



# Simonton Says...

October 2012  
Volume 5, Issue 5

Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc. Newsletter  
Elkhart, Indiana.....[www.simontonlake.org](http://www.simontonlake.org)

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<b>and much more...</b>	



(above) Featured photo of the month by Linda Anderson, taken from her mother, Lou Kilgren's home. Sunset 9/15/2012

(below) A typical 4th of July on Simonton... boats, swimmers, jetskis, geese and family gatherings!!



Photo by Carole Foutz

**Featuring  
our  
Simonton  
2012  
Photo  
Album**



Photo by Theresa Maier

**Sunsets....they don't get any better than right here on Simonton Lake!**





(above) June 2012 - Jack Ferro (3), grandson of Greg and Jodi Ferro, Sail Bay Court, and Hope Stacker (11) granddaughter of Margot Rutter. It was Jack's first time in the water in the channel. He learned to swim in the next 30 minutes with the help of Leah, Hope and Noah Stacker. The water level should be at Jack's waistline.



(above) Young fishermen out on their own... Darrien Collins & his friend Ryan, learned from the best, Darrien's great grandfather, Jim Friend.  
(left below) A Summer Sunset (photo by Carole Foutz)  
(below) Lou Gilgren learned how to drive in this very '49 Willy's Jeepster.





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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.com

**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](mailto: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.*

**Events on the Lake**

**November 10 – Fall Casino Night**  
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**Community Contacts**

**Simonton Lake Conservancy**  
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**DNR**

Main office: (317)232-4160  
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**Sheriff Elkhart County**

(574) 533-4151

Neighborhood contact person:

Cpl. Casey Lehman

General information or questions,

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**Law Enforcement District** (574) 457-8092

**Lake Safety Committee - Crime Tracking**

Contact Chris Toles: 574-266-7768

or [CMT6061@Comcast.net](mailto:CMT6061@Comcast.net)

The newsletter is published 6 times per year - Feb, April, Jun, Aug, Oct & Dec. For advertising information, call: Dick Rhodes - 574-370-7884 or Bob Meyers - 574-361-4445 or email: [ads@simontonlake.org](mailto:ads@simontonlake.org)

**Would you like to contribute information, pictures, or stories to "Simonton Says...?"**

Email to: [simon@simontonlake.org](mailto: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 the beginning of December.**

**Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 1706, Elkhart, IN. 46515-1706**

**[www.simontonlake.org](http://www.simontonlake.org)**

**Email: [simon@simontonlake.org](mailto: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.*

Newsletter Staff: Carole Foutz, Dave Foutz, Anne Harbaugh, Connie Hart, Maria Hopman, Theresa Maier, Diane Marlow, Amy Matherly, Bob Meyers, Lou Putnam, Dick Rhodes, Kay Rhodes, Kathy Shewmaker

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# Life on the Lake

## October 2012 - It's not Just on OUR Lake

- by Amy Matherly

There's been a lot of talk over the past couple of years about the increased presence of DNR officers on our lake and the increased number of ticket and arrests. Some folks mistakenly think that the Sportsmen's Club or the Lake Association has brought this on our lake. But, with a little bit of research I found that there are lake residents all over the country who are also talking about these very same things.

As it turns out, several years ago the U.S. Coast Guard began a program called "Operation Dry Water". This program is a campaign focused on the enforcement of boating laws, specifically BUI. The program culminates on the weekend prior to the 4th of July holiday and is coordinated by an agency called the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) in partnership with state DNRs and the Coast Guard. This year all 50 states, U.S. territories and trusts participated.

While we have seen a change in DNR enforcement for a couple of years, this was Indiana's first official year as part of the program. According to statistics, alcohol was a factor in 63 of the 75 boating accidents reported in Indiana in 2011.

With increased enforcement comes an increased number of boater complaints. Articles on the internet included

Tennessee, Wisconsin, Maine, Florida, Louisiana, Ohio, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Just down the road at Lake Wawasee one resident reported being stopped for an improperly displayed registration number. State Representative Rebecca Kubiaki got involved because of this and other complaints of her constituents and invited DNR officials to the Syracuse Lake Association meeting this July. Kubiaki responded, "There is a federal regulation that the (boat registration) numbers have to be a certain number of inches apart, it's a legal issue and the DNR has to abide by those, but many of the (Wawasee/Syracuse) lak-ers felt that they were . . . being harassed."

At the meeting one resident said DNR officers hid in the cattails with binoculars. Another said issues not involving BUI resulted in tickets instead of warnings, a change from past years. Boaters were afraid to go out on the water for fear they might have missed a fine point of a boating law and have to pay a high fine. Another resident thanked the DNR for getting impaired boaters off of the lake but wondered if people had gotten the message and could now "back off."

**I'm not taking sides in this. It just makes me feel a little better knowing that it isn't just happening here.**

AND, if you feel that a conservation officer has acted improperly during a stop on the water, you can file a formal written complaint with the DNR. The form is available at the Indiana DNR website. ■



**June 2012 - Will Ferro (19 months), grandson of Greg and Jodi Ferro, Sail Bay Court with Leah Stacker (11) granddaughter of Margot Rutter. Will's first ever time in the water. He spent the next hour sitting of the beach area with Grandma Jodi, throwing sand everywhere and having a grand time.**

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## Scotland: Land of Hairy Coos

-by Carole and Dave Foutz

To celebrate our mutual retirements, Carole and I decided to take a two week road trip to explore Scotland. What we discovered is that Scotland is filled with many surprises! Scotland may hold as much as 90% of the North Sea gas and oil reserves claimed by the United Kingdom. The Scotts actually came from Ireland and both speak versions of the same language, Gaelic. The Romans were never able to pacify the region and finally just built a wall to protect their territory. (Hadrian's Wall) Scotts do wear kilts and they raise very hairy cows, to name just a few of the surprises.

I have discovered that people think they know a lot more about Scotland than they actually do. For instance, when we would say we are going to Scotland, folks would invariably ask, "Going to the Notre Dame game?" Of course the game was played in Dublin, Ireland. Scotland, along with England, Northern Ireland, and Wales make up the semi-autonomous administrative divisions of the United Kingdom. So Scotland is not an independent nation and definitely not on Notre Dame's schedule. Geographically, Scotland makes up the northern portion of the island of Great Britain. Scotland is 80 miles wide at its narrowest point. Scotland has 75% as many people as Indiana and 80% as much land. So, as far as Scotland is concerned, it seems size doesn't matter. Scotland is a very mountainous region with about 60% falling into what is referred to as the Highlands. The Highlands are the result of two geological

plates striking and causing the land to fold into mountains. As the result of this collision, there is a great fault line (big crack) running diagonally across the country. This rift is filled with water forming Loch (lake) Lomond and Loch Ness, the two largest bodies of fresh water on the British Isle, along with many other smaller lochs. Our boat trip on Loch Ness produced no monster sightings,

hired a management team, and reopened the pub. That demonstrates the importance of the pub to the Scottish social fabric. And what do Scotts drink? Whisky! Whisky is something very special to the Scotts; they even have their own unique spelling of the word. To be genuine whisky it must be single malt and aged in oak for a minimum of three years. There are 25 major whisky distillers (not counting the numerous boutique distillers) in Scotland, remember this is an area smaller than Indiana. Distilleries are located almost exclusively in the Highlands. We visited the Oban Distillery located on the west coast which was established in 1794 making it one of the oldest producers. The rea-



but we did photograph some stunning scenery and a castle. A recent development in this area is the opening of a long-distance route for cyclists and walkers in this rift called the Great Glen Way; which links the cities of Fort William, on the south to Inverness, on the north. It would be difficult to guess the number of hikers and bikers we saw taking advantage of this recreational opportunity.

The pub is the center of Scottish community life. We were in a small one-pub town and discovered that the business had previously failed. The townspeople bought the pub property,

son for distillers being historically located in the Highlands was one of economics; it was easier to hide the still from the tax man in the mountains.

If you are going to be eating in a Scottish pub you need to try the haggis. Haggis is a savory concoction containing sheep's pluck (heart, liver and lungs): minced with onion, oatmeal, suet, spices, and salt, mixed with stock, and traditionally encased in the animal's stomach and simmered for approximately three hours. It very much reminds me of giblet dressing cooked in the turkey, only more spicy. (Carole

See **Scotland/** pg. 10



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## Pet "Tails"

Three year old Heidi is not much of a water dog. She is much better in the speed boat these days, loving to ride up front and stand on her hind legs. Looks like she is right out of the famous scene in the *Titanic* movie. Heidi's owner is Jennifer Crist who grew up on the lake along with her sister, Betsy Hershberger and brother Fred Jr. They still enjoy the lake when visiting their parents, Fred and Andrea (Andi) Hershberger, North Shore Dr. Jennifer now lives in Granger and is a teacher at Penn High School. Fred Jr. now lives on Lake Wawasee. ■

### \*\*\*Pet Tails

We want to feature your pet in an upcoming issue.

Send us your pet stories & pictures by e-mail to: [simon@simontonlake.org](mailto:simon@simontonlake.org) or mail to: 26189 Lake Dr., Elkhart 46514.



## Scotland

from page 8

wouldn't know because most foreigners are not interested in tasting it!) Haggis may be served as the full course meal, batter dipped and deep fried and served with chips, or on a bun as a haggis burger. The latter two would likely be served as "take away." This is Scottish for carry out and is very popular.

You can't mention Scotland and not talk about kilts. Modern kilts date back to 1822 when clan leaders entertained King George IV on his birthday. Highlanders had worn some sort of kilt like garment for centuries. (Think of the movie "Braveheart.") But for this special occasion each clan designed their own tartan (plaid) from which their distinctive kilt was made. We did see a lot of kilts, but mostly considered formal wear. In every wedding we encountered, the groom's party was wearing kilts. Kilt rental shops are as numerous as tuxedo rentals are in the U.S. I'm sure that you have seen one of the most recognizable Scots, Sean Connery formally dressed in a kilt.

That brings us to harry coos (Gaelic for cows), or more correctly Highland Cattle. The main agricultural use of the glens in the

Highlands is the grazing of livestock. Sheep are the most numerous, dairy cattle are the most profitable, but none are more enchanting than the Highland Cattle. Highland Cattle are monochromatic and may be of a number of colors, but most commonly a rusty brown. They have a very long shaggy coat that enables them to survive in some of the harshest environmental conditions in some the roughest hill country. Highland Cattle are more docile than most other breeds and respond to human contact and on the whole are very gentle. Feeding them was a trip highlight.

As we returned to Edinburgh to return our undamaged rental car (many others were not so fortunate) and catch the plane for home, Carole proclaimed, "Ireland is charming but Scotland is beautiful." The point is that both areas are wonderful, visitor-friendly places to explore, but each has its own distinctive flavor. If you are planning on visiting either, and we hope that you do, you better brush up on your driving on the left side of the road. ■

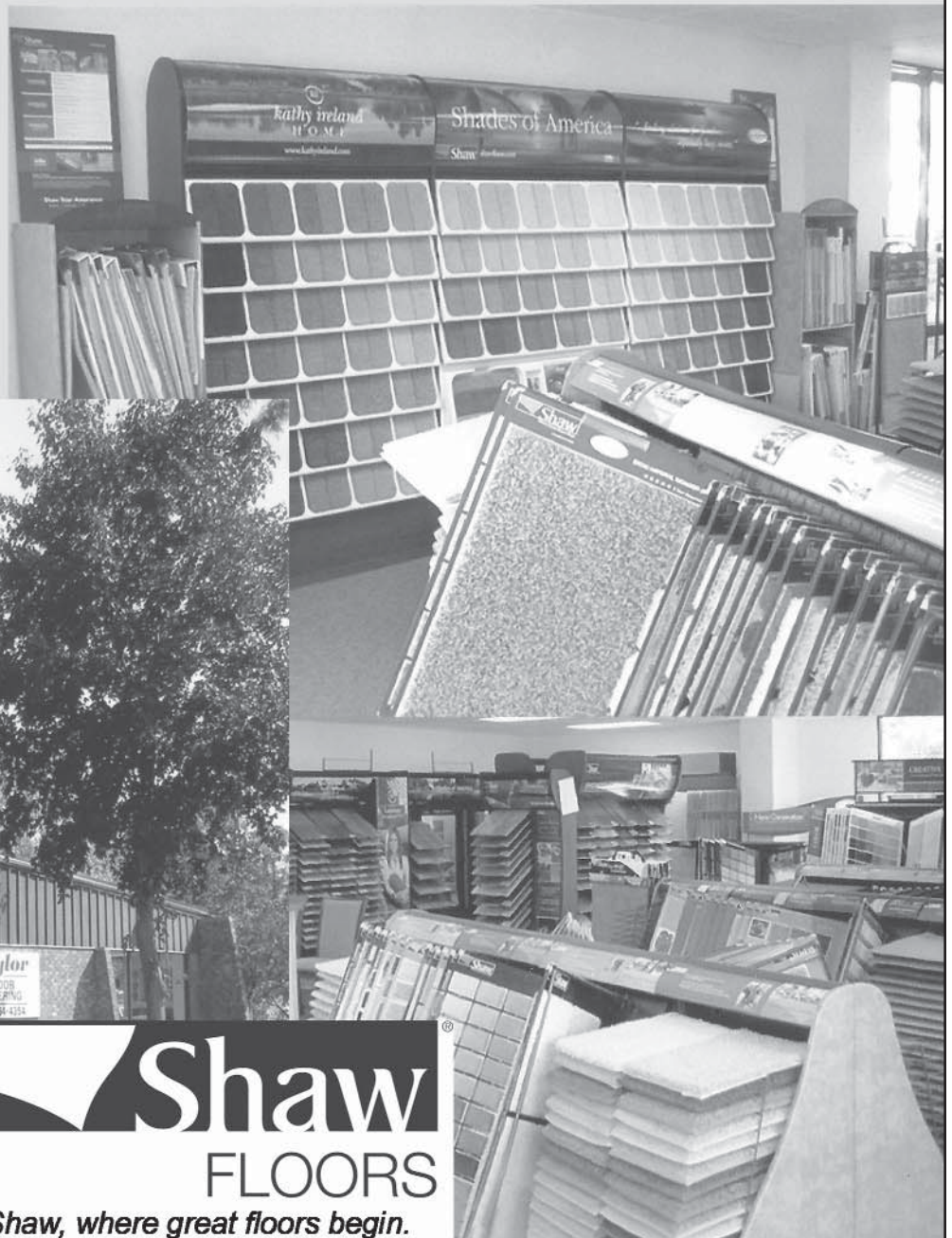




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## Local Business Expands Product Line

*I am the master of my fate,  
I am the captain of my soul. . .*

As poetic as these words are, they just may be a metaphor for a gray-haired local resident who has spent much of his life being true to their meaning.

Michael D. Smith, a long time resident of Simonton Lake at 25454 North Shore Drive first started in business when he was in eighth grade. At the age of 15 after borrowing \$200.00 from his father to purchase an old Kelsey hand letterpress and a broken down Multilith offset press, Mike, as he prefers to be called, set sail for a lifelong voyage of steering his own way. Starting with Smitty's Print Shop, and then The Printing House and finally The Graphics Group, Inc. Smith has been self-employed all of his life.

Mike recounts that his first printing job was printing election campaign cards for his eighth grade classmates who were running for various class offices at North Side Jr. High. Mike, who was also running for class treasurer, sold and printed campaign cards for all of the candidates - including his opponent. He blames his losing effort on the fact that he didn't have a good campaign slogan. His slogan: "You can trust the kitty with Smitty", was admittedly catchy but got him more offers to "cat sit" than votes. However, with the proceeds from these first printing orders he was able to pay back his father and with that took the first fateful steps in what was to become his life-long journey in the printing business.

While today Mike regrets having never earned a college degree, he admits it was a terribly difficult decision for any 18 year old to have to make in such trou-

bling times as 1964. By high school graduation his business had grown, with the help of his father, to a sizable business. Plus, the Vietnam War was ramping up with no end in sight. College would have delayed the draft but would have meant giving up his business and an income that was probably equal to what he could expect to earn after four years of college. He opted to delay college to see what would happen with his business and it grew to a multimillion dollar business!

The 1973 recession was difficult with the gas embargo and most of his clients being related in some way to the RV/MH industry. A change in business strategy helped get the business back on its feet and it prospered until the 1990 recession. This time the local banking industry took a major hit and as a result forced Mike to scale back his printing business that was at that time employing 65 people.

Mike says, "I started out in the basement of my parent's house and now I have come full circle and run sales out of my house and printing production from a building in Bristol I own with my brother." Smith reminisces that his father, mother, and brother have all worked with him and that he loves the

concept of nepotism. He says, "There are so many difficult decisions to make in business that it is wonderful to have caring relatives who give support and offer ideas when times are good as well as when they are bad."

Smith states that innovation and the willingness to try new concepts has kept him in business for over 45 years and again he is trying something new in printing. While enduring this recession Mike is planning for better times by adding - photo books, photo calendars and photo cards to his current business offerings. Debi, his wife of 12 years is excited about the prospects along with her daughter Heather and Mike's brother Pat who are both employed by him.

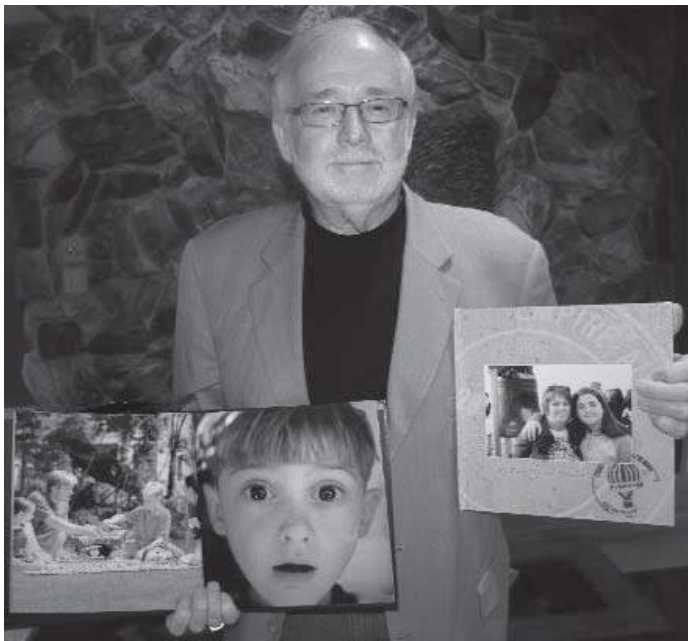
**Giraffe Photo Products**, as the new offerings are marketed, is found on the Internet under **GiraffeMe.com**. All you have to do is download the photo book software to your laptop or computer and you are ready to start producing outstanding photo books, photo calendars and photo greeting cards.

Smith also states that besides being competitively priced they are "A head above the rest" in quality and software. The Giraffe PhotoDesign Software advantage is that you assemble photo based products with the convenience and speed of your laptop or home computer without the requirement of working through the Internet and uploading photos. Plus, you can fully express your own creativity!

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(above) Lucy, Dad Sean, Stella, Sophie, and Aunt Steph, Forest Road.

## SLSC Youth Fishing Contest Trophy Winners - August 4, 2012

(photo below)

### First Row:

Lucy Davidson G 4-7 3rd Place  
Kamden Falcon B 4-7 2nd Place

### Second Row:

Lily Holman G 4-7 2nd Place  
Cameron Waters B 8-11 2nd Place  
Tyler Mullet B 8-11 3rd Place  
Noah Haas B 4-7 3rd Place

### Third Row:

Mikey Smoker B 8-11 1st Place  
Zachary Tooms B 12-14 1st Place  
Landri Collins G 12-14 2nd Place  
Kaitlyn Merklin G 8-11 3rd Place  
Kaija Kirklen G 12-14 1st Place  
Keegan Thursby G 8-11 1st Place

### Not Pictured:

Brandyn Hanson B 4-7 1st Place  
Lily Knop B 4-7 1st Place  
Cat Knop G 4-7 3rd Place  
Sarah Joy G 4-7 2nd Place  
Spencer Martin B 12-14 2nd Place

**Largest Fish:** Mikey Smoker 13 1/2 Inch Bass

Photos by Maria Hopman





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(below) Noah Haas, grandson of Theresa Haas, Lake Dr. is shown here holding a turtle that was caught at the fishing contest.

(right) Sarah Joy and dad Preston Joy. Sarah came in 2nd place.

## More photos from the Youth Fishing Contest



Photo by Maria Hopman



Photo by Maria Hopman



**Keegan Thursby - 1st place**  
A record of 45 fish caught for a total of 238 inches- also a record.



Photos by Jim Friend

**Mikey Smoker - biggest fish**





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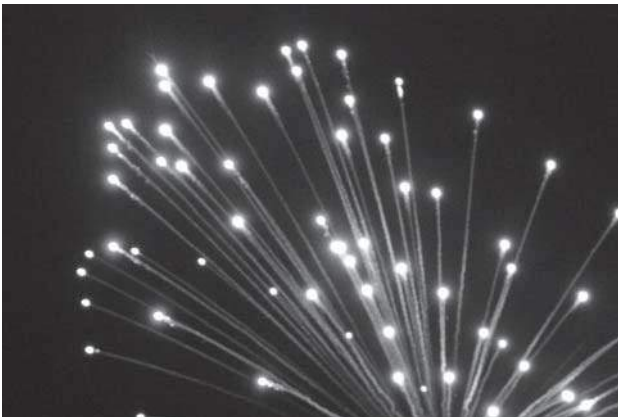
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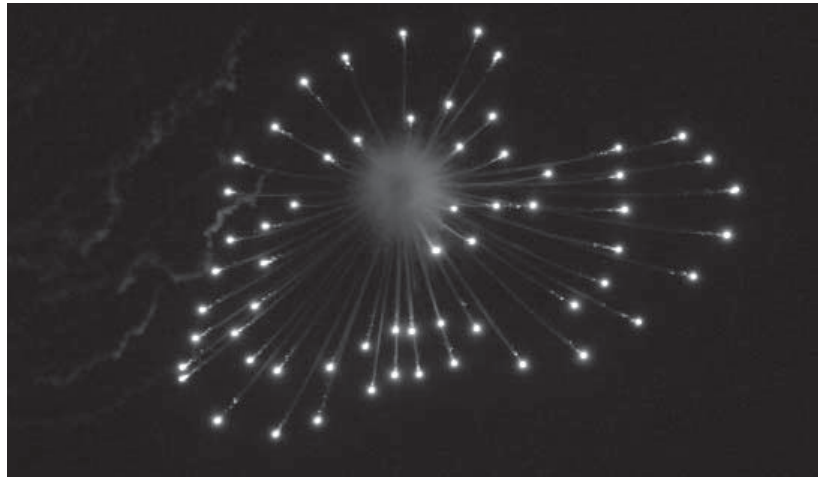
**Saturday, August 18 • 9AM - 4PM**

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(above) Fireworks photos by Penny Kovatch



(below) This is long-time resident Lois Sellers on North Shore Drive with her Great-Grandchild, Kendal Shuff. Kendal is resting on "GG" after a long day of swimming and boating on the lake.



Photo by Maria Hopman

(right and below) S'mores galore at Ryan & Erin Harding's 2nd annual Notre Dame football under the stars party, Saturday September 15th.

Photo by Maria Hopman

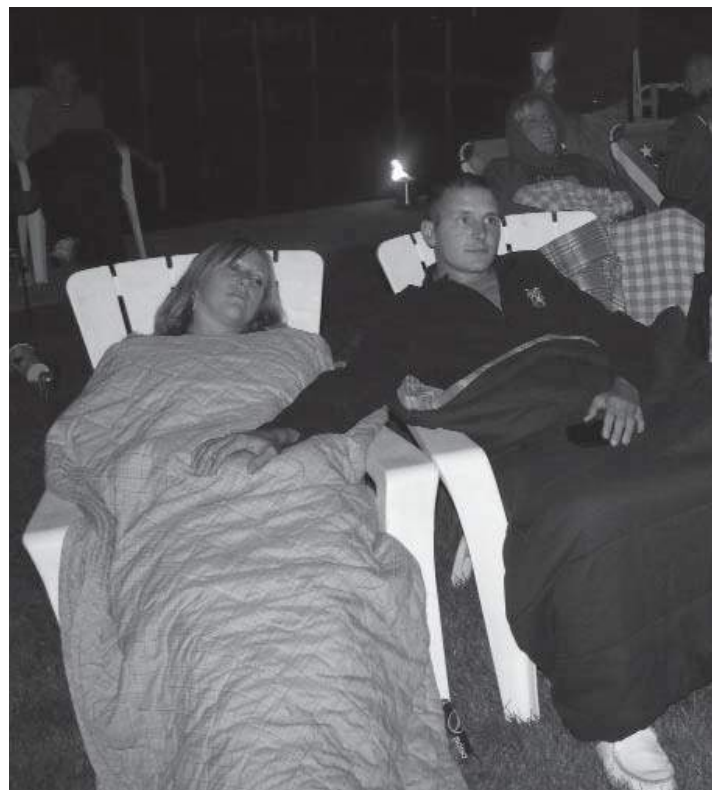


Photo by Maria Hopman



# The IRON GATE

## = self storage

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L	H	C	O	S	F	O	O	T	B	A	L	L	G	E	A	R	P	S
L	E	A	O	C	S	S	T	A	O	C	T	H	G	I	L	C	A	R
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LONG PANTS  
SHOVELS  
SNOW PLOWS  
SWEATERS  
TAILGATE SUPPLIES  
BLOWERS  
LEAF RAKES  
FIREWOOD  
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THANKSGIVING  
TURKEY  
LONG UNDERWEAR

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# Sportsmen's Club

## Catch Phrases

-by Bob Meyers

**A**t the September meeting of the SLSC, a moment of silence was held for one of our own, Harry L. Hostetter, Jr. There aren't many people we recognize by only one name. There's Cher, Elvis and Bugeye. Elvis is remembered for his wild wardrobe and rhinestones; however he was NEVER as colorful as Bugeye.

Bugeye had a passion for the club and never stopped working on improving what it is and what it does. In early years of the club, we met at Bugeye's house. When we would arrive, the chairs were already set up, the beer chilled and there was always something cooking for members to enjoy after the meeting. Oh sure, sometimes that meat that was simmering may have been something either Bugeye or Joe Kilburn may have run over recently, however it smelled good, most of the



**2012 - Bugeye attends his last Youth Fishing Contest and gives everyone one final wave goodbye.**

time. He was always entertaining, as Uncle Sam at the Poker Runs, wearing a hotdog hat at the Youth Fishing contests and a variety of hats at the other events. We already miss his unique smile, hats, and wardrobe and colorful comments.

When you're on your pontoon, as you pass Bugeye's pier, wave and say, "BRAVO".

Jim Friend announced the August Youth Fishing Contest was a tremendous event enjoyed by many young anglers. Once again, every entrant came away a winner, as did their parents and grandparents, because of the quality time they spent with those great fisher youth.

Hopefully, you enjoyed the "Fourth of July / Labor Day Fireworks Display". It gave us a spectacular addition to the holiday weekend.

Thank you for your making our Fall Turkey Shoot a HUGE success. Many of you won those Jack Tucker hams and Kevin Culp turkeys and much, much more.

You don't want to miss the annual Fall Casino Night at the clubhouse on November 10. See any SLSC member for tickets and details.

It's autumn and there is a lot to enjoy on and around your lake, so get out and experience all you can. And remember, it's only nine months until summer..... See you on the lake. ■



Photos by Maria Hopman



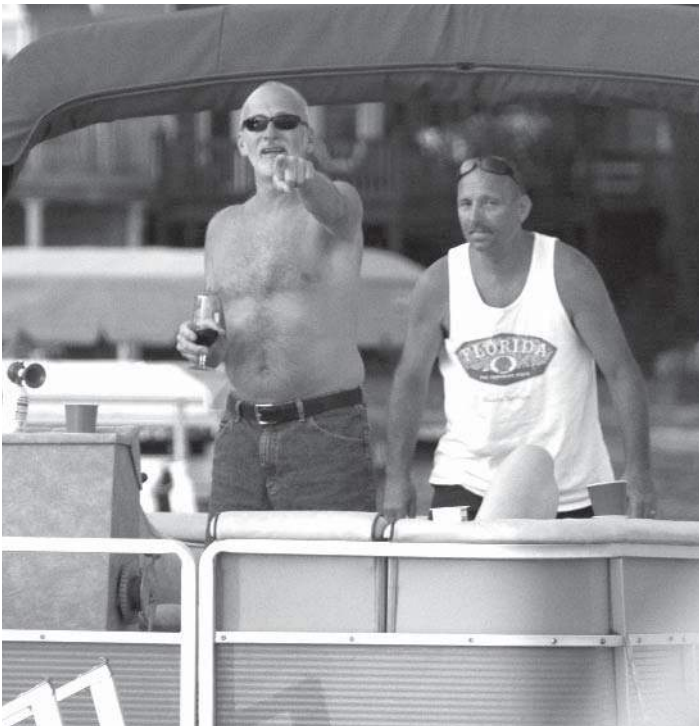


Photo by Leanne Brekke

### More lake fun this summer...

(above) Fireworks

(below) Rick McCullough & friend



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**574-264-3752**

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or email: [ads@simontonlake.org](mailto:ads@simontonlake.org)

## Hog Roast 2012

- by Sue Ward

**T**hank you to all the volunteers from the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association and Sportsmen's Club in make the Hog Roast a success. Everyone seemed to be enjoying the community atmosphere. Such a variety of dishes and desserts. I'd have to say no one went home hungry.

A 50/50 raffle was held with the help of Kiersten and Alyssa Lieurance, granddaughters of Ann & Jerry Broderick. They did a great job selling tickets and presentation to the winner, Susie Broderick, their aunt, with her winnings. Do you think it was a planned job? Two picture books of scenes and events around Simmonton Lake were donated by Giraffe PhotoBooks with one presented to Doug Soard, guest of Carol & Jerry Aller, the other to Gene Jimison.

Happy Birthday was sung for Carol Aller, Beach Drive. Rick Kaiser and his crew did an outstanding job catching the hog, cooking and serving, oh so tender. Unfortunately Rick's RV was hit as he was turning into the club's driveway in order to set up on Saturday night. No injuries to Rick or his dogs.

Again a big "THANK YOU" to all who helped and attended in making the Hog Roast a great event. ■

(top) I'm sure Susie Broderick is considering sharing her winnings with Amy Matherly.

(bottom right) Anne and Dave Harbaugh load up thier plates.



Photo by Maria Hopman



Photo by Lou Putnam



Photo by Lou Putnam



Photo by Maria Hopman





(top left) A beautifully decorated cake  
(top right) Kathy Kessler & Susie Broderick  
(middle left) Randy Hoff with his son David



Photos by Lou Putnam

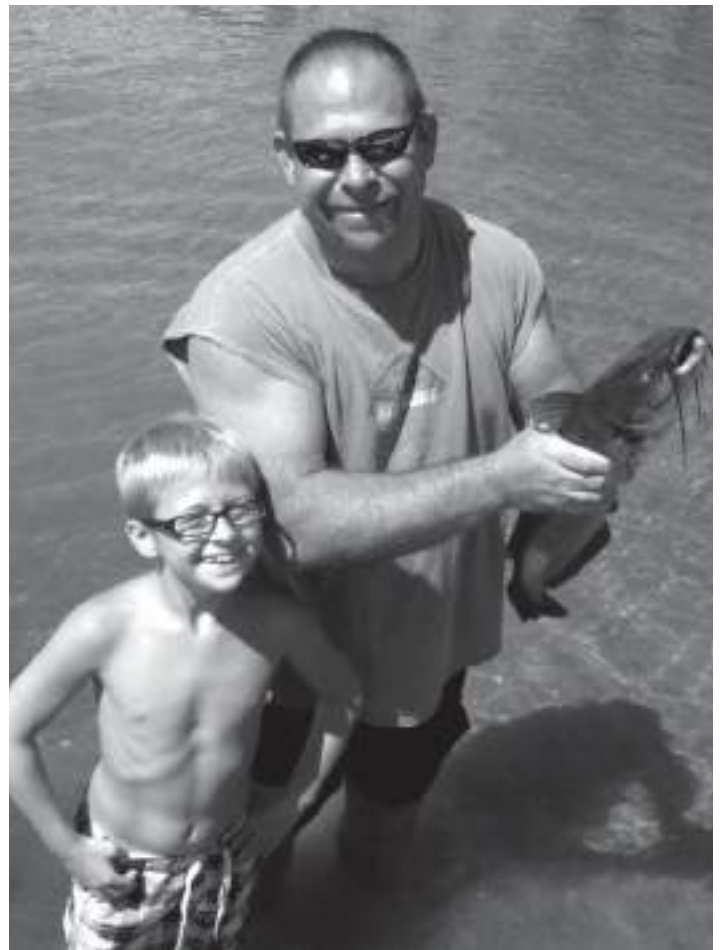
## More photos from the Hog Roast 2012



(bottom left) Bruce & Diane Marlow, Bob Foster  
(above) Carol & Jerry Aller



Photos by Maria Hopman



(above left) Nathan & Grant Brekke with friends  
 (above right) Dan & Grant Brekke catching a catfish  
 (below left) Nathan Brekke.



The Brekke family was coming back home after tubing and Nathan noticed the big fish by the trampoline. The boys went and got a net and tried to catch it. The catfish just swam really close to shore, never trying to get away. Dan finally caught it. After letting it go, it stayed up by shore for a couple of hours. It even swam right by Charlie their dog!





## Simonton Lake Ecozone Meeting August 15, 2012

-by Amy Matherly

On August 15, 2012, a meeting was held to discuss the possibility of establishing an ecozone at Simonton Lake. This meeting was led by Amy Matherly and the Ecozone Committee, part of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners Association. Guest speakers were Doug Keller, Aquatic Habitat Coordinator for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and Rod Edgell, Lake and River Enhancement Coordinator for the Indiana DNR.

With advertisement in the August "Simonton Says" newsletter, e-mail reminders and SLAHA phone calling system reminders we had 25 residents in attendance.

One purpose of this meeting was education of local residents as to the nature of an ecozone, the official

process by which a lake establishes an ecozone, whether or not Simonton Lake needs an ecozone and the DNR recommended location of an ecozone.

The second purpose was for the DNR officials to gage whether the local residents are in favor of the project. Without public support the DNR does not want to proceed with the process which for them is both lengthy and labor intensive.

After opening the meeting and introducing the speakers, Doug Keller gave a presentation to the group. There are a number of reasons for establishing an ecozone.

- There are safety issues for boats run in shallow water.
- Vegetation is important to water quality.

- Water quality is also affected by the limiting the re-suspension of nutrients. This re-suspension is caused by boat motors stirring up the bottom of the lake.
- Finally, ecozones provide a quieter area for paddlers and fishermen.

Ecozones are not meant to be a means for one person to keep others out of their little corner of the lake. In the lake feasibility study done last year the area suggested for an ecozone is the inlet area near Lilly Creek. This is the

the zone would be set by exact GPS coordinates. Who would place, remove and maintain the buoys at Simonton Lake?

3. No weed treatment would be allowed within the zone except for invasive species.
4. No dredging would be allowed in the zone with the exception of that required for a weir at Lilly Creek.

If the people of Simonton Lake decide to establish an ecozone there are options which we can decide:



area on which we focused.

While the state rules creating ecozones was made in 2002, so far only a few lakes have established them. Lake Syracuse has one as well as Tippecanoe. Lake Wawasee has three. Lake Manitou is in the process of re-establishing an area in their lake known as "the prairie". (According to Doug Keller, a great majority of the lakes in Indiana south of Logansport, are man-made lakes and therefore don't have natural areas conducive to ecozones.)

Mr. Keller advised us to consider the following issues:

1. Would the area cause any boat congestion?
2. Once established an ecozone would be marked by the placement of buoys. The boundary of

1. Restrictions within the zone. We can post a speed limit, require idle only or restrict all motorized boats from the zone. We can decide if we want to allow boaters to anchor in the area.
2. Sunset Clause. We can write into the proposal that we want to set a date to review the zone. If at that time we do not want to continue with the ecozone on our lake, we can drop it. If we like how it is working we can establish it permanently.
3. Boundaries Mr. Keller showed us four possible options but said that they were just suggestions. He advised us to keep the boundary

## Ecozone

from page 25

simple so that the setting of buoys by our volunteers is less complicated.

The legal process for establishing an ecozone was also presented:

1. Lake residents contact the DNR. THIS HAS BEEN DONE.
2. A public meeting is held to educate local residents and gage support for the ecozone. THIS WAS BEGUN AT THIS VERY MEETING.
3. The Lake Association, other local body or an individual presents an official rule making petition to the DNR.
4. The DNR reviews the petition and establishes a committee including the director of the DNR.
5. The DNR committee makes a rule making proposal to the Indiana Natural Resources Commission.
6. The proposal is accepted or denied.

This entire process can take from 9 to 12 months during which there is a public comment period. All comments, suggestions and opinions are taken seriously.

At the end of the presentation we opened the meeting to comments and questions.

**If the shoreline area of this area is "buildable" would residents be boxed in?** WHILE WE BELIEVE THE LAND TO BE WETLANDS, NO HOMEOWNER WHOSE LAKE ACCESS IS WITHIN A ZONE IS PROHIBITED FROM GETTING OUT. THOSE PERSONS WOULD HAVE TO FOLLOW THE SPEED RULES ESTABLISHED. THERE ARE NO HOMEOWNERS CURRENTLY IN OUR PROPOSED ZONE.

**Is the area designated as "wetlands" and therefore not buildable?** WE BELIEVE MOST OF THE AREA IS A DESIGNATED WETLANDS BUT THIS NEEDS TO BE CHECKED OFFICIALLY.

**If the weir is built, will the increased depth of the water be too deep for plant growth in the zone?** DOUG KELLER FELT

THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE A PROBLEM.

**Do boaters and wave runners use this area?** RESIDENTS WHO CURRENTLY LIVE NEAR THE PROPOSED AREA SAY THAT WAVE RUNNERS DO USE THE AREA. THIS HAS NOT HAPPENED THIS YEAR BECAUSE OF THE LOW WATER LEVEL.

**Does this area need to be protected? It seems to be doing fine without it.** WHILE THE AREA DOES HAVE AQUATIC PLANTS, THE RESTRICTIONS OF AN ECOZONE WOULD INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF PLANTS.

**The shoreline and land surrounding the proposed zone is owned by a private individual. Should that person be contacted? Should other homeowners in the adjacent channel be contacted?** MR. KELLER DID NOT REQUIRE US TO CONTACT THE OWNERS BUT SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE THE RIGHT THING TO DO. HE ALSO SAID THAT ONE PROPERTY OWNER COULD STOP THE PROCESS IF THEIR USE OF THE LAKE AND AFFECTS ON THEIR PROPERTY IS GREATLY AND NEGATIVELY IMPACTED.

**Can an ecozone be un-established?** YES, IF A SUNSET CLAUSE IS PUT IN THE PROPOSAL A ZONE CAN BE DONE AWAY WITH AT THAT TIME.

**Can a boundary be changed?** YES, BUT THIS REQUIRES THAT THE LEGAL PROCESS BE STARTED OVER. IT BEHOVES US TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT WHERE WE WANT THE BOUNDARY SO THAT IT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE CHANGED.

**What about the weeds right outside the zone that impede boat progress out into the lake?** WEEDS OUTSIDE THE ZONE CAN BE CONTROLLED BY LOCAL RESIDENTS WITH THE APPROPRIATE PERMIT.

**How will our plan for dredging affect the zone? What about other ecozones?** Mr. KELLER ADVISED DOING ONE ECOZONE AT THIS TIME, SEEING HOW IT GOES AND THEN CONSIDERING ANOTHER AREA DOWN THE ROAD IF NEEDED. WHILE THE DREDGING SHOULD NOT AF-

FECT THIS AREA, IT COULD AFFECT OTHER AREAS THAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED IN THE FUTURE.

**What about the public comment period?** IN ADDITION TO E-MAIL COMMENTS, LETTERS TO THE DNR OR COMMENTS CALLED IN, THERE IS A PUBLIC HEARING HELD AS PART OF THE PROCESS.

**How many buoys would it take to mark off the area?** ONE BUOY FOR EVERY 100 FEET. BUOYS WOULD BE MARKED WITH THE SPEED/MOTOR RESTRICTIONS AND IDENTIFY THE AREA AS AN ECOZONE.

**Would the zone include Lilly Creek?** MR. KELLER DID NOT INCLUDE THE CREEK ON ANY OF HIS PROPOSED DRAWINGS AND HE ADVISED US NOT TO INCLUDE THE CREEK ON OUR PROPOSAL. WHILE THE DNR PROBABLY WOULD ALLOW DREDGING IN THE ECOZONE TO ESTABLISH THE WEIR, KEEPING THE CREEK OUT OF THE ZONE, WOULD JUST BE SIMPLER.

**Would hunting in the area be affected?** ESTABLISHMENT OF BLINDS MIGHT BE HINDERED BY MOTOR AND SPEED RESTRICTIONS. BLINDS WOULD NEED TO BE ESTABLISHED OUTSIDE OF THE ZONE.

Mr. Keller encouraged residents to read the feasibility study. A link for the study can be found at the SLAHA website ([www.simonlake.org](http://www.simonlake.org)). He also provided a handout entitled, "Protection of Significant Aquatic Communities (Ecozones) in Indiana Lakes and Rivers." This article can be found at the DNR website. Copies were available at the fall hog roast.

Amy Matherly, Ecozone Committee Chair, asked for volunteers for the committee and got 8 volunteers. After the question/comment period the speakers were thanked and the meeting was adjourned.

If you were not able to attend this meeting and wish to comment, offer suggestions or volunteer for the Ecozone Committee please e-mail [ramatherly@gmail.com](mailto:ramatherly@gmail.com). ■





(above left & right) Photos taken of the annual Wuchner family reunion at the Marcus house, Maplewood Drive – 4th of July week-end. They had a great time visiting and playing games such as the tug-of-war in the water.



(left) Because of the drought, the beach is showing some sand (or some may call it muck). One of the gals showing off the pretty toe nails is Elena Polizotto, granddaughter of Dale and Kay Marcus.

(below) Storm damage on August 4th at Ed Ramsey's house. This happened about 8 am, right out of the blue. Luckily no one was sitting on the deck. Only some potted plants were broken.

Photo by Maria Hopman



(bottom left) Lou & Bob Putnam's dog Maggie  
(below) Joey Putnam from Cincinnati, OH, grandson of Bob & Lou Putnam playing in the water with the dogs.  
(bottom right) Their dogs Birdie & Bogie



Dogs, dogs and more dogs... Photos by Lou Putnam







## 4th of July fun on the lake

Whether it's kayaking, 4th of July events like the Poker Run or egg toss, skiing or playing in the water....Simonton is a fun place to live or visit!

(left) Noah, Hope and Leah Stacker spending 4 greats days with Great Aunt Jodi and Uncle Greg (Ferro) on Sail Bay Court. They are also Margot Rutter's grandchildren.



## Treasurer's Corner

Below is a brief financial update on the association:

Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc.  
January 1, 2012 – September 23, 2012 (CASH Basis Accounting)

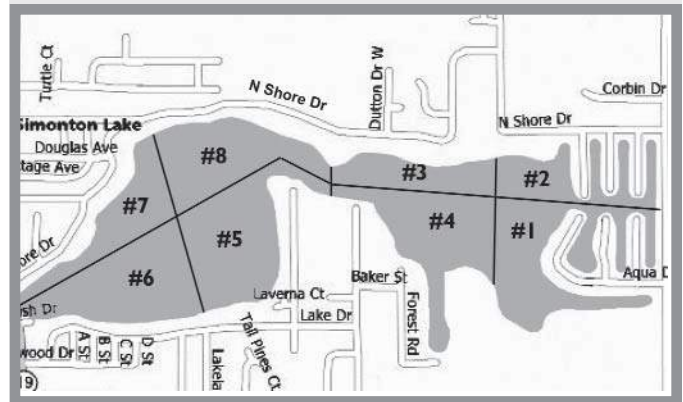
Item	Subtotal	Total
Advertising	\$3,470.00	
Fireworks Donations	3,420.00	
Other Events (e.g., Hog Roast)	851.00	
LARE Grant from State of IN	0.00	
Membership Dues	4,390.00	
Sales (T-shirts, Calendars)	10.00	
Other (e.g., interest income)	29.79	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$12,170.79</b>
Board of Directors (e.g., calendars, Hog roast, general meeting expenses, insurance)	\$2,165.40	
Fireworks Transfer to Sportsmen's Club	3,205.00	
Lake Environment (LARE Grant)	0.00	
Lake Safety	1,229.96	
Membership/Outreach	0.00	
Newsletter / Website	2,447.06	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$9,047.42</b>
<b>Net Position as of July 27, 2012</b>		<b>\$3,123.37</b>

**Current members: Please don't forget to pay your SLAHA dues for this year! New residents or non-member neighbors – we also welcome your involvement!!!**

Last year, we had our best membership year ever, but we came in a tantalizingly 3 members short of 200 households. This year, we really want to make it over that milestone! Please fill out the member information card below.

As always, if you have any questions about our association finances, please don't hesitate to contact Erin Harding at eharding@nd.edu.

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. Maria Hopman	262-1655
Anne Harbaugh	264-7792
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
Jon Hart	262-1404
8. Maria Hopman	262-1655
Anne Harbaugh	



### SLAHA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

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

**DUES:** per household per year

\_\_\_\_\_ **Household:** \$30

\_\_\_\_\_ **Senior:** (70 and over): \$20

\_\_\_\_\_ **Senior Honorary Membership**  
(80 and over):  
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Donation Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:**

with Registration Form

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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# MESSAGE BOARD



## We wish you a Happy Birthday!

10/3 Frieda Baskerville - 94 years young  
 10/5 Kyan Joseph Wilson - 3 years old  
 Grandson of Linda & Paul Wilson  
 10/21 Bruce Marlow  
 10/25 Ken Ward  
 10/31 Bob Putnam  
 11/5 Carole Foutz  
 11/5 Marie Garatoni  
 11/10 Bayleigh Sue Hovarter - 4 yrs.  
 Great Grandma Vickie Dubbert  
 11/24 Camden Curtis Niederwerfer - 1 yr.  
 Grandson of Curt & Wendy Willis  
 11/30 Sue Ward  
 12/6 Chris Schultz  
 12/9 Ann Maloney  
 12/9 Olivia McKee - 1 yr.  
 Grandparents Ron & Sue Taylor  
 12/10 Dave Foutz

## Happy Anniversary!

12/27 Megan Shultz  
 9/10 John & Pat Brown  
 10/7 Tom and Deb Swanson - 40 years  
 10/9 Ben & Ashli Swathwood (2nd)  
 Son of Lynn & Susie Swathwood  
 10/11 Erin & Chad Winchester (4th)  
 Vaughn & Cindy Nickell's daughter  
 12/31 Sue & Tedd Johnson



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. 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](mailto:simon@simontonlake.org)** (Your information will not be used for any other purpose).

## **LOST & FOUND:**

Did you lose a stack of photos??? Some were found floating in the lake around the sandbar. To retrieve them contact: Lori & Tim Bair.  
[tbair51564@yahoo.com](mailto:tbair51564@yahoo.com) or call 262-4974

## **\*\*\*This could cost you\*\*\***

### **\*\*\*BIG bucks!\*\*\***

If you are currently receiving a **homestead deduction on your property taxes** and you have not filed a form to confirm your eligibility to receive that deduction with the County Auditor's office, your **2013 property tax bill could be increased by hundreds of dollars.** The State Legislature passed a law requiring residents to file forms proving that they are in fact entitled to receive a homestead exemption. Beginning on January 1, if that form has not been filed the full assessed value of the property will be used to calculate property tax bills. If you fail to file before January 1, 2013 you must prove that your address is your primary residence and wait for a refund on your taxes the following year. Verification forms can be found online at [www.indiana-homestead.com](http://www.indiana-homestead.com). **To make it easy for you, all of the links are on the home-page of our website: [www.simontonlake.org](http://www.simontonlake.org)**

## **CLASSIFIED ADS**

To place a classified ad, email: [ads@simontonlake.org](mailto:ads@simontonlake.org) or call: 262-9816. Classified ads are **\*free for paid members of the association.**

Non-members pay \$5. Ads will have to be re-submitted 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.

**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)

**[www.simontonlake.org](http://www.simontonlake.org)**



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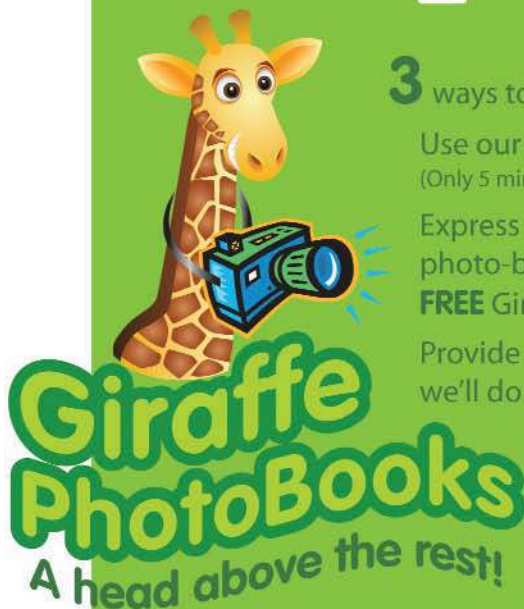
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[Sales@GiraffeMe.com](mailto:Sales@GiraffeMe.com)





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](mailto:simon@simontonlake.org))

Our heartfelt sympathies go out to **Carole and Dave Foutz** on the passing of Carole's stepmother, Leona Blad. Carole's father survives and is living in Wakarusa.



**Greg and Barb McGough's** daughter, **Heather** was married June 23 in South Haven, MI. The couple met in 2007 while living in San Francisco, and were engaged in 2010 during a visit to Ireland. Heather is the

founder of Urbanity, a business that focuses on helping entrepreneurs in Silicon Valley and around the world start and grow their companies. Her husband, Wil Frentzen, is a native of Florida. He works as a federal prosecutor for the US Department of Justice, and currently serves as the Chief of the Organized Crime Strike Force in California. They honeymooned in Costa Rica. While the couple loves to travel, Heather says her favorite place to vacation will always be Simonton Lake!

Congratulations to **Larry and Ginny Bellamy** who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 25.

If you are surprised how often you see **Dave Foutz** out in his kayak these days, don't worry. He isn't playing hooky. He's retired. After many decades of faithful service to the Elkhart Community Schools, Dave has decided to step away. He is still a member of the Elkhart County Council and can now travel with wife, Carole, any time of year instead of being limited to summer and spring break. Dave is a past finalist for Indiana Teacher of the Year and led the social studies department at Elkhart Memorial to a high level of excellence. You know what they say about having too much time on your hands. Carole will have her hands full.



**Doug and Myra Cors'** daughter, **Courtney** was married to Patrick Qualls on August 1 on Sunset Beach in North Carolina. The couple had family and friends spend the week at the beach for a week-long celebration. The beach is a family vacation spot that Courtney and the family have been visiting all her life. The couple is living in Westfield, Indiana. Courtney is a theatre education teacher at Herron High School in Indianapolis. Both are graduates of Ball State University.



On August 15th 2012 Simonton Lake lost **Gene Marchesseau**, (seated here with a long time friend Nadene Anderson) a man who had lived his whole life on this lake. He was 80 years old. On the day we lost Gene we lost a great amount of history and knowledge of Simonton Lake. He knew his neighbors and was always eager to help and he would not stop until it was done, it may be a few hours and a few beers, but it was done!. His neighbors say it was an honor to be his neighbor but it was a blessing to be his friend. Francis (Gene) Marchesseau will be deeply missed. His neighbors and friends will always treasure his friendship. Please remember his wife **Sharon** in your thoughts and prayers through this sad time. We miss you Gene-O !



A Good Man- by Bob Putnam..... On Saturday and Sunday 9/29 & 9/30/12 the Simonton Lake Sportsmen's Club will be holding its Fall Turkey Shoot, but this time things will be different. The Club's senior member **Harry "Bugeye" Hostetter**, will be there in memory only, since we lost him on 9/4/12 at the age of 90. All the members of the Club will be missing Bugeye and all the things he did for the Club over his many years as a member. Before the Simonton Lake Sportsmen's Club built its building the monthly meetings were held at Bugeye's home on the North side of the lake. Bugeye made it to, and helped where he could, at every event the Club sponsored. The Kid's Fishing contests, one of my favorite events because of all the Kodak moments the kids provide, was where you would see Bugeye wearing one of his many colorful hats. The kids loved to get their hot dogs from the man wearing the "hot dog in a bun" hat.

Bugeye was a veteran of World War II and he did what he could for veterans through several veterans groups. I remember Bugeye being part of the DAV's Honor Guard at the funeral of a veteran and Sportsmen's Club member. That was a hot day and the Honor Guard stood in place for a good half hour. Bugeye was about 83 years old at this time and he never left his position. He was a good man and he left behind a large number of friends. All these friends have good memories and stories of Bugeye, enough to write a book.

In closing all of his friends from the Simonton Lake Sportsmen's Club would like to say - BRAVO Bugeye.

