simonton Says...

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

February 2011

Volume 4, Issue 1

www.simontonlake.org

Special Points of Interest

- Embrace Winter - the Blizzard of 2011
- Does Phosphorus Affect the Lake?
- Traveling to Africa
- Co-sponsoring the Fireworks

Seeking Simonton Shutterbugs!



All that glitters...

January / 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Capture a picture perfect day!

We're creating a Simonton Lake Calendar for 2012!

see details on page 22

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Remembering a "Spooktacular Day"- 2010



(left) Zach and Maddie O'lena. Parents are Randy and Lisa, North Shore Drive. And Mollie the dog.

(right) Yep, thats Amy Matherly, our Fairy God-mother Extraordinaire.!

(lower left) Elizabeth Kehoe and her friend (granddaughter of Linda & Dwight Bowser, LaVerna Court)

(lower right) Trick-or Treaters, Emily & Zack Anderson, Maplewood Drive. Is That "Scary Larry" Maier behind that ugly mask?



Pet "Tails"

Corby is a three-year old miniature goldendoodle by breed, which means he is lovable, a little too smart for his own good, and always looking for a fun adventure in the water. Given his exuberance, he's fondly known in the extended Harding family as "Crazy Kirby." His family, Erin, Ryan & Emmett Harding say that "he absolutely loves the water". You can see him here tubing with cousins Spencer and Grace Faulkes, visiting from Wisconsin. In addition to your traditional tricks of "sit," "roll over," etc., his favorite commands are "let's go on the boat" or "want to go kayaking?"



In both cases, he'll run down the pier or head to the kayak ready for his ride! Corby isn't very good at playing fetch on land, but he's excellent at retrieving items in the water. He has gone on two houseboating trips in Tennessee. Erin writes "He fancies himself a lifeguard on those trips – every time one of us goes down the water slide, Corby jumps off the boat in an attempt to 'save' us. His flying leaps are quite acrobatic!" The Hardings are even more fully convinced that Corby got sent to the right home – last week, they found out that he has hip dysplasia. One of the best treatments for this condition is swimming, so the little guy is going to get the very best care that Simonton can offer to him! ■



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John Rose - Vice President
51332 Forest Road
574-333-2433
johnrose11@comcast.net

Erin Harding - Treasurer
25828 North Shore Drive
Cell: 312-771-6397
eharding@nd.edu

Ginny Bellamy - Secretary
50973 CR 11 North
Phone: 574-262-3766
lgbellamy@msn.com

Bob Kelsey - Big Lake Director - North
26137 Lake Dr.
574-264-2233
zipi@choiceonemail.com

Carole Foutz - Big Lake Director -South
26109 Lake Drive
574-262-3908
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Jack Tucker - Little Lake/Channel Director
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New Neighbors?

We would love to bring them a welcome packet and put their name in our newsletter. Please notify Sue Ward at 574-206-0450 or email skward@frontier.net

Pet Tails

We want to feature your pet in an upcoming issue.

Send us your pet stories & pictures by mail to: 26189 Lake Dr. or by e-mail to: simon@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.*

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@simontonlake.org
Would you like to contribute information, pictures, or stories to "Simonton Says...?"

Email to: simon@simontonlake.org or mail to:
Simonton Says... Newsletter
Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1706
Elkhart, IN. 46515-1706

THE NEXT ISSUE will come out May 1st (in the meantime, check the website for current news)

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

We are always looking for volunteers for our committees: Membership/Outreach, Environment, Lake Safety, & Newsletter/Website. Please send an email if you are interested or if you have a story for our newsletter.

Events on the Lake

February 19 and 20 - Winter Turkey Shoot
(Frozen turkeys?)
(Sponsored by Sportsmen's Club)

March 5 - Spring Casino Night
(Sponsored by Sportsmen's Club)

June 4 - Youth Fishing Contest
(Sponsored by Sportsmen's Club)

July 2 - Poker Run (Rain or shine)
(Sponsored by Sportsmen's Club)

July 3 - Simonton Lake Fireworks
(Rain date - July 4)
(Sponsored by Sportsmen's Club & Homeowners' Association)

August 6 - Youth Fishing Contest
(Sponsored by Sportsmen's Club)

August 6 - Corn and Sausage Roast
(Sponsored by Sportsmen's Club)

October 15 & 16 - Fall Turkey Shoot
(Sponsored by Sportsmen's Club)

November 12 - Fall Casino Night
(Sponsored by Sportsmen's Club)

Community Contacts

Simonton Lake Conservancy
(574) 206-8485

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

Sheriff Elkhart County
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Neighborhood contact person:
Cpl. Casey Lehman
General information or questions,
Email: clehman@elkhartcountysheriff.com
Phone: (574) 535-6553

EMERGENCIES - CALL 911

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Osolo EMS (574) 262-3052

Law Enforcement District (574) 457-8092

Lake Safety Committee - Crime Tracking
Contact Chris Toles: 574-266-7768
or CMT6061@Comcast.net



Do you live in the lake area, but don't receive our newsletters?

Call Carole at 262-3908 or Email simon@simontonlake.org

Newsletter Staff: Cathy Fleming, Carole Foutz, Dave Foutz, Maria Hopman, Janet Kelsey, Theresa Maier, Diane Marlow, Amy Matherly, Bob Meyers, Deb Pletcher, Dick Rhodes, Kay Rhodes

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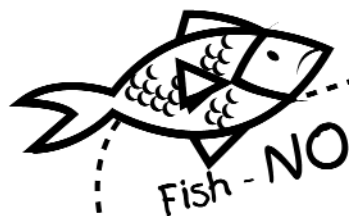
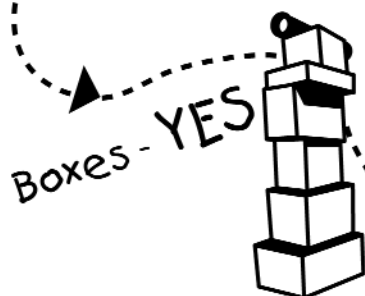
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Phosphorus Is Not Good for Us

-by Bob Meyers

In the July 2010 issue of Simonton Says there was an article telling us the evils of certain fertilizers and reactions to them around our state. This month, we'd like to take a look at how this affects us locally, most importantly, at Simonton Lake.

How does your water taste? This is a focus on phosphorus and how it gets into our surface water. Although turf grasses require many nutrients to survive and thrive, nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium are applied in the greatest amount. Nitrogen promotes greenness and stimulates growth, phosphorus is necessary for the plant's energy and productive systems, and potassium is used in many cellular processes. Most turf fertilizer programs are constructed around an annual nitrogen requirement which varies depending upon the owner's desired appearance, turf vigor and resources available to manage growth. A mature cool-season (e.g., bluegrass or fescue, two that are common at the lake) lawn will typically receive 2-4 pounds of actual nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. spaced over 2-5 applications.

Among the "big three" nutrients, phosphorus is required in smaller quantities than nitrogen or potassium, however its importance should not be overlooked.

Deficiencies are rare in mature turf, but are a serious concern in newly established turf due to the lack of a root system. Thus "starter" fertilizers high in phosphorus are always recommended when establishing a new lawn from seed or sod. Once plants become established and develop a deep root system, annual phosphorus fertilization requirement decreases in the type of soil we have. It is important to understand phosphorus is naturally found in our soil, water and living organisms. Non-turf sources such as pollen or tree leaves can be a large source of phosphorus entering the lake

during spring and fall when they drop onto surfaces such as roads and are carried into the lake during rain-falls. The phosphorus level of domestic animal wastes and Canada geese is very high. Runoff losses from those sources may also significantly affect the phosphorus level in our lake.

Most fertilizer programs are constructed around nitrogen applications to meet a specific need. Depending on your objective, different products should be used. For example, if you are planting a new lawn from seed or sod then a "starter" fertilizer with a higher percentage of phosphorus than nitrogen should be used to ensure proper root growth development. If your turf is mature, "maintenance" fertilizers should be used because they supply mostly nitrogen.

Some communities have proposed limiting or even eliminating phosphorus containing fertilizers. This may be acceptable on mature lawns, however does not make good sense for newly established turf.

Here are suggestions on best management practices to protect water quality.

1. Do not apply unnecessary nutrients. The old adage: "Don't guess, soil test".
2. Keep fertilizer on the turf. If granular fertilizer particles land on



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How does phosphorus affect the quality of Simonton Lake?

driveways, patios, etc., sweep them back into the turf where they can be used by the plant.

3. Never apply nutrients to frozen soil or brown turf.
4. Return lawn clippings back into the turf during mowing. This recycles nutrients back into the soil.
5. Maintain a 5 to 10 foot vegetative buffer strip near the lake. Avoid direct fertilizer applications to this area.
6. Keep excess lawn debris, tree leaves and twigs, lawn clippings, etc. out of gutters, storm drains, streets, ditches and any surface water.
7. Pick up pet waste promptly.

We are not attempting to tell you how to run your railroad. We are merely stating what we have learned and offering suggestions. We are not saying your lawn service people don't know what they're doing, so don't get mad at them or us. You may just disregard this article or use it as lawn food for thought. ■

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Embrace Winter

-by Dave Foutz

Quite often we make plans for the future and at that time they seem like such wonderful life altering flashes of intuition. You know what I mean? But first some background into how the ideas for “Simonton Says” come together to become the glossy magazine that magically appears at your mail box. Periodically the writing, publishing, and advertising staffs sit down together at Dick and Kay Rhodes’ house and plan writing assignments for the next three issues. Consequently, when we first begin planning our February articles it’s still August. Understand that it was in this tan, fit, euphoric environment, with lake breezes blowing through the curtains that I hatched out the romanticized notion of how I was going to write this “don’t hibernate, participate” article about embracing winter in Northern Indiana. So as I sit down at my keyboard with this assignment in mind I feel an obligation look at the past several months’ experiences from which to draw my inspiration.

Wasn’t the fall fantastic? I can’t remember a nicer fall. I mean right up to Thanksgiving Day the weather was ideal. But that was fall which really isn’t the point is it? That wasn’t winter. But along came December with an immediate shift to cold and snow. You must admit it was kind of pretty wasn’t it? You know the mantle of fluffy white snow covering everything. Plus an additional bonus, I bought a new snow

blower this year and it is fantastic. It can blow snow twenty feet into the air! See how I’m embracing winter? The last two weeks of December we spent enjoying the holidays with our family in Naples, Florida. Wow, do I love Naples! What a great town, palm trees, white sand beaches, great shopping. I particularly like the simulated snow makers on 3rd Street that use dish soap to cover the Bentley’s and Mercedes with something that represents winter. I’m not sure this is what I initially had in mind for embracing winter in Indiana. But, it was just a smashing good time!

I do vividly remember on our return trip home arriving at South Bend Airport on New Year’s night. The temperature was seventeen degrees and the wind must have been howling at twenty miles an hour straight out of the west. As I walked across the parking lot to reach the long term parking I thought my face was going to be ripped off. I think winter was embracing me. If you remember, New Year’s Day was just after the monsoon rains had washed away all the snow. But there is the

silver lining; the lake had nearly perfect ice. In the thirteen years we have lived on the lake I have only seen ice that good on two other occasions. This is exactly what I’d been waiting for, I was going to go ice skating! So I got out the old figure skates, dusted them off, and hit the ice—literally. I never was what you would call a good skater, but what in heaven’s name happened to those skills(?) over the last ten years or so? I would have to say I was pretty much out of control for the whole experience, which really didn’t last that long. First I headed west and managed to somehow make it to Coopers’ house before I came to the realization that being on skates just makes it that much further to fall to the ice. I crashed! But I popped up, brushed myself off, and back east I went. At last I seemed to be gaining some degree of control and worst of all, confidence. In a fit of exuberance I sailed on past the house. This time I made it as far as Stutsmans’ house before the final crash! I’m not lying I hit the ice like a ton of bricks. My ribs still hurt. But, hey, I was embracing winter.

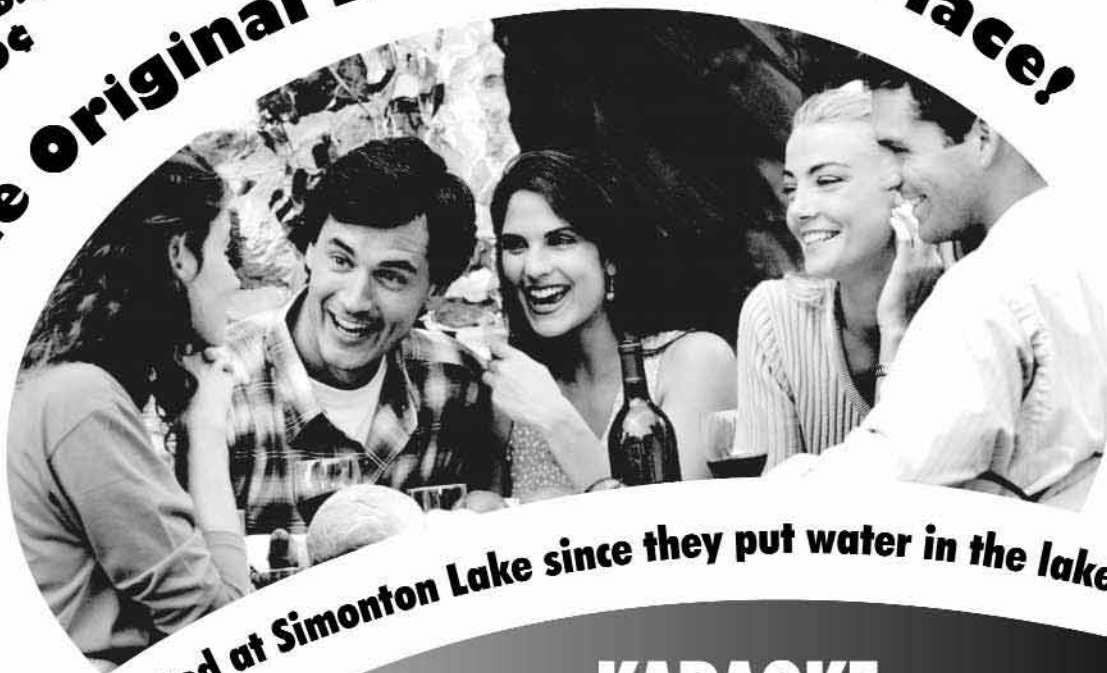
On Tuesday of the second week of 2011, I contracted the worst case of upper respiratory infection I have had in maybe twenty years. Who do you know who hasn’t had to deal with that stuff? And it doesn’t go away either! Right now I’m sitting here with my hot coffee and box of Kleenex on the desk, wondering what I could have possibly been thinking last August. At this point embracing winter means just surviving until we can enjoy being with friends on Spring Break at a pristine beach in the Dominican Republic.

I’m the type of person who always thinks you should go away with some nugget of learning from these sorts of life experiences and here’s what embracing winter has taught me: Life on the lake in the summer has to be absolutely incredible for us Lakers to put up with these utterly awful, gray, frigid winters. Winter hum-bug! Remember, just three more months until May!! ■



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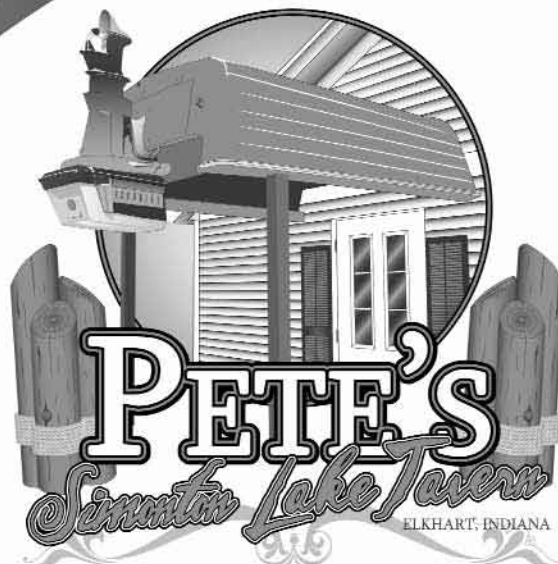
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An Unexpected Visit to Zululand

-by Carole Foutz

Ronda and Randy Stabler found themselves very unexpectedly in Zululand, South Africa in August of this year. Although they have traveled extensively, this was not an adventure they had been anticipating. Ronda and Randy live on Lake Drive and are both very fond of the outdoors, with Randy being an avid fisherman. Their love of the outdoors and travel has taken them to many outstanding places in the world: Bangkok, Hong Kong, New Zealand to name just a few. The couple has a travel asset: Ronda works for Delta Airlines which makes travel much more economical for them.

Earlier this year Ronda was reading her mother's church bulletin (Lutheran Church in Goshen) and found an article asking for volunteers to deliver supplies and medicine to the Zulu region in South Africa. This thought of visiting Africa stuck with Ronda. She concluded she could take advantage of her ability to fly free and at the same time make a contribution to people with very real needs. Eventually, she shared her vision with Randy, but initially, he wasn't excited about making the 19 hour flight from South Bend to Durban, South Africa. As Ronda talked with friends, co-workers, and church volunteers, the number of people wanting to share in the adventure began to grow. Each person was able to carry one free large trunk along with their luggage to transport supplies. The trip itself was very comfortable as the group was able to secure first class tickets. In first class, the seats convert into beds and Ronda

says this made a huge difference! The supplies went to areas of great need especially for women and children with AIDS. While delivering the supplies, they were able to meet and tour the Zulu area.

Another opportunity was the chance to fly to Cape Town, a place they were anxious to visit. Cape Town was noticeably much better off economically than Zululand; in fact Cape Town had some areas of great wealth. The group visited the Cape of Good Hope and saw whales, penguins, seals, baboons and monkeys. In fact, it was necessary to keep their windows up when driving in the area because of the danger from baboons. Ronda describes South Africa as being an extremely beautiful, diverse country filled with friendly and hospitable peo-

ple. Ronda admits that while not as obvious as in the past, she still observed discrimination. She has visited a wide array of geographically interesting areas. Like the geography, the people of South Africa come from a wide mix of countries contributing to its human diversity.

The Stablers would like to go back to South Africa and explore the northern part of the country where Kruger National Park is located. This park is one of the largest game reserves in Africa. Certainly, this trip was a huge adventure to a new and exotic land and culture. Rhonda and Randy shared many unique and pleasant experiences in South Africa, but beyond that, the people of Zululand may have benefited from their travel more than they will ever know. ■





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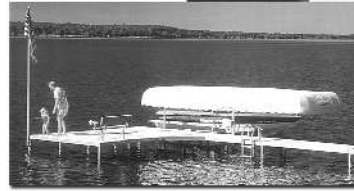
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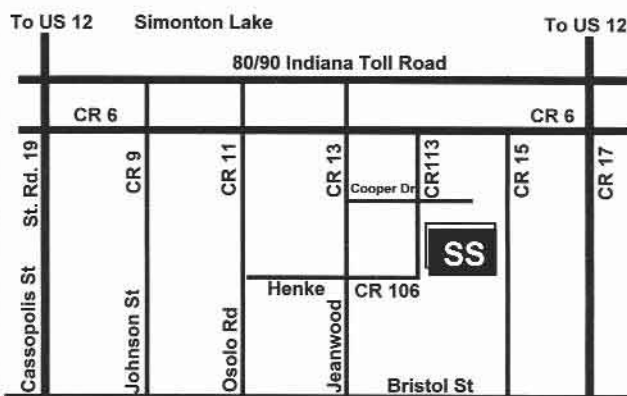


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Wildlife in our Backyard

Seagulls on Simonton Lake?

- by Theresa Maier

When did gulls arrive at Simonton Lake? Those asked around the lake remember about ten years ago when wave runners became abundant on the lake. They rarely venture out to sea seeking land for breeding. Many gulls' habitats have moved inland, adapting very well to man's way of life mainly because they like to scavenge in rubbish dumps, big cities inland and in harbors. Gulls seem to prefer feeding on these easy pickings. Classified as carnivores they eat fish and small crustaceans. Gulls will scavenge dead animals and organic litter. They eat birds, eggs, and grain, carrion and edible rubbish. They actually keep beaches clean.

According to "North American Birds," the Herring Gull population is expanding in many areas driving out weaker species. In more natural habitats, herring gulls have caused problems for delicate species such as puffins and terns. In competition for space on cliffs, islands and dunes causes the gulls to drive other birds away, depriving them of breeding grounds. It has



been necessary to cull in some areas in order to reduce the gulls' numbers. Gulls breed in large colonies in ground nests of seaweed or grass. Both male and female gulls sit on the nests holding 2-3 bluish or olive, dark-blotched eggs. Gulls are silver-grey back, white head, neck and under parts; black wing tips with white spots or patches; heavy looking bill with red spot on underside; flesh-colored legs. Immature gulls are speckled brown and grey.

Seagulls are actually a common bird in the Charadriiformes family Laridae. The name seagull is actually the name of the Herring Gull. Gulls are related to waders, auks and skimmers. They mature in 4 years and their coloring changes frequently from mottled to white to gray. They can live anywhere from 5-15 years. Some have been known to live 25 years!

Most of the world's seagulls are born in California. Seagulls are actually very intelligent and capable of high level communication. Gulls will grab food and bother humans. They build nests in homes. Some gulls can even be aggressive and hurt people. The droppings from seagulls present problems too. The droppings are actually full nutrient-rich waste perfect for the breeding of bacteria and other organisms that can cause disease and infections in humans. They can also infect you if they bite or scratch you! Some diseases they carry are E. coli, Cryptococcosis and Histoplasmosis. Some seagulls migrate and will travel for thousands of miles just to find food! Seagulls are so bad in Scotland they are actually exterminating them!

As mentioned seagulls like seafood especially clams and we hope zebra mussels. However, the shells are too hard for their beaks to break so they carry the clams over rocks and drop them to crack them open! Now that's smart! ■

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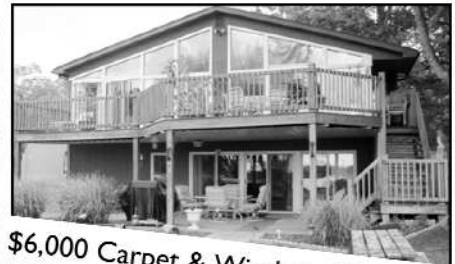


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*Information obtained from the Elkhart County Multiple Listing Service.





-by Bob Meyers

Here we are looking out on a frozen lake around the time a furry animal in Pennsylvania will or will not see his shadow, an event that determines the beginning of Spring. Whether or not the groundhog has sunshine on the second of February, the beauty of Spring is only weeks away. And no season is more stunning, more spectacular or more inviting than Spring at our Simonton Lake.

Here we are looking out on a frozen lake around the time a furry animal in Pennsylvania will or will not see his shadow, an event that determines the beginning of Spring. Whether or not the groundhog has sunshine on the second of February, the beauty of Spring is only weeks away. And no season is more stunning, more spectacular or more inviting than Spring at our Simonton Lake.

Soon the piers will replace the ice, the sound of lawnmowers will replace the roars of snow blowers as the lawns return from dingy brown to plush green. The robins will be nesting and the aroma of grilled items will waft through the air. People will be on the patios of Pete's and Lakeshore. The leaves will begin to push out on the trees and the flowers to reach for the sun. Once again, God shows what he promises in the book of Revelations, "See, I am making all things new."

Let the snow fly, the ice continue to form, the cold February wind blow. Soon all of this will be replaced by a Spring that overtakes all Winter can throw at us on our lake of lakes, the place we would rather be than anywhere else, where the water is clearer, the sky is bluer and the neighbors' smiles reflect the sunshine, the eighth wonder of the world, Simonton Lake. See you on the ice.....but not much longer. ■

Hey Honey, I think I'll go fishing...

-by Bob Meyers

Here are the fishing rules, regulations and laws for 2010-2011 in the state of Indiana. We hope you find this information helpful. Some rules change from year to year. We will do our best to keep you informed.

To fish in public lakes, streams, rivers or tributaries in the state of Indiana or its boundary waters, you must have a valid fishing license. License holders must carry their license while fishing and present it to a conservation officer (or any authorized law enforcement official - that isn't you Jim Dubbert) upon request. There are fines and penalties for fishing without a license.

You must also have a valid trout and salmon stamp in your possession to legally fish for or take trout and salmon from public waters.

A fishing license may be revoked if the license holder is convicted of violating fish and game regulations. Any equipment, appliances and apparatus used in the violation of Indiana fish and game laws may be seized for evidence and upon conviction, confiscated.

These regulations do not apply to fish in private waters that did not originate from public waters.

WHO DOESN'T NEED A FISHING LICENSE?

A fishing license and trout and salmon stamp are **NOT** required for:

- * Residents born before April 1,

1943. However, you should carry your driver's license or other identification to verify your age and residency.

- * Resident and nonresident anglers under age 18.
- * Residents who are legally blind.
- * Residents of state-owned mental rehabilitation facility.
- * Residents of any licensed health care facility in Indiana taking part in supervised fishing activity sponsored by the facility.
- * Fishing a private pond does not require a license. However, the angler must have permission from the property owner to fish.
- * Residents of Indiana who are engaged in full-time military service may fish without a license while on approved military leave. However, the angler must carry leave orders and a valid Indiana drivers license or voters registration card. Nonresident military personnel stationed within Indiana must obtain a resident license to fish or hunt in Indiana.
- * Landowners or lessees of farmland, who farm that land, their spouses and children living with them, while fishing in public waters, from the farmland they own or lease.

ADDITIONAL LICENSE INFORMATION

INDIANA RESIDENT - A resident is a person whose true fixed and permanent home and principal residence has been

in Indiana for 60 consecutive days prior to purchasing a license or permit and who does not claim residency for hunting, trapping or fishing in another state or country, other than the US. All others are nonresidents.

SENIOR FISHING LICENSES - Residents born before April 1, 1943, do NOT need to purchase a fishing license; however, there is a Senior Voluntary Fishing License that can be purchased if desired. (Author's notation: this would be a donation). Residents who are at least 64 years old AND born after March 31, 1943, need to purchase either a Senior Annual Fishing or Senior Fish-for-Life.

If you have any questions concerning fishing in Indiana, contact DNR customer service at: (877) 463-6367. Or go to your Simonton Says website, ask the question, and we'll get the answer for you. ■

FISHING LICENSE FEES - All 2010 annual licenses and stamp privileges are valid from April 1, 2010, through March 31, 2011.

RESIDENT LICENSES

Combination: Hunting and fishing	\$25.00
Fishing: Annual fishing	\$17.00
One-day fishing (includes trout/Salmon)	\$ 9.00
Annual senior fishing	\$ 3.00
Senior Fish-for-Life	\$17.00
Voluntary Senior Annual Fishing	\$ 3.00
Trout/Salmon Stamp Privilege	\$11.00

NONRESIDENT LICENSES

Fishing: Annual fishing	\$35.00
One-day fishing (includes trout/salmon)	\$ 9.00
Seven-day fishing	\$20.00
Trout/salmon Stamp Privilege	\$11.00

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Life on the Lake

The Blizzard of 1978 Revisited

- by Amy Matherly

While sitting at my computer and looking out of the window this weekend, I wondered just how much snow we had gotten on this snowy January weekend. It seemed like a lot. I called my son who lives northwest of the city of South Bend. At his house he had measured 32 inches of snow and spent an hour and a half snow blowing his short driveway and clearing the street out front of his home. His neighbor's wife is expecting in about a month. So everyone in the neighborhood worked on a path so he could get through the subdivision and out to Portage Avenue, a great help if he needed to get his wife to the hospital.

This brought memories back of the blizzard of 1978. According to the National Weather Service, blizzards are storms with sustained winds or frequent gusts above 35mph combined with blowing or drifting snow reducing visibilities to under a quarter mile for three hours or more. The blizzard of 1978, the worst blizzard on record for Indiana, is known among meteorologists as a "perfect storm" and went beyond meeting the standards of a blizzard. It began as two unrelated low pressure areas, one in the northern plains, and the other in the Gulf of Mexico. Gulf moisture and the arctic air collided over Indiana near midnight on the 25th of January 1978 as the two systems merged.

By late in the day on the 25th, a heavy snow warning was upgraded to a

blizzard warning. There was already five inches of snow on the ground. By 7 o'clock there was still only 6 inches but by 10 o'clock the snowfall had become heavy. Arctic air blasted in with gusts above 35 miles per hour. The snow and wind continued for the next 24 hours.

On the 26th, the Arctic front had passed, but the winds peaked at 55 mph. Temperatures dropped to zero that morning. Wind chills remained a bone chilling 40 to 50 below. On the morning of that day the governor declared a snow emergency for the entire state. Snow drifts across the state were reported at 10 to 20 feet. The Indiana State Police considered all Indiana roads closed. Even as far south as Indianapolis snow records were shattered.

Probably everyone who lived in the area during the blizzard has a story.

Dave and Carole Foutz lived next to Vaughn and

Middlebury Schools and Ryan was a resident doctor at St. Joe Hospital. We have a picture of Ryan in our driveway with the snow shovel standing in front of a snow bank that was six feet high by the time we had finished our drive. Our

garage was at the back of our lot, so we worked for a couple of days to get out to the street or what had been the street prior to the storm. Back then we did not have a snow blower.

Eventually Ryan felt he needed to get to the hospital. He walked from our home near Town and Country

Shopping Center to the old St. Joe Hospital. I was sure he would freeze to death, but hours later he called to say that he had made it. I finally walked to the local grocery store (pulling a sled) and got some groceries. The market, which is no longer there, was along McKinley Avenue, U.S. 20. The blizzard had erased the highway but the store was open and they had milk, eggs and bread. What's your blizzard story? Until next time... ■



Cindy Nickel on Killian Lane at the back of Study Oaks subdivision. They were snowed in for 3 or 4 days and finally were able to get a snowmobile to Maureks IGA. Carole remembers that Maureks had put up a sign "We Have Milk".

At that time we lived in South Bend. I worked for the





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Clancy and Cleo

- by Linda Jimison

For Clancy and Cleo may their untimely death help remind us all to be more aware of our cookware!



Clancy and Cleo were my pet birds. Clancy was a male Indian Ring neck Parrot. He was given to me on Valentine's Day in 1980 - he was 5 years old when I got him. He lived with me for 30 years. Then in the spring of 2009 I decided that Clancy was alone too much and decided to get him a mate - Cleo. I want to share with you the terrible event that happened on a Sunday afternoon, the last week of this past June, after taking a boat ride on the lake. I came home and walked into my office to feed my birds and both of them were laying at the bottom of their cages with their wings spread out as if they had fallen off their perches at the same time and died! I can not tell you how frightening that was. Was there something in the air or food or water? I had the gas company come out that very evening with their gas detector and they found nothing. We took a water sample over to the health department and they found nothing. I really needed to know what happened, Clancy was a family member and he had been with me for a long time!

So we sent them off to Purdue University for an autopsy. Their findings lead me to the day before when I had my 4

great nieces over for a girl's slumber party; I made pancakes for breakfast using a griddle for the first time. The birds died because I made pancakes! When we moved to North Shore Drive last year my husband bought me a Jenn

Air Grill for our kitchen. My father had an old Jenn Air that I had stored up in my attic for years in hopes of someday being able to install it. When we got the new Jenn Air, it didn't come with a griddle but my father's old one had one. It was a bit worn, but cast iron never wears out - right? The problem was the griddle had a non stick coating that had worn off to the point I didn't recognize that it was Teflon coated. I had never cooked with Teflon before because of all the bad things I knew to be true about cooking with it. What I did not know is it would kill my birds!

Q&A: Is cooking with nonstick pans bad for your health?

Source: *ConsumerReports.org*

Q: I've read reports that say cooking with some nonstick cookware can make you sick. Is that true?

A: There are some concerns with nonstick coatings. Cooking with nonstick cookware at very high temperatures can break down the nonstick coating, emitting fumes that can kill pet birds and possibly cause flu-like symptoms in humans.

Another chemical you might have read about related to nonstick coatings is perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), used in making nonstick coating for cookware and many other products, including packaging materials and stain-resistant coatings. This chemical and the family of other perfluorinated compounds have been linked to cancer and birth defects in studies with laboratory animals and might pose a risk in humans.

Some perfluorinated compounds have been found

See **Non-stick/** pg. 22

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OPENING FOR THE SEASON
March 16th, 2011

MONDAY
Bike Cruise-in

TUESDAY
PT Cruiser Cruise-in

WEDNESDAY
Classic Car Cruise-in

THURSDAY
4x4 Cruise-in

The background image shows a diner with a large neon sign that reads "ROOT BEER". Below the sign, there are smaller signs for "Homemade Root Beer Since 1965", "WNT C ADS", "Hot Dogs", and "Ice Cream". In the foreground, several classic cars are parked, including a white car with a "1931" sign on the dashboard and a dark car with a "1931" sign on the dashboard. The text "Simonton LAKE DRIVE IN" is overlaid on the image, with "Simonton" in a stylized script font, "LAKE" in a bold sans-serif font, and "DRIVE IN" in a bold sans-serif font. The text "Est. 1965" is also visible.

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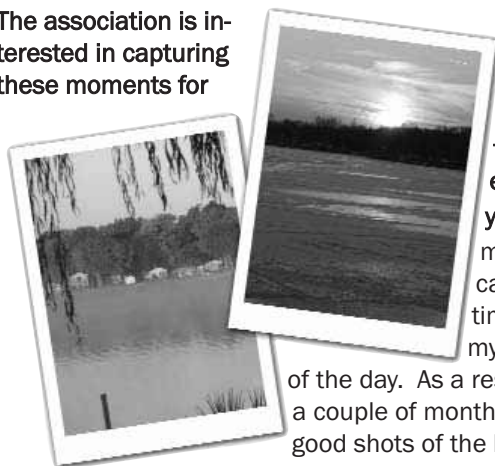
Near the corner of State Road 19 and County Road 6 in Elkhart
(574) 264-5700

Seeking Simonton Shutterbugs!

by Erin Harding

Do you love Simonton's beautiful sunrises and sunsets? Have you marveled at the fall colors while kayaking the little lake or watched snow drift across the big lake in winter?

The association is interested in capturing these moments for



everyone to enjoy through a 2012 calendar, but we need your help! As a new mom, I've now got a camera handy at all times and have found myself up at all hours

of the day. As a result, I've already had a couple of months to capture some good shots of the lake. To create a

truly representative calendar, though, I will need help from fellow photographers who live on different parts of the lake. Please keep your own cameras handy for beautiful shots of the scenes that surround us in all seasons. Then, submit your digital photos to me at eharding@nd.edu. We'll try to have the calendar ready to publish by next fall's Hog Roast, so you'll have the perfect stocking stuffer gifts for the lake lovers in your family!

Thanks in advance for your assistance and happy snapping! ■

Non-stick

from page 20

to be accumulating in human blood, but our past tests suggest nonstick cookware is not likely to be a significant source of exposure. Working with an outside lab to learn how much PFOA is emitted during cooking, we found that when new nonstick pans were heated to 400°F—below the manufacturers' recommended maximum of 500°F—tested air samples collected above the pans contained very little PFOA. The highest level was around 100 times lower than published animal studies suggest are levels of concern for ongoing exposure. When we tested aged pans, the emissions were barely measurable.

Health concerns have led to what manufacturers claim is PFOA-free nonstick cookware. For our latest report on cookware, we tested several products marketed as PFOA-free, including the 10-piece Swiss Diamond Reinforced cookware, \$500, and the 10-piece Earth Pan With Sand Flow, \$190, both of which scored highly in the ratings.

To minimize exposure to any chemicals that might be released from nonstick cookware, ventilate your kitchen well, and to extend the useful life of your pots and pans, don't place empty cookware over very high heat. And as soon as your pans begin to flake, dispose of them.

—Kimberly Janeway. ConsumerReports.org ■

Lakes in Elkhart County - Dock Lake

- by Bob Meyers

As we find the sixteen lakes located in Elkhart County, we have now found the third in alphabetical order. We earlier found Boot and Butts. This month we look at DOCK LAKE.

Dock Lake is 3 miles southeast of Bristol between CR 10 to the north, CR 14 to the south, CR 27 to the west and CR 31 to the east. The only view I had of the lake was from County Road 14 looking toward the north. The Lake is completely surrounded by farm land with trees on three sides close to the water.

Dock Lake however is not the big story here. A much BIGGER story is the fact that Dock Lake is located in Lake Grange, Indiana. WHAT? That's right, Lake Grange. Did you know there was such a community in Elkhart County? This thriving city is in Middlebury Township and apparently is a suburb of Bristol.

If you want to get to the Bristol suburb of Lake Grange, go to Bristol. When you see the Neiman Marcus and Tiffanys on the left and Saks Fifth Avenue on the right, turn south on State Road 15. Continue south to county road 14. Turn left.

When you reach county road 27, you are in Lake Grange, Indiana. The biggest attraction in Lake Grange is Dock Lake which is barely visible from the road. If you travel to Lake Grange, take your lunch. There is no Pete's, no Lakeshore Grill. Take a sleeping bag. There is no hotel.

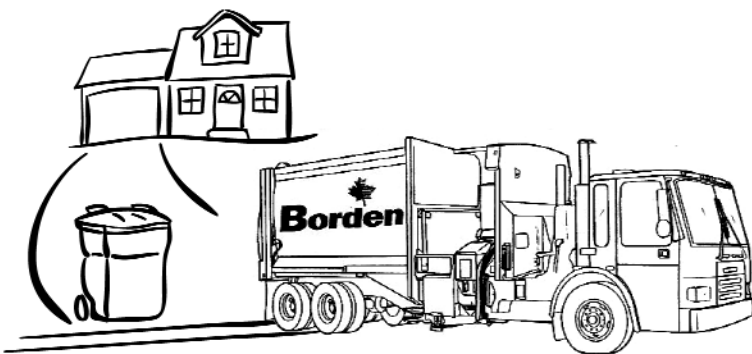
Now that you have found Dock Lake in Lake Grange, prepare for the fourth Elkhart County lake, East Lake. East Lake is not only in Elkhart County, it is also in the county of La-Grange.....All of this is too confusing. I need a drink.

Until next time, dream of "lake weather". It's almost here.....Now where's that cocktail? ■



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\$10.00 off first Big Box order

(Simonton Lake HOA members receive discount)

We're Here Working for You! ...Your Committee Rundown

- by Staff Writers

Lake Safety Committee Update

Chairman, Bob Kelsey wants to give you an update of the safety issues being addressed on and around the lake.

Here is his report: The committee is working with the DNR, County Sheriff and other officials to promote a safer and more secure neighborhood for our families. This past year we have installed a large **information sign** at the landing and 15 **neighborhood watch signs** on the streets around the lake.

The DNR is going to install 8 no-parking signs at the landing to control parking around the grass island and on the roadsides leaving the public access. They also are going to remove trees, possibly regrade the access area, and add gravel to fill in the holes. The small signs will be moved to the large sign posts, so it is easier to mow the area. The DNR also stated that our landing area is the worst of the 85 sites they take care of and maintain, in regards to trash and debris. I told them that the Safety Committee will try to keep the area clean. We may have to pick up trash, so we can get them to help us in the future. They are talking about reworking our boat launch and making it ADA accessible. Several of their sites are already ADA compliant.

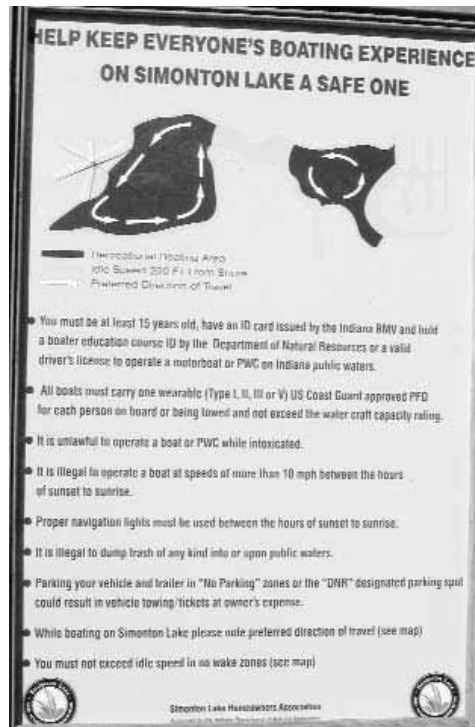
We are requesting that Casey Lehman, our County Sheriff representative, patrol the landing area and keep an eye on the activity that goes on down there. There seems to be several cars with Illinois plates parked at the landing, just sitting there. It's a convenient meeting place.

CRIME TRACKING

We encourage lake residents to forward safety issues (break-ins, vandalism, other crimes, etc.) to Chris Toles. Contact him at: CMT6061@Comcast.net or call 574-266-7768.

Make sure you **FIRST** report the crime to the Elkhart County Sheriff's Department. Call: 911

(Elkhart County Sheriff - (574) 533-4151)



Environmental Committee Update

The Simonton Lake Environmental Committee met on November 4th, 2010 to review where the lake stands in regards to the **Diagnostic-Feasibility Study**. The data collection is nearly complete and it has been determined that Simonton Lake has better water quality and less invasive plants than most Indiana lakes.

Potential projects include cleaning up and infiltration of the shoreline at the west end of the lake. Also discussed was dredging the channel, flooding or potential flooding issues caused by infilling of the inlet channel on the north side of the lake, filling and blockage of drainage in the northeast corner of the little lake, the outlet of the lake and the potential water level control structure, planting of the lake with additional fish friendly plants, and the development of an ecozone in the southeast corner of the little lake and the channel. All of these issues are being discussed and presented within the Diagnostic Study. Two of these issues are being actively pursued for feasibility... the west end shoreline cleanup and the ecozone development in conjunction with dredging the channel.

The committee also discussed applying for additional grants to implement potential projects. We will be applying for the next round of LARE grants with the understanding that LARE grants may not be available again this year due to statewide budget cuts. ■



For us to succeed, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT!! Join one of our committees today & become part of the team. Call or email to find out more:

Membership/Outreach -

Randy Hoff 574-262-3432
hard2blev@juno.com

Environment -

Bill Broderick 574-262-0818
susiealice@comcast.net

Lake Safety -

Bob Kelsey 574-264-2233
zipi@choiceonemail.com

Newsletter/Website -

Kay Rhodes 574-262-9816
kay@kr-d.com

Don't sit on the dock, jump in and GET INVOLVED! Join one of our committees and become part of the team...

Treasurer's Corner

Below is a brief financial update on the association:

Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc.
January 1, 2010 – December 29, 2010
CASH Basis Accounting

Item	Subtotal	Total
Membership Dues	\$4,470.00	
Advertising	7,314.00	
Events (Boat Parade & Hog Roast)	532.00	
LARE Grant	7,917.53	
Sales (T-Shirts)	54.00	
Other (e.g., T-shirt sales, interest income)	38.44	
Total Income		20,325.97
Cost of Goods Sold (T-shirts)	49.59	
Total Gross Profit		20,276.38
Board of Directors (e.g., Hog roast, general meeting expenses, insurance)	2,091.84	
Fireworks	1,335.00	
Lake Environment	7,917.53	
Lake Safety	1,141.34	
Membership/Outreach	110.10	
Newsletter / Website	3,140.99	
Total Expenses		\$15,736.80
Net Position as of October 22, 2010		\$4,539.58

Dues renewal notices will be arriving in April prior to the May General Meeting. Thank you in advance for your continued support of our association! This year, we will also include the opportunity on the dues renewal for residents to donate to the annual fireworks, which will be jointly sponsored with the Simonton Lake Sportsmen's Club. As always, if you have any questions about our association finances, please don't hesitate to contact Erin Harding at eharding@nd.edu or 312-771-6397.

➔ **COMING SOON!**



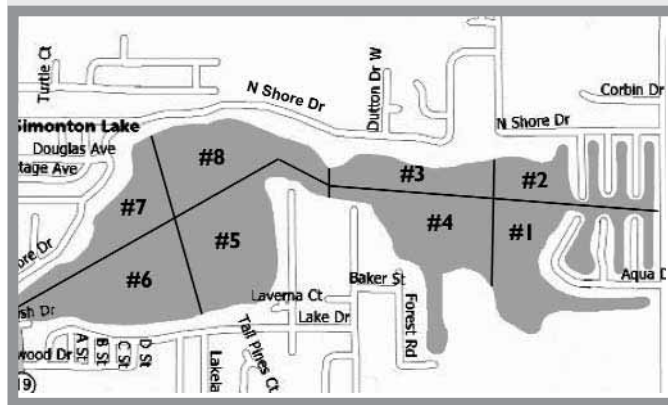
Find us on
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For details,
check our website:
www.simontonlake.org ➔

Area Representatives

-your delegates for neighborhood concerns

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| 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. Dick Martin | 264-7656 |
| Ron Taylor | 262-1332 |
| 7. Dave VanZile | 264-5201 |
| 8. Theresa Leighton | 361-8514 |



SLAHA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

DUES: per household per year

- ☐ **Household:** \$30
☐ **Senior:** (70 and over): \$20
☐ **Senior Honorary Membership**
 (80 and over):
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FIREWORKS FUND DONATION:

Donation Amount: \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:
with Registration Form
\$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

2nd/Spouse Email: _____

Preference for contact: ☐ Email ☐ Phone ☐ Mail

Participation Interest: _____

Current committees: Lake Environment, Lake Safety, Membership/Outreach, Newsletter/Website

Please mail your completed form and check made out to **SLAHA** to:
Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc., P.O. Box 1706, Elkhart, IN. 46515-1706

Please check the appropriate box below if you are **NOT** willing to share this information in a directory sent to members. We will not share this list outside of the association without your permission. ☐ Address ☐ Phone ☐ Email

MESSAGE BOARD

PROVIDING A SPARK

The 4th of July fireworks on Simonton Lake are always one of our most beautiful and highly anticipated events of the year. As most residents know, the Simonton Lake Sportsmen's Club has arranged these fireworks for years and funded them through fundraising efforts as well as resident donations. Donations have unfortunately been down over the past few years, and even careful cost controls have resulted in a shortfall to cover this event. SLAHA wants us all to continue to enjoy a wonderful show! **As a result, the Lake Association will now be partnering with the Sportsmen's Club to assist with advertising and collect resident donations.** All donations to either SLAHA or the Sportsmen's Club that are earmarked for the fireworks will be tracked separately and utilized only for this purpose. SLAHA members will have an opportunity to contribute to the fireworks with their dues letters this year – watch for your letters to arrive in April. Those residents who are not SLAHA members will still have an opportunity to donate via flyers in their mailboxes (but by the way, we'd love to have you join SLAHA as well!). We truly appreciate and need your support to maintain the quality of a show that is enjoyed by residents, family, and friends. Thanks in advance for your support!

4th of July Fireworks Donation Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Mail your completed form and check made out to **SLAHA** to:
Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc.,
P.O. Box 1706, Elkhart, IN. 46515-1706

Donation Amount: _____



Do you know someone who is having a birthday, anniversary, etc?
Email: simon@simontonlake.org

BE AWARE OF CRIME IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

1. When a crime occurs: Make sure you **first** report the crime to the Elkhart County Sheriff's Department. **Call: 911**

2. Secondly - CRIME TRACKING: We encourage lake residents to forward safety issues (break-ins, vandalism, other crimes, etc.), so we can notify residents. Report to:

Chris Toles, Lake Safety Committee.

Contact info:

Call: 574-266-7768

Email: CMT6061@Comcast.net

We want to keep people informed about what is happening in our neighborhood, so you can keep a watchful eye. **If you would like to be notified when crimes occur around the lake, send your email address to simon@simontonlake.org** (Your information will not be used for any other purpose).

We wish you a Happy Birthday!

12/21	Bobbi Meyers (Sorry, we missed this one)
2/12	Bob Shultz
2/18	Kathy Shewmaker
2/23	Terry Shewmaker
2/25	Vaughn Nickell
3/27	Bill Broderick
4/2	Ryan Matherly
4/24	Preston Thomas Ryan (grandparents - Tim & Phyllis Nusbaum)
4/25	Kay Rhodes

Happy Anniversary

4/4 Matt & Elle Hart

CLASSIFIED ADS

POST your Garage Sale, Items for sale, Want ad, etc. FREE!!*

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.

FOR SALE: Fisher Marine Jon Boat 14 ft. Aluminum, 14" deep, 4 seater, 2 swivel seats, 2 oars. Call Jim at 574-262-1417. \$350.

WANT TO BUY: I've lost my marbles. At least my wife, Pam, thinks so. Actually, I buy old marbles. If you have any **old marbles** tucked away in your attic or basement, and want to sell them, give me a call. Or, if you have old marbles and want to know more about them, call me. Bob Shultz, 51096 North Shore, 536-6960 (mobile)

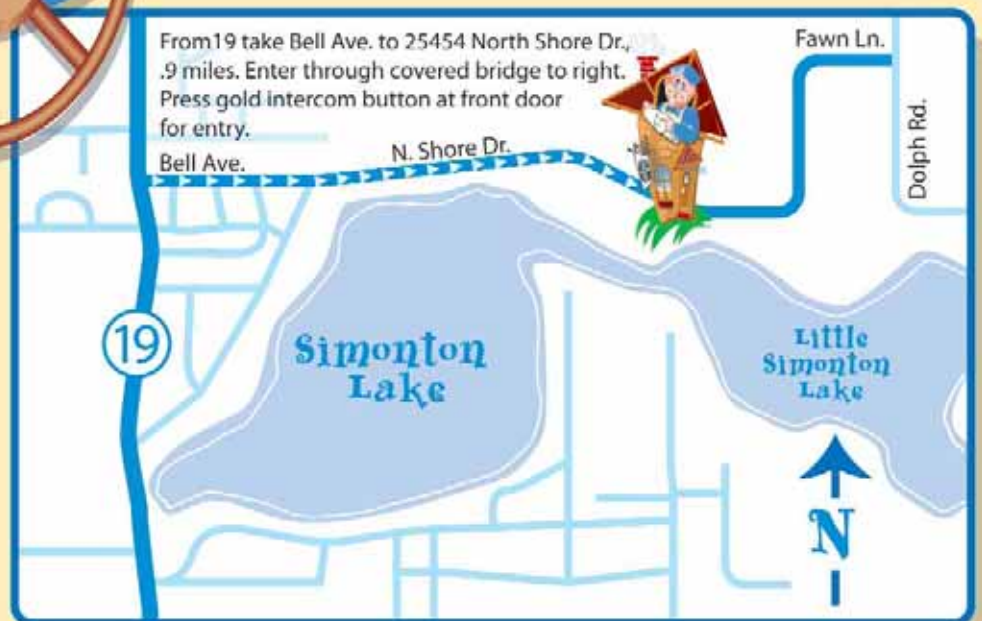
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Show us what makes the Simonton Lake Area special and unique. Tell us your stories, your events, birthdays, anniversaries, etc. Send us your photos, we want to hear from you.....

(Call Amy at 262-4773 or email simon@simontonlake.org)

David A. Palenick, 57, of Elkhart, passed away December 2nd, 2010, at Elkhart General Hospital after an extended illness. Dave was born in 1953 in Allegan Michigan and married Nancy Minelli in Elkhart in 1980. Dave and Nancy had two daughters, Elizabeth Palenick of Portland Oregon and Stephanie Palenick of Elkhart. A salesman at Elkhart Supply Corporation for more than 17 years, Dave was a member of the Simonton Lake Sportsman Club. He will be missed.

Richard Blake Dubbert a life-long Simonton Lake resident passed away November 1st, 2010 after a long courageous battle with cancer. Richard of Maplewood Drive enjoyed fishing at the lake in the summer time and hunting in the fall. He is survived by his brother James/Vicki Dubbert also lifelong residents of Simonton Lake. Richard was a member of the Indiana National Guard and had worked as a purchasing manager at various industries for 30 years. Richard will be missed by his many neighbors and friends at the lake.

Chuck Smartt, 75, C.R.11, passed away on December 3, 2010) at his home. He was born May 30, 1935, in McMinnville, Tennessee and married Patricia Shoemaker in March of 1955 in Goshen. She survives along with two daughters, Penny (Anthony) Judy Frederickson of Tahachapi, Calif., and Brenda (Stephen) Cox of Fairborn, Ohio; one son, Clifton (Cindy) Smartt of Union, Mich.; four grandchildren; six great grandchildren; two brothers, Michael (Patricia) Smartt and Nicky (Linda) Smartt, both of McMinnville; and two sisters, Donna (James) Hampton and Mary Patricia (Don) Campbell, both of McMinnville.

Charles was the owner of Northcutt Tree Service for 55 years. He was a private pilot who enjoyed flying. He was a member of the Kane Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite Valley of South Bend, Mizpah Shrine of Fort Wayne and the Elkhart Moose Lodge.

Ronda and Randy Stabler, Lake Drive, found themselves very unexpectedly in Zululand, South Africa in August of this year. Story on page 10...



Avery Elisabeth Runyon (seen here with Grandma Linda) was born November 25, 2010 at 12:40 in the afternoon (Thanksgiving Day) She was 8 pounds 4 oz. and 20½ inches long. Avery's parents are Michael and Leah Runyon of South Bend. Leah grew up on Lake Drive from 1994 to 2008. Proud grandparents are **Gene and Linda Jimison**, North Shore Dr. Linda grew up on Lake Drive and she, with her husband Gene, lived across the street from her father, Jim Friend's home on Lake Drive for 15 years. Proud great grandparents are **Jim and Janie Friend**, Lake Drive. Jim has lived on Simonton Lake for 36 years.



Four Generations - Linda Jimison, Leah Runyon, Jim Friend & baby Avery Runyon.

Jon and Connie Hart, Forest Road, are grandparents. Parents of Evan Matthew Hart (right) are Matt and Elle Hart. He was born on December 20, 2010 weighing 6 lbs. 3 oz.

BJ and Dave Gawthrop, Maplewood Drive, are grandparents of their first granddaughter. She was born on January 3 and weighed 8 pounds 11 ounces. BJ reports she has a full head of black hair.

