



Simonton Says...

April 2015
Volume 8, Issue 2

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

KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST.....

Log into simontonlake.org, Sign up to be a follower. You will get an email to CONFIRM your subscription. That is all you have to do and you will automatically receive notices about what's happening around Simonton Lake — sent right to your email inbox. Not getting the emails? Let us know by emailing simon@simontonlake.org

Winter bows out as Spring takes the stage at the lake



**Dredging Project
Update**

See page 16

photo by Cam Snyder

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In the meantime, keep checking the website for breaking news or Simonton Lake stories that you won't want to miss.

Join The Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association

Membership Drive begins in May

The Membership year of the Lake Association goes from June 1 to May 31st. Dues reminders are mailed out just prior to the Lake Association meeting in May. As neighborhood associations go our dues is very reasonable:

Household Membership \$30.00

Senior Member (70-79) \$20.00

Senior Honorary Member (80 and over) FREE Lifetime member

Dues helps support the fireworks, neighborhood garage sale, newsletter, new neighbor welcome bags, hog roast, dredging projects and the website among other things. Membership gives us clout when we go to the county or state on issues that affect the lake.

When you get your reminder in the mail, don't push it aside until later. Fill out the form and send it in right away. The Membership Committee will follow up with folks who forget. You can reduce the time we must spend on this by taking care of it right away. Thanks.

Wildlife in our Backyard



Simonton Lake Preservation Trust

Is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

For more information see page 27.



The Simonton Says staff just didn't have any submissions this time for our regular feature "Wildlife in Our Backyard." But, we did have this picture sent to us by Delores (Troyer) Wogoman of her husband Steve off the coast of Belize. This beautiful fish is a princess parrot fish. This is a protected species and had to be let go.

51
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Vaughn Nickell - President
51147 Maplewood Drive
574-262-3105
VLNickell@gmail.com

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

Heidi Cintron-Treasurer
24788 North Shore Drive
574-226-6644
Heidijo10@hotmail.com

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50973 CR 11 North
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
clfoutz@aol.com

Jack Tucker - Little Lake/Channel Director
51110 Sail Bay Court
574-370-3326
jtu977@frontier.com

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 sckjward@comcast.net

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

Standing Committees

Membership: Ken & Sue Ward
sckjward@comcast.net
• New Neighbors
• Lake Events

Newsletter: Amy Matherly
ramatherly@gmail.com
• Submit information or pictures
• To become an advertiser contact Jon Hart at jkhadman@comcast.net

Environmental: John Rose
johnrose11@comcast.net
• Ecozone
• Weir
• Dredging

Safety: Paul Wilson
pwillson@markleyent.com
• Buoys
• Public Landing
• Hazards in the water

To activate our Neighborhood Watch or report a crime contact Chris Toles cmt6061@comcast.net (Always call the police first.)

Community Contacts

Simonton Lake Conservancy
(574) 206-8485
902 CR6, Elkhart, IN 46514

DNR

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

Sheriff Elkhart County

(574) 533-4151
Neighborhood contact person:
Cpl. Casey Lehman
General information or questions, Email: clehman@elkhartcountysheriff.com
Phone: (574) 535-6553

EMERGENCIES - CALL 911
Osolo Township Fire Dept.
(574) 264-1066

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

Events on the Lake

April 2015 April issue of "Simonton Says"

April 25 Sportsmen's Club Spring Casino Night 6-11 p.m.

April 20 Registration forms due today for the Lake Association Neighborhood Garage Sale

May 2 Lake Association Neighborhood Garage Sale

May 13 RSVP for Simonton Lake Presevation Trust Dinner

May 16 Mostaccioli Open Golf Tournament, 7 a.m. tee-off

May 20 Lake Association Annual Dinner and Meeting

May 24 Memorial Day Weekend "Luminary Night"

June 15 Articles for July Issue of "Simonton Says" are due

Our Mission

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.

Our Newsletter

Our newsletter is published 4 times a year, but our website is filled with current information, stories, events, photos about the community. Check it out at:

www.simontonlake.org

Newsletter Staff: Kathy Flynn, Carole Foutz, Dave Foutz, Anne Harbaugh, Connie Hart, Maria Hopman, Linda Jimison, Theresa Maier, Diane Marlow, Amy Matherly, Bob Meyers, Lou Putnam, Kathy Shewmaker, Andrea Stutsman, Deb Weaver

Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association Board Update January 26 Board Meeting

The Lake Association board met on January 26th and discussed the following items:

- The board discussed mailing the "Simonton Says" newsletters to non-residents. The cost is \$1.75 to mail. Interested persons should make arrangements with Carole Foutz at clyfoutz@yahoo.com
- We are always looking for volunteers to write or submit articles for the newsletter. They may be sent to Amy Matherly, ramatherly@gmail.com.
- The Lake Association membership drive will begin in April. It is important to become a member. Senior lake residents get a free membership. Even though the Association gets no dues for a Senior membership, it is still important to join. Our organization gains strength in numbers.
- A complete membership list for the Lake Association will be published in the June newsletter. The membership year for the Association is June 1 to May 31.
- The Simonton Lake Neighborhood Garage Sale is May 2.
- May 20 is the Lake Association Annual Meeting. The Simonton Lake Preservation Trust will be hosting a free dinner at 6:00 and the meeting will follow. Reservations are needed so we don't run out of food.

- We are waiting to receive an IRS tax form 1024 in order to qualify for a non-profit status with the IRS.

The progress of the dredging project was discussed. Details on the project are in a separate article in this issue of "Simonton Says". The weir project has also been delayed.

Simonton Lake Preservation Trust Update

The Simonton Lake Preservation Trust was established as a "banker" of sorts for projects at the lake. In technical terms we are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. DONATIONS MADE TO THE TRUST FOR ANY PROJECT ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. At this time our first priority is to continue to work with the Lake Association on raising funds for the dredging project.

Your donations should be mailed to: Simonton Lake Preservation Trust Box 469 Elkhart, Indiana 46515

Questions should be directed to Ryan Harding at rharding@mwe.com, John Rose at johnrose11@comcast.net or Amy Matherly at ramatherly@gmail.com

After the dredging project, the Trust will continue to exist and pursue other efforts to preserve, protect and enhance the lake watershed.

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Pete's Simonton Lake Tavern Is Forty Years Old!

Pete's Simonton Lake Tavern is marking the 40th year of the family owned business this February. This makes the business one of the oldest family owned restaurant/bars in Elkhart. Pete's story began in February, 1970 when Lou and Pete Kilgren bought the business from Jack Fidler. They had previously purchased a family home on North Shore Drive. Lou's father had owned a tavern on Harrison Street which he later sold. That tavern would become Nicki-D's. In 1950, Kilgrens opened Cappy's on Michigan Street. The restaurant was a take-off of Lou's maiden name, Cappelletti. Pete's has always been a family business. Pete Kilgren ran the bar side of the operation and Lou ran the kitchen. Lou's cooking was a huge element in the success of the bar/restaurant on Simonton Lake. Neighbors could spend the day enjoying lake activities and then have a home cooked dinner and cold drink at their neighborhood tavern. As years went on the Kilgren family members all took a role in the family business.

In December, 1975 Linda married Merle Anderson who had moved here from Southern California. Over the years Merle's responsibilities and participation in the business has varied but for the past several years, Merle has been the driving force at Pete's. For the past two years, Linda has

taken on a new family challenge in re-opening Cappy's. The story of that tavern could be saved for another day.

Merle explains that in the old days, workers from factories from the north side of the city would visit the bar at the end of the day. Some days the bar would be jammed with patrons waiting to be served. Due to the loss of many of those factories, changes in driving and alcohol laws now Pete's caters to a slightly different clientele. There seems to also be more emphasis on the dining and entertainment and less as a bar. One thing that hasn't changed is the comfortable, neighborhood atmosphere.

Pete Kilgren passed away in 2003, but his legacy lives on. Pete's has evolved with Merle and Linda's leadership into a neighborhood establishment where "lakers" as well as locals come to enjoy the warm, friendly atmosphere and good food. The addition of the outside patio is a huge asset which people enjoy. Pontoons can pull up, eat on the patio or carry out. There are a lot of ingredients that make up the unique character of a lake community and Pete's is truly an important ingredient at Simonton Lake.

How About a Spring Bike Ride From Pete's

How many times have you said, "I really should get that old Schwinn out and start riding again."? Well, here's your chance. BikeElkhart, a group of bicycle enthusiasts is organizing a series of rides during the 2015 cycling season. This group is not composed of bike racers, but instead recreational riders who believe in "smelling the roses" as



they ride. I have saved the best news for last. The first ride is going to be right here at Simonton Lake. The ride will conveniently begin and end in Pete's

parking lot. There will actually be two courses to choose from. The first course is a six mile route that goes around the lake and a second course, for those who may have already done some riding, is twelve miles in length.

Wednesday, April 8 is the date and 6:00 PM is the start time. You can ride your bike to Pete's and you won't have to worry about transporting your bike/s. Helmets are required and everyone must sign a waiver. The pace will be leisurely. BikeElkhart will provide a leader and guides for each course so no one will get lost or left behind. After the ride you can order a sandwich and frosty beverage while you enjoy conversations with new and old friends. This is a rain or shine event so there are no excuses not to enjoy the fun.

As mentioned previously this is the first ride in the series. Subsequent rides will also be in the first week of the

following months. Different locations will be chosen for each ride. In addition to scenery, food and beverage options will be among the determining factors for site selection. You can get more information by checking the BikeElkhart web site at BikeElkhart.com or call Paula Turk at 574-293-1683. Bring your friends or come out on your own and meet some new, energetic, optimistic people.

Simonton Lake Preservation Trust Dinner

MAY 20th 6:00

Sportsmen's Club

S.L.A.H.A. Meeting Follows at 7:00

**The Meal is Free
BUT WE MUST KNOW YOU ARE COMING.**

We don't want to run out of food.

RSVP to ramatherly@gmail.com

Or 262-4773 by May 13

The Original Lake Meeting Place!

SUNDAYS

**4 Piece
Chicken Dinner
\$9.95**

MONDAYS

**Frog Leg Basket
\$9.95**

TUESDAYS

**Hamburgers
\$2.25**

WEDNESDAYS

**Chicken and Noodles
\$6.95**

THURSDAYS

**Mexican Special
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Mexican Appetizer Platter
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FRIDAYS

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Pasta Night

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Life on the Lake

by Amy Matherly

It's been a long winter and over here on North Shore Drive we are getting a little cabin fever. I just want to go on record on a few things:

1. I did not steal the doctor's socks on purpose. I thought they were mine.
2. Yes, I did tell him that his mother called. He just wasn't listening.
3. No, I did not hide his diving equipment. I did move it off of the coffee table in our nice living room. Personally I didn't think the flippers and mask went well with the décor.
4. No, I did not purposely run down the battery in the car on the coldest day of the winter. That might have happened when he ran the radio while the car was turned off. But, hey, I'm no expert.
5. Yes, I admit that I did throw out his Good Will sweatpants. I'm sorry but our grown daughter practically disowned us last summer when she saw her dad mowing in those dirty hole-filled things. The material was so thin that it unraveled when washed.
6. Yes, I did try to wash those awful sweatpants. No, I don't think you can keep wearing them over and over and never wash them.
7. Yes, after the 4th or 5th snow storm I did say that he would have to go live with his mother over on Lake Drive. By the way, she said she wouldn't take him.
8. Yes, I did give up swearing for Lent, but I don't think it's necessary for him to point that out in public when I slip up.
9. Yes, I did eat his Girl Scout Thin Mint cookies. It was either that or anti-depressants and the thin mints were cheaper.
10. And Finally, I am not sure what has happened to his t-shirts, pants and swim trunks but I did not purposely shrink anything. I could say more but that would get me in trouble.

Thank God it will be spring. There's been enough togetherness over here for a while.

Safety Committee

The Safety Committee will once again be putting out navigation buoys and doing a spring clean-up at the boat landing. They would appreciate your help. Please contact Paul Wilson. This is a small committee but a great group to work with.

The Safety Committee would like to remind all boaters that once placed, moving buoys is against the law.



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Join the Simonton Lake Area Homeowner's Association TODAY

Your membership brings you

- Four issues of "Simonton Says"
- Maintenance of the boat launch
- Placement of Buoys
- The Annual Hog Roast, Luminary Night, the Annual Lake Garage Sale
- Special Projects like the Wier and the Ecozone
- Power in Numbers when we deal with the county and state
- Power in Numbers when we apply for grant money
- Additional funding for the 4th of July fireworks

Fill out and mail the membership form in the newsletter.

News from the Membership Committee

COMMUNITY UPDATE

A big thanks goes out to all of you who are members of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association.

The **membership** year goes from June 1 to May 31st. We send out our dues reminders just prior to the Lake Association meeting in May. As neighborhood associations go our dues is very reasonable and helps support the fireworks, neighborhood garage sale, newsletter, new neighbor welcome bags, hog roast, dredging projects and the website among other things.

New Neighbor Bags

Please get names of new neighbors to Sue Ward at sckjward@comcast.net Please include an address to aid in delivery of a bag.

Inside the bag we include:

- 2 Simonton Lake plastic drink cups complete with lid and straws. These blue cups have the Simonton Lake logo on the side.
- A gift certificate to Pete's Simonton Lake Tavern;
- a current copy of the newsletter;
- and some information about the Lake Association and Trust.

All of this goes out in a colorful cloth bag with the logo on the outside. The bag is perfect for carrying beach towels or snacks.

E-Mail Group

Would you like to:

- Be Reminded of Meetings and Events
- Be Kept up to date regarding ongoing projects
- Get Crime alerts
- Have an opportunity to get your news into "Simonton Says"

If so, please send your e-mail to ramatherly@gmail.com.

Lake Association Neighborhood Garage Sale

The second annual Lake Association Neighborhood Garage Sale has been scheduled for May 2nd, the first Saturday in May.

MAKE SURE TO REGISTER YOUR SALE. A REGISTRATION FORM IS INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER. See page 10.

- If you are a member of the Lake Association, registration is free.
- If you are not a member, registration is \$5.00.
- If you register, we place signs at the nearest cross-roads to your home, give you a sign for your yard and place the ad in the Elkhart Truth. If you don't register, you're on your own as far as directing folks to your sale.

Last year was a great success with lots of traffic and lots of sales. Mark your calendar for May 2nd!

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):

FREE lifetime member

FIREWORKS FUND DONATION:

Donation Amount: \$ _____

NEW MEMBER RECRUITED - \$10

Member's Name: _____

.....
**TOTAL AMOUNT
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w/ Registration Form

Check out: www.simontonlake.org for all of your lake community events, stories, information and photos.



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Second Annual Simonton Lake Neighborhood Garage Sale May 2

It's just a few weeks until the 2nd Annual Simonton Lake Neighborhood Garage Sale.

The Membership Committee was so pleased with the response to the Neighborhood Garage Sale held last year that they have decided to sponsor this event once again this spring. The date is Saturday, May 2nd, 9-5.

If you register your garage sale with the Membership Committee, we'll place signs near your house and at the closest crossroad, give you a garage sale sign for your yard and include you in the ad we place in the Elkhart Truth. If you don't register, you're welcome to have a sale but you are on your own for getting folks to your sale.

Registration is free for those who are members of the Lake Association. If you are not a member, the registration fee is \$5.00. That's much cheaper than the cost of a newspaper ad and signs.

So, on these cold winter days, clean out your closets, drawers, storage unit, attic and garage and get ready to sell, sell, and sell!

Garage Sale Day



Lemonade Stand

51211 Maplewood Drive
Hosted by Adam and Jake Moore
(Grandsons of Theresa Maier)

Proceeds go to the Simonton Lake Homeowners' Association

MAKE SURE TO REGISTER YOUR SALE.

- If you are a member of the Lake Association, registration is free.
- If you are not a member, registration is \$5.00.

When you register,

- we place garage sale signs at the nearest crossroads to your home,
- give you a free garage sale sign for your yard and
- place a garage sale ad in the Elkhart Truth at no cost to you

(If you don't register, you're on your own.)

SPONSORED BY THE SIMONTON LAKE AREA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Simonton Lake Neighborhood Garage Sale Registration

Saturday, May 2nd 9-5

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

_____ I am a member of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners Association. My registration is free.

_____ I am not a member of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners Association. I have enclosed my \$5 registration fee. Make your check payable to SLHA.

Become a member of the Lake Association by using the membership form found on the Notes from the Board page.

Email this form to rmatherly@gmail.com or
mail to: GARAGE SALE 26048 N. Shore Dr. Elkhart, IN 46514

Dredging Donors

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B

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N

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David & Brenda Willis
Phillip & Terry Wilson
Chad & Erin Winchester
Steve & Dolores Wogoman
Kay Wuchner
Tom & Kristine Wyncott

Z

Richard & Pam Zinsmeister

The Simonton Lake Preservation Trust would like to publicly thank the following businesses, and private citizens for their financial support of the dredging project.

- Indiana Department of Natural Resources Lake and River Enhancement Program (L.A.R.E.)
- Flippin' Cow
- The Graphics Group
- Indiana Micro Metal Etching
- Irongate Self Storage
- Martins Supermarkets
- ObeCo, Inc.
- Pete's Simonton Lake Tavern
- Pfizer Corporation
- Superior Space
- United States Charitable Gift Trust
- Wakeside Marine

A special thank you goes out to the ELKHART COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION for their \$50,000 grant.

Thank You for Your Investment in Simonton Lake

Neighborhood Dredging Information

With the dredging project a go, lake property owners wondered if it would be possible to take advantage of the dredging equipment already being on the lake to do dredging at their own lake front. The Environmental Committee discussed this possibility but put it on hold during the summer and early fall until the final pieces of the dredging plan were put in to place. With that done the committee, in consultation with the dredger, agreed that this would be possible. A plan was developed.

DREDGING AT YOUR BEACHFRONT WILL BE KNOWN AS "NEIGHBORHOOD DREDGING."

The Environmental Committee plans to hold another informational Meeting sometime later this spring.

To qualify for Neighborhood Dredging:

- **You must be a member of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners Association.** Dues is \$30.00 and can be paid using a SLAHA Membership form. Checks should be made out to the SLAHA.
- **You must have made a prior contribution of \$500.00 to the general dredging fund.** This contribution is payable to The Simonton Lake Preservation Trust and should be mailed to Simonton Lake Preservation Trust, PO Box 469, Elkhart, Indiana 46515. **Your donation is tax deductible and you will get a receipt letter for tax purposes.**

Here is Information on and Procedure for Neighborhood Dredging

- The cost is **\$10.00 per cubic yard** of sediment removed from your beach. This should be contrasted at the rate you would pay if you did this on your own with a dredging company. In that scenario the cost

would be hundreds of dollars per cubic yard.

- **You must be a member of the SLAHA, make your \$500.00 donation and pay the cost that will cover your specific neighborhood dredging by April 2, 2015.** No dredging can take place at your beach unless all of these qualifications are met.
- You must submit an **Application** for Neighborhood Dredging.
- The dredger and a member of the Environmental Committee will then come to your home and **estimate** the cost of your project.
- The Environment Committee Members will assist you in securing paperwork including Notice of Intent, permits and agency approvals.
- Once the actual dredging begins the dredger will proceed around the lake in an orderly fashion coming to your area of residence one time and then moving on.
- If the dredger completes your project with fewer cubic yards than what was estimated, then you will be refunded the difference.
- If more cubic yards than was estimated is required to do the job, dredger will contact you prior to removing that sediment so that you can approve the additional cost.
- Property owners are responsible to carry their own insurance.
- *Simonton Lake Area Homeowners Association and The Simonton Lake Preservation Trust* are not liable for any injuries or damage which occurs during your neighborhood dredging.
- Property owners are responsible for the removal of piers or boat lifts (if applicable) that might impede your neighborhood dredging.

Thank you to Corporate and Community Supporters

A big part of our fundraising efforts in the dredging project were the contributions given to us by our corporate and community partners. The Elkhart County Community Foundation responded to our grant application with a gift of \$50,000. The Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) Program of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources contributed \$200,000. Local businesses then stepped up to the plate. Both Flippin' Cow and Pete's Simonton Lake Tavern had "give back" programs where diners could have a great meal and contribute to the dredging project.

The entire Simonton Lake Community thanks you for your donation.

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Dredging Project Update

Those of us who have worked on the dredging project have gotten some great lessons and worked through some frustrations in working with bureaucracy, Indiana winters, and environmental red tape. We were dejected when things beyond our control pushed back our planned start date of fall 2014. Currently, we are poised to begin the project as soon as we get the environmental green light from the department of Fish and Wildlife.

Highlights of the Process thus far:

- After much work and planning in 2013, we submitted an application for a LARE (Lake and River Enhancement) grant in January 2014
- In March 2014 we learned we had won a \$200,000 LARE grant for sediment removal.
- In April the Simonton Lake Preservation Trust and the Environment committee began working to raise funds.
- In May 2014 we met with dredging contractors and began accepting bids for our project.
- In June, after learning more about the Basin requirements for hydraulic dredging, we decided to rebid the project.
- In July 2014 we selected All Things Water as our dredging contractor and mechanical dredging as the method. The dredging contract came in just under \$300,000.
- In August 2014 we began a process of submitting plans and applications to numerous government agencies. One required application plan was over 200 pages.

Dredger awaits the thaw at the public landing.

- September 2014 we hand-delivered notices to property owners adjacent to dredging activity, and published public notice in the Elkhart Truth. The notice of intent (NOI) was approved for the project to begin on Oct 9th.
- In September, Amy Matherly announced the Trust had won a dredging grant from the Elkhart Community Foundation for \$50,000.
- The dredging contract took approximately 5 months to complete and was finally signed in mid-October.
- We began the land purchase negotiations in 2013 with an additional 4 months to finalize the purchase agreements and legal documents. The closing on the land was done at the end of October after seed corn was finally harvested by the farmer. We had hoped that the harvesting would occur earlier in the month. The SLPT's total land acquisition cost was approximately \$100,000.

Current Status as of March 2015

- Even though we did not take possession of the basin until late October, and despite heavy

con't page 18



Neighborhood Dredging Application

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

_____ I am a member of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners Association.

_____ I have made a prior and separate contribution of \$500.00 to the dredging fund.

- I understand that the dredging company will dredge the area indicated below at the rate of \$10.00 per cubic yard.

- I agree to donate the cost of this specific neighborhood dredging by check or credit card to *The Simonton Lake Preservation Trust*.

- I understand that I must be a member of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association and make a \$500.00 donation to the general dredging fund prior to this specific neighborhood dredging.

YOUR SIGNATURE: _____

Description of Area to be dredged:

Mail your application to:

Simonton Lake Preservation Trust
PO Box 469
Elkhart, IN 46515

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE USE ONLY

_____ SLAHA Membership

_____ \$500 Donation to general dredging

_____ Donation for specific neighborhood dredging. Amount paid: _____

Randy Hoff Donates Use of Land

A site to dump the sediment that met with county and state statutes was an essential part of the Simonton Lake Dredging Project. The Simonton Lake Preservation Trust was able to purchase several acres of farmland just south of the Forest Road Channel for use as a sediment basin. This was fortunate because the farther away from the lake, the more expensive the process of hauling the sediment. The land that was purchased was close to the lake but not on the lake. The several hundred feet of land between the sediment basin and the lake is an area of land owned by Randy Hoff. Randy has graciously donated the use of his land so that the sediment can be hauled from the shore of the lake to the sediment basin. The dredger and Randy have worked out details so that the dredger can get the job done but in a way that it suitable

to Randy. A temporary road has been built. Some undergrowth and small trees have been cut. Randy's gift was a key in getting the project going.



General Meeting and Preservation Trust Dinner MAY 20

Each year the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association holds a General Meeting at the Sportsmen's Club at which we give reports and updates from each committee. Folks who attend learn what has happened over the winter and what might be happening in the future.

This year it is very important that all lake residents attend to hear an update of our dredging project. As a lake resident you will want to know what is going to happen, why the project is important and the impact it will have on the lake.

We will start off the evening with a free delicious dinner hosted by the Simonton Lake Preservation Trust at 6:00. That's right it's FREE, FREE, FREE!!! The Trust hopes that is enough incentive to get everyone to come to eat and stay for the meeting.

Don't sit at home and wonder what's going on. Let us know you are coming to eat so we will have plenty of food.

See you on the 21st at the Sportsmen's Club at 6:00. Come hungry!

Dredging Project Update (con't from page 16)

snow in November, the basin was constructed. Among other things a berm had to be constructed around the perimeter.

- The dredger, in order to keep his men working, worked on other projects last fall as we finalized the land deal. With our basin ready he has now placed his machinery at the public landing poised to dredge.
- As the winter closed in the dredging company continued to work on a road way from the lake's edge to the basin as the weather allowed. This is now ready for hauling sediment.
- John Rose, Bob Evans and Stan Skinner have regular communication with the dredger.
- Neighborhood (Private) dredging will begin only after all of the public areas specified in our LARE grant application have been completed. Since the general dredging has not begun, Neighborhood Dredging may not start until fall. This gives lake residents additional time to send in Neighborhood Dredging applications.

NOTE: We are asking residents to avoid walking on the dredging activity sites, both the access to sediment basin and the roadway are privately owned and these construction areas are unsafe for non-construction individuals.

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Simonton Lake Ecozone Approved by State

The Ecozone Committee has been notified that the Simonton Lake Ecozone has officially been approved. It now appears in official DNR state documents. Doug Keller, Aquatic Habitat Coordinator for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources has given us information on how to acquire buoys to mark the area.

You may remember that an ecozone is an area where natural aquatic plants are allowed to grow creating

a natural water filter for the lake. This was just one of the recommendations made by a Water Quality Study done on Simonton Lake in 2010.

Our ecozone will be located in the far southeastern corner of Little Simonton Lake, an area that is just a few inches deep. Restrictions in this zone are: only trolling motors, and no anchoring. The area will be monitored by DNR officers.



Check out: www.simontonlake.org for all of your lake community events, stories, information and photos.

Pet Tails

About five years ago the Freshours beloved dog, Barney passed away and they were heartbroken. He was such a good boy and was almost 18 years old. They vowed they would never get another dog and go through the grief of losing another pet. Well, one morning Carol was reading the paper and came across the Elkhart Humane Society's advertisement of dogs that were up for adoption. There she saw the cutest dog with a face similar to Barney's. Carol didn't say a word but as her husband, Jack was reading the paper she heard him call her name. She knew right then that Jack had seen the picture, too.

Ten minutes later Jack was on his way to the Humane Society. They put him in a room with this little dog and it was love at first sight. Of course, he had to have her. The Humane Society did a background check on the Freshours and the next day they went to pick her up. She curled up on Carol's lap and slept all the way home.

Two days later she slipped out the door as Carol was going out and was off and running down Bell Avenue. They were trying their best to keep up with her but she just kept running. Luckily another neighbor, walking his dogs, was coming along Bell and Maggie stopped to sniff. The young man grabbed her for them. Carol said, "I don't think he will ever know how grateful we were for his



The Freshours with "Sweet Maggie"

intervention."

Maggie is a schnauzer mix and is a dog friend of Maria Hopman's dog Sammy and the Garatoni's dog, Franklin. Carol and Jack say they are proud to have rescued a dog from the shelter. They are puzzled as to why a dog with such a wonderful disposition, beautifully groomed and clean was placed there. But are happy that they have given Maggie a second chance. It has been rewarding for the Freshours and, if Maggie could talk, she would tell you that she won the "dog lottery" the day the Freshours took her home.

April 25 SPRING CASINO NIGHT. From 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., enjoy the thrill of gaming without leaving the lake. Contact Jack Tucker or any other SLSC member for information.

May 16 MOSTACCIOLI OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT
Contact John Lendman for information and details.

June 20 will be the first **KIDS FISHING CONTEST** of the season. Contact Jim Friend for information.

July 4 POKER RUN. Information will be on the SLAHA website. Contact Bill Leighton or another club member for details as the date nears.

Get out the lawn chairs, the grill, the camera, the family and get ready for:

The Fourth of July Fireworks
July 4th at sundown on Big Simonton

It certainly feels good to FINALLY be able to say this.....
See you on the lake.



Sportsman's Club Website:

<http://simontonlakesports.wix.com/sportsmansclub1>



The Simonton Lake Sportsmans Club Presents

The 26th Annual Mostaccioli Open

May 16, 2015, Raber Golf Course

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Contact: John Lendman Sr.

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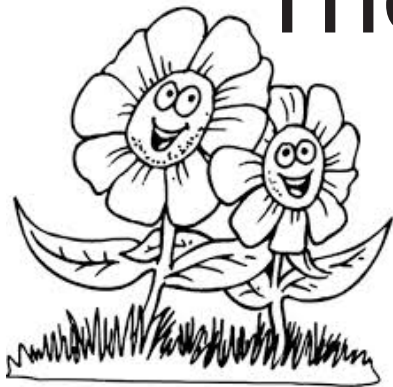
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Celebrations

Birthdays



Lennon Wilson, granddaughter of Paul and Linda Wilson, celebrated her first birthday on January 27th. Lennon's parents are Brian and Melissa Wilson. Lennon has an older brother, Kyan.

4/2 Ryan Matherly
 4/3 Dave Adams
 4/5 Cassandra Ulery
 4/8 Shirley Adams
 4/14 Ryan Harding
 4/19 Finley Alan Shewmaker
 Grandparents Ryan & Amy Matherly,
 Terry & Kathy Shewmaker
 4/24 Preston Thomas Ryan
 Grandparents Tim & Phyllis Nusbaum
 4/28 Michael Thomas Fix
 Son of Katy Rutter & Ryan Fix;
 Margot & Tom Rutter Grandparents
 4/30 Grant Brekke
 5/2 Janet Kelsey
 5/4 Sue Taylor
 5/4 Jim Friend
 5/ Kelly Matherly Shewmaker
 5/9 Greg Ferro
 5/21 Madelyn Grace Skipper
 Grandparents Buford & Becky Skipper
 5/22 Nixon Barhydt
 Grandson of Jim Ulery
 5/28 Liam Trevor Skipper
 Grandparents Buford & Becky Skipper

6/1 Brynlee Grace Landis
 Daughter of Eric & Jody Landis
 6/11 Dick Rhodes
 6/13 Jacob Moore
 Grandson of Theresa Maier
 6/14 Alex Freshour
 Grandson of Theresa Maier
 6/14 Pam Shultz
 6/14 Randy Cooper
 6/16 Bill Leighton
 6/16 Albert Rodriguez Kessler (AJ)
 Grandson of Van & Cathy Kessler
 6/18 Carter Matthew Jones
 Son of Matthew & Cassie Jones
 Grandson of Ed & Nancy Jones
 6/23 Charlie Byrns
 6/24 Jodi Ferro
 6/24 Theresa Leighton
 6/25 Wendy Cooper
 6/25 Linda Jimison
 6/25 Emmaly Kate Kwasny
 Daughter of Kyle & Julianne Kwasny
 6/28 Martha Nickell



4/4 Karen & Ron Glick
 4/4 Matt & Elie Hart
 4/14 Lonnie & Cari Waggoner
 4/30 Bob & Bobbi Meyers
 5/16 Katrina & Jason Barhydt
 Daughter of Jim Ulery
 5/18 Dan & Leanne Brekke
 5/22 Adam & Rachel Meyers
 6/7 Erin & Mark Lucas
 6/8 Maralee & Steve Macumber
 6/9 Mike & Angie Peterson
 6/11 Natalie & Josh Hochstetler
 Daughter of Dave & Colleen Replogle
 6/13 Vaughn & Cindy Nickell
 6/16 Cortney & Michael McIntire
 6/19 Christi & Erik Smith
 Daughter of Dave & Tammy Obendorf
 6/22 Beth & (Doc) Ralph Inabnit
 6/23 Heather & Wil Frentzen
 Daughter of Greg & Barb McGough
 6/23 Lisa & Jordan Swanson
 Son of Tom & Deb Swanson
 6/28 Gary & Marlene Taska



Mike and Debbie Smith will celebrate their 15th anniversary on April 21st

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Simonton Lake Preservation Trust

Is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

The Simonton Lake Preservation Trust was established as a "banker" of sorts for project at the lake. In technical terms we are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. DONATIONS MADE TO THE TRUST FOR ANY PROJECT ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

At this time our first priority is to continue to work with the Lake Association on raising funds for the dredging project.

Questions should be directed to Ryan Harding, John Rose or Amy Matherly.

After the dredging project, the Trust will continue to exist and pursue other efforts to preserve, protect and enhance the lake watershed.

Donations to the trust are tax-deductible

And can be made by mail to:

Simonton Lake Preservation Trust
PO Box 469
Elkhart, Indiana 46515

For more information call or e-mail:
Ryan Harding, president and lawyer for the Trust,
 rwharding@mwe.com

John Rose, treasurer,
 johnrose11@comcast.net

Amy Matherly, secretary,
 ramatherly@gmail.com

"To Preserve, Protect and Enhance the Simonton lake Area Watershed for present and future generations."

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

Estate Planning with the Simonton Lake Preservation Trust

If you would like to include Simonton Lake in your estate plan the Trust can be of help. Created in 2013 the Simonton Lake Preservation Trust is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Because of this status none of your gift will be spent on taxes.

You may specify how your gift is to be used. The list might include such things as beautification, land purchases, water purity, safety programs, environmental efforts or scholarships.

What kinds of gifts can you leave to the trust?

- A bequest through a will or trust
- A charitable life income plan or annuity
- A gift of property
- A gift of life insurance
- A retirement plan asset

Here is an interesting scenario: If you own land on or near the lake and DON'T WANT THE LAND DEVELOPED BUT KEPT IN ITS NATURAL STATE, the Trust can make that happen. Land can be held by the trust, cared for by the trust and kept in its natural state and used for the purposes which you specify. Your family can continue to enjoy the land, not pay taxes on it and not have to worry about maintaining the land. Your land and your wishes become a legacy for Simonton Lake. Think about it and call us for details.

It is the mission of the Trust to "Preserve, protect and enhance the Simonton Lake area watershed for present and future generations."

Your gift will help us in this mission. What a great legacy!

For more information contact: Ryan Harding, Trust President and lawyer at rharding@mwe.com

.....

Shaklee Fund Raiser Benefits the Trust

Support our ONGOING Fundraiser with Shaklee Corporation for the Simonton Lake Buying Club. This is something you can participate in even though you have or have not donated money to the project.

- this is a buying club where you change brands that you are currently using to another brand. This company has a history of quality for over 50 years.
- The products are safe, green & economical. They will not pollute the lake.
- They are 100% guaranteed! If you try them & don't like them you get your money back.
- You will save money and Simonton Lake will earn money from each sale.
- Shaklee Corporation will donate all of the profit from the sale of these products when ordered on our Simonton Lake Buying Club website www.SimontonLake.myshaklee.com or when you contact our Simonton Lake Buying Club contact person Sue Flemming at jsflemming1@gmail.com or 574-266-9996 or 574-370-6797.

As an added bonus Shaklee will give anyone a FREE buying club when they order one of the special regimens or kits pictured on the website at www.SimontonLake.myshaklee.com. Look for it under the tab "ABOUT US". One kit that we would really recommend is the GET CLEAN STARTER KIT. This kit has a lot of the products you are already using now & the Get Clean offers all eco-friendly products. This is another way to clean up our lake. You can also order individual products by clicking on the SHOP button www.SimontonLake.myshaklee.com

If you have any questions contact Sue at jsflemming1@gmail.com or 574-266-9996 or 574-370-6797.

Ice Golf 2015

Once again Simonton Lake was the site of a sport which could be added to the Winter Olympics, Ice Golf. Sponsored by Cam Snyder, owner of Flippin' Cow, the proceeds of the event, known as the "Blue Ball Open" will go this year to the Simonton Lake Sportsman's Club. This was the 7th year for the event which is dependent on decent ice. About 100 golfers participated.

Days before the event, a course has to be created. While the event was covered by the Elkhart Truth and WNDU, the preparation was all guts and no glory. It took six days and some heavy duty equipment to complete the task. Cam was assisted by Shawn Lockwood and Dick Koss in creating hazards, fairways and greens. Holes, large enough for the tennis balls which are used, are cut into, but not clear through the ice.



Cam Snyder, Shawn Lockwood, Dick Koss spent six days building the golf course.



Left: Laker Jimmy Troyer, Ryan Snyder, WNDU Saturday Morning Anchor Gary Sieber and Cam Snyder at the refreshment station. Nice legs, Jimmy!

Lake resident Brian Shinnabarger attempting a difficult shot.



Two groups on the final hole in front of Flippin' Cow.

Area Representatives

-your delegates for neighborhood concerns



- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Van Kessler 262-1685 | 5. Bob Meyers..... 675-0970 |
| 2. Ann and Jerry Broderick ... 264-1331 | Cindy Nickell 262-3105 |
| Ken and Sue Ward 206-0450 | 6. Dick Martin 264-7656 |
| 3. Maria Hopman 262-1655 | Ron Taylor 262-1332 |
| Anne Harbaugh 264-7792 | 7. Dave VanZile 264-5201 |
| 4. Jon Hart 262-1404 | Theresa Maier 361-0517 |
| Randy Hoff 262-3432 | 8. Maria Hopman 262-1655 |
| | Anne Harbaugh..... 264-7792 |

**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

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For many of us lake
residents the summer

of 1969 was the heyday of our youth. For others it is just a year some old folks talk about, but way before their time. Anyone living at the lake who is 46 years old was born in 1969. And, those lakers younger than that have no idea what took place during that year because they weren't born yet. Too bad, because it was an amazing year.

In truth the year of 1969 was a seen by historians as a turning point year. In 1969 Neil Armstrong stepped onto the surface of the moon, a Boeing 747 flew for the first time, Mariner 7 sent back the first pictures of Mars. In 1969 we were fighting a war in Vietnam. That summer was the summer of Woodstock.



Don Bradshaw,
Sophomore

Tom Swanson,
Sophomore



At the movies we
watched Butch Cassidy

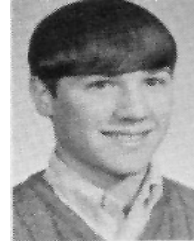
and the Sundance Kid, Midnight Cowboy, Easy Rider, True Grit and Hello Dolly. John Wayne won the Academy Award for best actor in True Grit. Rowen and Martin's Laugh In, Gunsmoke, Marcus Welby M.D and Walt Disney's Wonderful World of Color were some of the most watched shows that year. The top TV show was The Beverly Hillbillies. Sesame Street was introduced. The most popular books that year were Portnoy's Complaint and Slaughterhouse-Five. The Grammy for best record of the year was Simon and Garfunkel's Mrs. Robinson. The Album of the Year was By the Time I Get to Phoenix by Glen Campbell.

The New York Jets with Joe Namath won the Super Bowl. UCLA beat Purdue to win the NCAA tournament. The New York Mets won the World Series and the Boston Celtics were NBA Champions. Rod Laver won the Men's championship at Wimbledon.

Led Zeppelin scheduled their first tour in 1969. Frank Sinatra released the song, My Way. The last issue of the Saturday Evening Post was published. In August the Manson family murders were the headlines in every newspaper. Fashion magazines featured Raquel Welch, Barbara Eden, Dianna Riggs and Jane Fonda. The first Gap clothing store opened in 1969.

*It got my first real six-string
Bought it at the 5 and dime
Played it 'til my fingers bled
It was the summer of '69*

Ryan Matherly, Junior



John Nusbaum, Junior



Stan Skinner, Junior



Richard Nixon became president in January of 1969. The cost of a first class stamp was 6 cents, a gallon of milk was \$1.35, a gallon of gas was 35 cents and a brand new Ford sedan was \$3,278. Ford introduced the Lincoln Continental Mark 3. Oscar Mayer introduced wiener mobiles.

In Indiana Edgar D. Whitcomb was the Governor and Elkhart had a population of just over 40,000 people. There was one high School with about 1,000 students in the graduating class. If you want sporting goods you went to Berman's or Sportsman's Enterprise. You had your senior picture taken at Sutula Studios. You bought your bell bottom pants at Ziesels and then went to dance in those bell bottoms at The Electric Circuit, now the PNC Bank in downtown Elkhart.

Tom Townsend grew up on the lake and was serving in the Navy in 1969. He was stationed in Guam in the Navy weather program as an Aerographer's mate.



Steve Wogoman remembers spending lots of time cruising Goshen's Main Street and Pike (the turnaround was Azar's) in his 1966 Coronet 500 383 4 barrel, 4 speed. It was his first year in the draft lottery.

John
Bachman and Patti
Bartlett at the 1969
Elkhart HS Sadie Hawkins
Dance.



*Oh, when I look back now
That summer seemed to last forever
And if I had the choice
Yeah, I'd always wanna be there
Those were the best days of my life!*



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MAY 20th 6:00

Sportsmen's Club

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New Neighbors

*Neighborhood News
From Forest Road by
Connie Hart*

As we are
saddened by our
good friends Bob
and Joannie Church
moving to the warmer

climates of Florida, we are excited by Eric and Michelle Embry being able to buy the Church home and realize their dream of living on the lake. Not only on the lake, but on the same channel as their good friends Pat and Kristie Rosenogle who introduced them to the pleasure of our neighborhood. The first thing to be remodeled was the nursery for their soon to be daughter, Evolette Marie, who was born 7 days after moving in. Michelle attributes the ease and success of getting moved in and first days of motherhood to her own Mom who helped out during these days. The only thing possibly getting in the way wasLula Mae. Lula Mae is their bloodhound of a hundred pounds or more that loves running around and the water – she'll join you in your fishing boat if you get too close. Eric works for UPS and Michelle is a cardiac sonographer at Elkhart General.

As we move up our channel to the north, we will meet new neighbors Mike and Debby Wheeler. I'd like to mention that they too were friends with other neighbors.... Dan and LeAnn Gregory. Mike and Debby moved to the lake from living on a farm in Granger, where they married in the back yard and lived for 15 years. Debby works at the Elkhart Clinic and loves decorating and all things antique. She is currently working on vintage/cottage

Graduation

Francesca Polizotto of 51391 Maplewood Drive will be graduating from Hobart High School, number one in her class! She hasn't decided which college she will be attending, but will major in economics and political science.

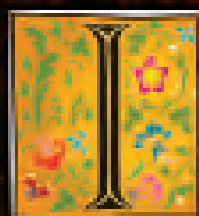


style crafts and tablecloths. Mike is self-employed with a printing franchise, Proforma. Mike has 2 sons and Debby 2 daughters, and together they have 3 grand kids. After moving in, the Wheelers have mentioned how surprised they were at how friendly all the neighbors are and how well we all get along. I told her, it's in the water.....

Now coming all the way north on the channel will be the newly constructed home of Elkhart Police Sargent Jim Ballard and his wife Mary Anne. She is an Immunology sales rep. I had neighborly fun trespassing during the stages of their building while checking out all the new and interesting innovations and techno gadgets being installed – my goodness, we've come a long way from when we built. But, the smell of 2 x 4's and open rafters still smells the same – yummy with excitement. The Ballards, Harley motorcyclists, quickly became friends with their next door neighbors (fellow riders), the Roses. John and Steph have been very instrumental in getting them acquainted to pontooning, campfires, fishing and the rest of us neighbors. Both are members of the Blue Knights, and Mary Anne is an avid gardener and decorator. Since building their home on what had been an empty lot, they now have a spectacular view from their back porch, and can view the former residents (sand hill cranes, swans, and geese) from a distance. Jim and Mary Anne welcomed their new grandson, Liam Michael Ballard earlier this year.

Bob and Joannie Church have left the lake, but I know they will be back for a visit. They simply have changed their routine from wintering over in Florida to summering on Simonton. We were blue for a while when learning of their decision, but recovered when we realized we now have a new place to go in St. Cloud, Florida. Join us in wishing them well in their new home and neighborhood. If you should need to contact them, please let me know and I will put you in touch.

Also moving off of the lake and our street is long-time resident, Ad Thomas. She has chosen to try out new digs at Tanglewood Trace in Mishawaka. Ad mentioned that she loved her home here, but the comforts and all of the amenities offered with her new apartment are making the move much easier. Take Care Ad – we will miss you very much.



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Farewells

J. Kent Borgaard

passed away on Sunday, February 22 in Las Vegas, Nevada. He was born to Ray and Ethyl Borgaard and married Mary Goodson in 1950. They had four

children: Barbara, Boni, Jay and Dave. Kent served in the Korean War in the U.S. Navy on the USS Boxer and the USS Princeton. He worked many different jobs, providing for his family as he attended the seminary to become a pastor as his father had been. Through the years, his pastoral services took him to Pleasantville, Iowa; Sioux Falls, S.D.; Des Moines, Iowa; Elkhart and Las Vegas. He was an avid writer and published two books. Surviving him are his wife, Mary of Las Vegas, and his brother, Weldon Borgaard of Cheyenne, Wyoming, his children, 14 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.



Over the years lots of people come and go from Simonton Lake. Some make lifelong impressions on lives and our lake. One such person was Reverend John Kent Borgaard. Kent and wife Mary spent 17 years at the lake loving our Maplewood Drive east side sunsets, quiet pontoon rides, a good glass of red wine and the overall "good life" of Simonton Lake.

Kent, being the communicator he was; revived "Simonton Says" newsletter in 2002. He and wife Mary knew and lived the community connectedness brought about by strong communication. Kent was very involved in the sewer project sitting on the Conservancy board during its inception. As with most projects in a household they were a husband and wife team.

I had the pleasure of knowing this lovely couple as neighbors and dear friends. We spent much time sharing spring maiden voyage pontoon rides, holiday meals, and brainstorming ways to improve our community. Many memorable fourth of Julys were spent together on poker runs and watching fireworks. The "B's" could always be counted on to help out neighbors in need. They readily shared information with new neighbors about our lake ways.

Kent had a life well lived as a husband, father, grandfather, friend and lake neighbor. Thanks for your service and friendship - Rest in Peace Kent.

Larry Prugh, 68 of Simonton Lake, passed away on Wednesday, January 21 at IU Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis.

He was born June 15, 1946 in Elkhart to John and Mary Jean (Abel) Prugh and grew up at Simonton Lake. Larry graduated in 1964 from Elkhart High School and was

a veteran of the United States Army. He was a member of the American Legion and was a meat cutter for over 25 years at Martin's Super Markets.

Surviving are his wife Dorothy, brother John Prugh of Valparaiso, sister, Marsha Holtz of Sutton Bay, Michigan, son, Michael Prugh of Elkhart, daughters, Amy Shattuck of Kentucky and Kelli Newcomer of Frankfort, step-children Michelle Frediana of Batavia, Illinois, Jamie Mendoza of Converse, Texas, Christopher Nephew of Meadville, Pennsylvania and James Nephew Jr. of Great Falls, Montana.

Weddings

For me, weddings are a joy, but when it is a destination wedding and you are lucky enough to attend with your whole family to celebrate, it is a joy beyond compare; especially when it's somewhere tropical. It was a perfect beach day with perfect beach weather for my niece, Leslie Compton's wedding to Sean Hochstetler last October on



Key West. Leslie was stunning in her dress surrounded by sand, palm trees, blue skies and Caribbean clear water. But, the smile that she wore on her big day while looking at her handsome groom was the sight to see. Leslie, the daughter of Robert Brewer and the grand-daughter of Ella Mae Brewer, grew up on Simonton and has spent many summer days bobbing on its waves or anchored at the sand bar on "Golda" the family vintage pontoon. Sean and Leslie met

while working at a pontoon supply company. Sean is in sales at Marine Mooring and Leslie works at Metropolitan Title. Both are avid Notre Dame Fans. Leslie has a tradition of taking a picture of her first drink of the season on the water. So as summer approaches with its warmer weather, pontoon rides, and tasty cocktails, remember to lift one for Sean and Leslie. You never know, you might be in the background of this year's photo. Congrats from Aunt Connie

Births

Mila Arlene Foutz

Mila Arlene was born December 29, 2014. Michelle, daughter of Dave and Carole Foutz, is proud and very happy to announce Mila's adoption in January. The Foutz family couldn't feel more blessed.



Find New Neighbors and Graduations on page 34