



Simonton Says...

July 2015
Volume 9, Issue 3

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

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The Jewel in Elkhart County's Crown, Simonton Lake!



Photo provided by one of our new "Simonton Says" advertiser, SkyPhotoz. See their ad on page 22.

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Ecozone Established at Simonton Lake



In 2011 a Lake Diagnostic Feasibility Study was completed by the State of Indiana for Simonton Lake. The water quality in the lake was determined to be very good. However, three recommendations were made to continue to improve the water quality.

One of the three recommendations was the establishment of an Ecozone.

Per Indiana Code IC 14-15-7-3 an **"Ecozone"** designates an area where motorized water craft are limited. Ecozones include wetlands, marshes and shallow areas. Areas like

these not only provide a habitat for fish and wildlife but also filter nutrients and sediments that hurt water quality and they recharge groundwater. Ecozones act as self-sustaining fish nurseries. Lakes that do not protect these areas find their water quality in danger. Scientists tell us without human beings on lakes the disappearance of these essential features might never happen. But, when humans collide with a lake ecosystem there can be problems.

The biggest culprit in the destruction of wetlands, marshes and shallow areas is motorized watercraft. Boat motors disturb the bottom, cut up plants and create wakes that throw sediment onto wetland plants making it difficult or impossible to grow. Bedding areas for fish are disturbed.

The residents of Simonton Lake do want to protect our lake. So it was with this intention that the Board of Directors of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners Association with the support of the Simonton Lake Sportsmen Club pursued the establishment of an ecozone.

In June of 2012 a committee was established and began working with Doug Keller, Aquatic Habitat Coordinator for the Indiana DNR.

While the Indiana Code creating ecozones was enacted in 2002, to date only Syracuse Lake, Lake Wawasee, and

(con't on page 5)

Update on the Dredging Project

The Sediment Basin has been constructed on 12 acres of land purchased by the Simonton Lake Preservation Trust.

The road from the lake to the basin has been constructed on land (along the Forest Channel) owned by Randy and Gina Hoff.

The Indiana DNR dredging regulations allows us to begin dredging on July 1. We expect to begin on time without further project delays

John Rose, Association Vice President and acting Chairperson of the Environment Committee receives weekly updates from the dredger.

LARE sponsored dredging (yellow and green areas) must be completed first before any Non-LARE dredging sites (blue and orange areas) and neighborhood dredging can begin.

Because State regulations only allow dredging activity between July 1st and December 31st each year, it is likely the neighborhood dredging will not begin until 2016.

We will do our best to confine dredging activity to less active areas during the July 4th week. For safety reasons, everyone should avoid getting too close to the dredging activity. The Hoff road property and the SLPT basin are private property and considered dangerous areas...no one should be browsing those areas.



Association Board Members

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

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

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

Carole Foutz - Big Lake Dir -South
26109 Lake Drive
574-262-3908
clfoutz@yahoo.com

Jack Tucker - Little Lake/Channel Dir
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



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:jkhadman@comcast.net

Environmental: John Rose
johnrose11@comcast.net

- Ecozone
- Weir
- Dredging

Safety: Paul Wilson
pwilson@markleyent.com

- Buoy
- 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.)

Events on the Lake

June 15 Articles due for the July issue of "Simonton Says"

July issue of "Simonton Says"

July 4 Poker Run and Fireworks

August Send in your pictures for the 2016 Lake Calendar

August 8 SLSC Kids' Fishing Contest

September 15 Articles due for October issue of "Simonton Says"

September 27 Lake Association Hog Roast

October issue of "Simonton Says"

October Lake Calendar for Sale

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:
cleman@elkhartcountysheriff.com
Phone: (574) 535-6553

EMERGENCIES - CALL 911

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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

Our Mission

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

Simonton Lake Area
Homeowners' Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1706

Elkhart, In. 46515-1706

www.simontonlake.org

Email:simon@simontonlake.org



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Mike Church Jr.

(Ecozone con't from page 2)

Tippecanoe Lake have acted. Finding a model to follow was limited.

A public meeting was held in August of 2012 to educate local residents and illuminate the official process by which an ecozone could be established. A second purpose for this public meeting was for DNR officials to gage whether local residents were in favor of the project. Without public support the DNR officials were leery of beginning a lengthy and labor intensive process.

With good attendance and positive feedback we proceeded to determine local options for our ecozone, including speed limit, restrictions for motorized boats, anchoring and boundaries.

At Simonton Lake we decided that only non-motorized water craft would be allowed in the ecozone. This restriction did not include trolling motors.

No anchoring would be permitted in the ecozone.

We determined that a shallow bay at the southeastern edge of Little Simonton Lake would be our site and laid out a specific boundary. Our formal proposal was submitted to the DNR in October of 2013. Final approval came in January of 2015.

The ecozone will be marked by special buoys provided by the DNR and the no motor restrictions will be enforced by DNR officers.

The Simonton Lake Ecozone is surrounded by wetlands

and is home to eagles, foxes and deer. This quiet corner of the lake is a wonderful place to kayak. But, most importantly the ecozone is protecting and enhancing the water quality, and thus the life, of the lake we love.



Never too young to start! See story about the SLSC Kids' fishing contest on page 17.



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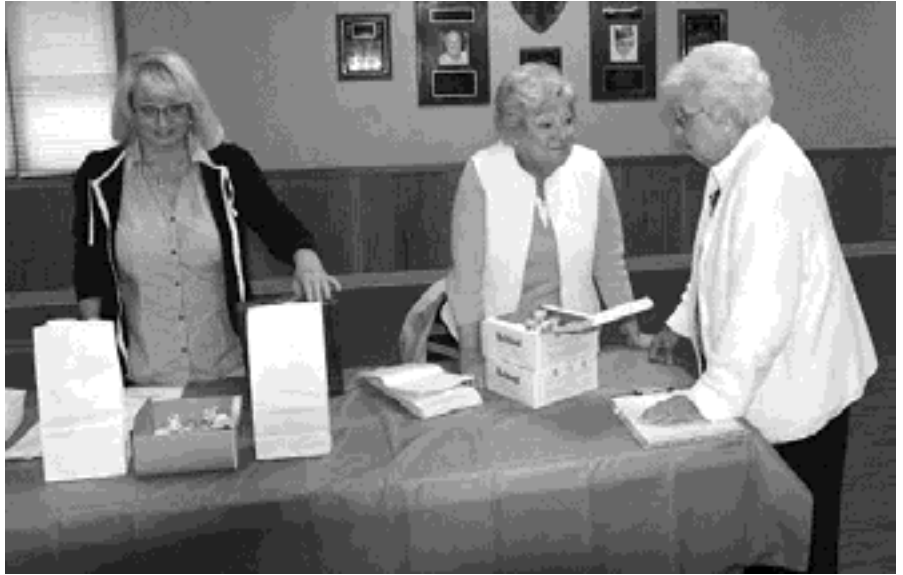


Lake Association General Meeting

Over 100 lake residents gathered at the Sportsmen's Club on May 20 for the Annual Simonton Lake Preservation Trust dinner and the Lake Association General Meeting. During the dinner Amy Matherly gave an update on the Trust and John Lendman spoke on behalf of the Sportsmen's Club.

Paul Wilson made a presentation for the Safety Committee and Sue Ward spoke for the Membership Committee. The Newsletter Committee update was given by Amy Matherly and John Rose gave an report from the Environment Committee. Treasurer Heidi Cintron spoke about our income and expenses and Bob Evans spoke about the 25 year campaign to build a weir on Lilly Creek.

The Board of Directors staggers its terms. This year the terms for three board positions were at an end. The current Board members in those positions: Jack Tucker, Carole Foutz and Heidi Cintron, wished to run for another term and there were no



Melissa Price and Margot Kidder sell Luminarias at the Lake Association Meeting in May.



other nominations. The Board will meet at a later time to determine its officers.

President Vaughn Nickell reviewed the accomplishments of the Lake Association during the past year, noting that the dredging project has been a big commitment in time and money. He stressed the need for everyone to become involved in one of the standing committees and the need for all residents to become members of the Association.

Dinner was hosted by the Preservation Trust prior to the Lake Association meeting.



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Things My Father Taught Me

By Amy Matherly

Father's Day was just a couple of weeks ago. Even though it's post-holiday we wanted to run an article about the men in our lives: husbands, brothers, fathers, grandfathers who have the special title "Dad". I lost my father when I was seven years old. I don't remember much about him. He was serving in the Korean War when I was born. He was an active member of the American Legion until he died. My step-dad was a tough man and while he was proud of us, he never said so. But, he did teach me how to rotate my tires and wax my car. And, he was a good provider. We always had a warm fairly new winter coat and new shoes for school.

Recently I asked other Simonton Lake residents for their responses to the question: *What did your father teach you?* Here are some responses.

I learned many lessons in perseverance from my Dad. He was critically hurt in a motorcycle accident in 1976 which left him with a severe leg injury. It wasn't until he recently received a new hip replacement that I learned of the constant pain he had been in for the past 40 years. He has been an exceptional father and a role model to his 26 grandchildren despite the intense pain and difficulty with walking. He will turn 80 years in a few weeks and we will celebrate his spirit of perseverance.

Besides learning how to change the trap under my kitchen sink and mow straight lines, he was always saying such wise phrases like 'THINK GOOD THOUGHTS' I don't ever remember a curse word but he used: 'FOR CORN SAKES!' instead. I miss him and his perpetual smile!!

John Law passed along a video of Coach Lou Holtz giving a commencement address to the University of St. Francis in Ohio. Lou told the story of being born in a basement where his family lived for the first seven years of his life. There was one bedroom for Lou, his sister and his parents, a half-bath and a kitchen. But Coach Holtz says he was born with a 'silver spoon in his mouth' because he was brought up well by his parents. He credits his father with teaching him the rules of life: Do right, Do your best at all times and Show affection to others. His father, a man who only completed third grade gave these "pearls" to his son. They lived in a basement but Lou says he was privileged. Hope you had a Happy Father's Day!

**Have you paid your
Lake Association dues???**
See page 23 for our registration form



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Food for the Soul

by Dave Foutz

As a guy who really likes his food, the dining section in the Monday Elkhart Truth is a must read for me. While I read and enjoy almost every article, I must admit I have a special fondness for Rachel Shenk's column. Rachel writes about enjoying the seasons of life and uses food to enrich her stories. So when she provided me an opportunity to sit down and chat about food, travel and the good things in life, I jumped at the opportunity.

If you haven't noticed there's a vibrant artisan community that has developed in Goshen, with food arguably tak-

ing the forefront. In this atmosphere, Rachel Shenk has been quietly serving her customers and developing a solid reputation for quality food offerings for the past twenty years. Rachel's Bread is located at 212 West Washington Street in the same building as the Farmers' Market. Bread is often employed as a metaphor for life; in Rachel's case it truly seems to be the center of her life.

In 1950, Rachel's parents moved to Brussels, Belgium at the end of World War II to assist in the rebuilding process. This is where she was born. Her first fifteen years, the most foundational period of life, was spent growing up in Europe. French today is her natural language. In this environment



she developed her passion for food well made, the good life. At the age of fifteen her family returned to the U.S. and settled in Goshen, where Rachel finished her public schooling and graduated from Goshen College. She began her professional baking career at the Maple City Market in 1987, moving to the Old Bag Factory in 1994. In 2002, Rachel opened her "boulangerie" at the current location alongside the Farmers' Market.

The obvious question is; "How could I have missed a place that has been selling great food this long?" The answer is simple. Rachel does not advertise. Never has. Secondly she is not interested in being the next big thing. When you walk into the door and see the wood fire burning in the oven, behind the rack of fresh baked bread you immediately understand that here things are done the old world way. Rachel says she wants her products to sell themselves. And they do, most before lunch. In addition to delicious bakery goods, Rachel's has an ever-changing, eclectic lunch menu. The hours of operation are also varied. The best advice is to check out the Rachel's Bread Facebook page where it is updated each morning with the times, as well as unique and delicious menu options for the day.

So if you're looking for the perfect bakery item for your next gathering or a quiet venue where you can chat with a friend over a flakey pastry and a great cup of coffee, Rachel's bread is the place. I would caution you to call ahead (574-534-0769) to make sure that cranberry/walnut bread isn't sold out. Trust me, it's worth the trip.

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Local Boy Scout to work on Simonton Lake Ecozone

Carl Horvath of Boy Scout Troop 173 chartered by Grace Methodist Church in South Bend will lead a team of Boy Scouts to make the buoy weights and install the buoys for the Ecozone. Temporary buoys will be installed while waiting for the DNR furnished buoys. Carl is using this project to obtain his Eagle Scout status. He is very excited about the project and what impact this will have on the environment and the wildlife at Simonton Lake.

He has spent time researching ecozones and understanding the benefit of protecting our environment. Lake resident, Bob Evans will be working with Carl on the plan and all work will be done at Bob's home near the ecozone. The materials for this project will be provided by the Lake Association or the Simonton Lake Preservation Trust. In meeting with Carl, Bob says that he is impressed with the young man and his willingness to protect the environment for the future.

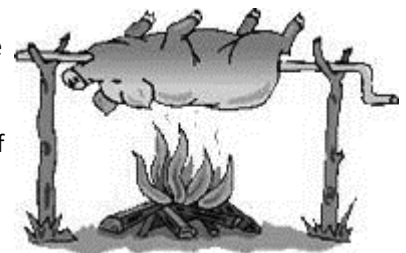
Carl has submitted forms to the Boy Scouts for approval and it is hoped that he will be able to start in the next couple of weeks. A big thanks to Gene and Linda Jimison who suggested this project to Carl for his Eagle Scout badge.



Hog Roast/Carry In September 27th

The Membership Committee is in need of a person or a team of people to coordinate this event. Please contact Sue or Ken Ward at

sckjward@comcast.net if you are interested. The job is not overwhelming and the Membership Committee will help.



If a chairperson or persons is found, the event will be on *Sunday, September 27th, 6:00 at the Sportsmen's Club.* Tickets are \$6.00 in advance and \$8.00 at the door.

Pulled pork from Dana Jay's in Goshen will be provided. If your last name begins with letters A-L bring a side dish. If your last name begins with letters M-Z bring a dessert or salad. Coffee and pop are provided. You may bring additional drinks of your own.

We are working on a nice door prize. A reminder will be sent out in September.

Committee Reports

Newsletter Committee

Many thanks to Jon Hart, our advertising director. We make money through our ads that cover the cost of the newsletter. Enough money is made so that we actually show a profit and that goes to the Lake Association. Jon routinely checks in with our current advertisers and also seeks out new advertisers. He has lots of wonderful ideas he has brought to our newsletter meetings.

Lou Putnam is now working on her 4th issue since taking over as our graphic designer. She is doing a great job but has asked that we stick to a firm deadline for articles to give her plenty of time to get the layout done in a timely fashion.

Each time a newsletter is printed, Mike Smith, lake resident and owner of Graphics Group, delivers them to Dave and Carole Foutz. Dave and Carole count out the newsletters for the delivery people after which Dave drops off the newsletters to the delivery people. After many years of this, the Newsletter Committee thought it was time that someone else take over this duty. Steve and Delores (Troyer) Wogoman have agreed to do this job. Thanks to them for volunteering. The Wogomans and the Foutzs will work together on the July issue. Wogomans will take over on their own in October.

Linda Jimison is working hard at updating the Lake Association website.

Maria Hopman has volunteered to deliver newsletters to persons who were missed in the regular delivery.

Safety Committee

The Safety Committee is one of the most vital committees for daily life at the lake. Placement and removal of buoys, coordinating with the DNR, upkeep of the public landing and the Neighborhood Watch are all important tasks.

We are in need of additional members for this committee. None of the committee's jobs are overwhelming and no special skill set is needed. Current members will show you "the ropes". Please contact Paul Wilson, Chris Toles or Bob Kelsey for more information. You'll find Paul Wilson's contact information on the "Information" page in this newsletter.



Special Announcements from the Safety Committee about Buoys

No Buoys this summer

Because the dredging project will begin in July, the Safety Committee will NOT put out the buoys this summer.

Buoys are usually placed in the spring and taken out in the fall. This year with the

dredging project beginning, the buoys would have to be removed during the dredging, replaced after the dredging and removed again come fall. The fact that there are no markers in the water does not mean that the areas that have always been marked as "No Wake" areas have changed. ***The main channel between Little Simonton and Big Simonton as well as all other channels are still "No Wake" areas.***

Buoys are costly!

The buoys which mark our waterways are extremely important not just for those of us on the lake but especially for visitors to our lake who are unfamiliar with our lake and channels. The buoys we have on our lake have been purchased by the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association. Buoys cost about \$130 plus shipping and must comply with state navigation rules. The Association Board has approved the Safety Committee budget for 2015-16 that includes the cost of two new buoys, in the event that one of our buoys needs to be replaced.

So, if you see someone misusing a buoy, running into a buoy, running over a buoy or dragging a buoy, please ask them to stop. **BUOYS ARE NOT CHEAP TO REPLACE!** And, according to ***Indiana Boating Laws*** "it is illegal to move, displace tamper with, damage, or destroy any navigational aid (buoy)."



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Simonton Lake Sportsmen's Club June Kids' Fishing Contest



Girls Ages 4 - 7	
Elle Yakam	1st
Chloe Gray	2nd
Emalina Bachman	3rd
Girls Ages 8 - 11	
Anastazia Phillips	1st
Lili Colon	2nd
Liliana Bachman	3rd
Girls Ages 12 - 14	
Keegan Thursby	1st
Madison Law	2nd
Anna Kirklen	3rd

Boys Ages 4 - 7	
Ian Hanson	1st
Caden Foster	2nd
Kamden Kemble	3rd
Boys Ages 8 - 11	
Noah Haas	1st
Kristopher Kemble	2nd
Bradyn Hanson	3rd
Boys Ages 12 - 14	
Mason Haas	1st
Spencer Dexter	2nd
Tyler Gongalaz	3rd



**Largest Fish Caught
Kristopher Kemble**



Front row: Chloe Gray, Ian Hanson, Kamden Kemble, Caden Foster, Elle Yakam, Emalina Bachman, Liliana Bachman, Anastazia Phillips
Back row: Noah Haas, Kristopher Kemble, Bradyn Hanson, Tyler Gongalaz, Mason Haas, Madison Law
Not pictured: Lili Colon, Anna Kirklen, Keegan Thursby, Spencer Dexter



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Simonton Lake Neighborhood Garage Sale 2015

This year the Neighborhood Garage Sale was held on Saturday, May 2nd. There were over sixty (that's right, 60) garage sales around the lakes and channels. Theresa Maier's grandsons had a lemonade stand and made which they donated to the Lake Association. The weather was good and traffic was heavy.



Above: Lennyn and Hudsyn Higgins and cousin, Makenzie Flick sell cookies and lemonade at their parents garage sale.



Left: Garage sale on North Shore Drive

Did you know there is an Elkhart County Noise Control Ordinance?

Could it affect you?

by Carole Foutz

Living on a lake brings a number of issues to mind while others living on a quiet cauldresoc may not experience any of those. The lake brings with it small lots, summertime parties, fast boats, boat side parties, outside music, celebrations and so much more. We are here on our lake to love it, share it with others and we treasure it. Some days our fun turns into others nightmares. Most of us living here have realized that we give up large lots allowing us privacy and space. We often are willing to give up the quiet peace of the lake in the summer to a busy lake full of fun seekers enjoying the day. With all of this said, we must remember that we need to respect our neighbors and the law.

I have had calls from residents wanting to have a party and wanting information regarding regulations and permits. I've also had queries about loud boats, parties late at night, loud fireworks other than on 4th holiday. Our SLAHA does not have authority to offer any answers. We are governed as a lake by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources but our lake also falls under the Elkhart County jurisdiction. As a result, we are mandated to compliance of the Elkhart County Noise Ordinance. I have attempted to capsule the ordinance but you may also read it in its entirety on the Elkhart County website.

General Rule:

No person shall make, continue, or cause to be made any loud, raucous, improper, unreasonable, offensive or unusual noise which disturbs, injures, or endangers the comfort, peace, health, or safety of others.

Specifically mentions:

- The use, operation or permitting of use any sound machine, music, etc. in such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of 50 ft. is in violation.
- The use of any automobile, motorcycle, or other vehicle out of repair, defective, or creating an unreasonable loud sound or unnecessary engine noise audible within 50 ft. is in violation.
- Any noise that exceeds a level of 83 dBA based on a distance from the noise source of not less than 15 ft. and irrespective of the 50ft. standard would be in violation.
- Elkhart County Board of Appeals shall have the authority to issue deviations from requirements. Such deviations acceptable are: holidays, celebrations, concerts, parades, and other special events, public and private.
- Any person to have been in violation shall be fined no less than \$250 no more than \$2,500.
- Elkhart County Sheriff's Department should be contacted for concerns or questions.

As residents of Simonton Lake, we want what is best for all--our neighbors, our friends, ourselves and all that enjoy our lake.



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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 the 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 and 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.



Simonton Lake Preservation Trust Update

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.

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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SUMMER SEASON Word Search



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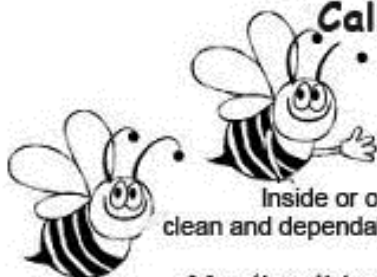
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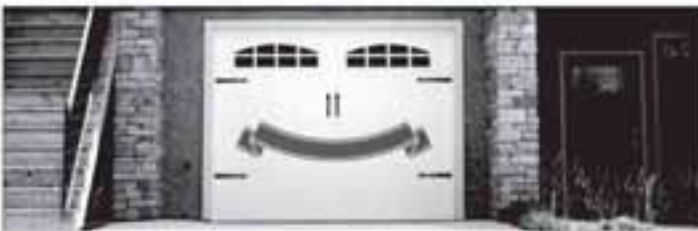
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Join The Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association

The Membership year of the Lake Association goes from June 1 to May 31st.

Dues reminders have been mailed out. As neighborhood associations go our dues is very reasonable:

Household Membership \$30.00

Senior Member (70-79) \$20.00

Senior Honorary Member (80+) FREE Lifetime member

Why Join? The Lake Association's power to help our neighborhood and protect our lake is based on membership. We are a highly organized association. We produce a wonderful newsletter, work on environmental projects, produce a calendar, organize community events and actively work on community safety. But, with all that, if only 20% of the residents belong, the Lake Association appears to be weak and not have the support of the residents.

If you are an Honorary Member even though you pay no dues, please fill out the membership card and send it in so we can count you in our statistics.

Other neighborhoods in our area have had to fight battles with the city, the county, even the state. If we are placed in that position we will need our Lake Association to have clout. The power will come from the number of people who support the Lake Association.

If you have misplaced the membership card that was mailed to your home, please use the membership form in this newsletter.

Help the lake, help your neighborhood, and help yourself by joining the Lake Association today.

Lake Calendars for 2016

Simonton Lake Calendars will be on sale in October. An order form and envelope will be enclosed in the October newsletter. Gina Hoff will coordinate the calendar this year. Get your pictures in to us at the newsletter: ramatherly@gmail.com. Keep those cameras handy to get some good summer pictures. Calendars will be \$12.00 this year. We only print 100, so when you get that order form, get it in right away.

Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association Membership Registration

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

DUES: per household per year

June 1 - May 31

_____ Household \$30
 _____ Senior (70-79) \$20
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Life on the Lake

By Amy Matherly

Living on the Lake is wonderful unless your electricity is out and it's minus 10 degrees, the lake has flooded your home or your grinder pump isn't working.

With the rain we've had this June I've considered sand bagging the place but I'm holding off for a while.

As far as the electricity, we got a generator right after we lost power one winter a few years ago. Since that time, we've only lost power for a matter of a few hours. Murphy's Law applies here.

But the grinder pump is an ongoing day by day issue to the continuation of life as we know it at the lake. You can have the fanciest house on the lake, but if your grinder pump is on the fritz, you might as well live in a cornfield. You know there just isn't much call for a house where the toilets don't work. How would you market that? Fixer Upper? "Great spot on Simonton Lake. 3 Bedrooms, 0 bathrooms?" Personally, I don't think it will sell.

Talking about our grinder pumps is a part of lake lore. Everyone seems to have a story. Town people just don't get it. Sometimes when they hear lakers talking about grinder pumps, they get a superior look on their faces. Well, let's just hold our tongues until those old homes in town with drains in the basement start to back up some rainy spring.

This spring we had a grinder pump incident. At our house in the garage we've got an official looking metal box with an alarm light on top. As it was explained to me when the grinder pump was installed, if or when the pump stopped working, that siren actually would go off and the light would flash. Good, I thought. I don't want a sewer-related surprise some day. That would be mighty unpleasant. A siren would alert us even if we were asleep.

Boy, was I right. If it had been 1960 when that siren went off, my dad would have had all of us running to the bomb shelter in the basement because the Soviet Union had attacked. That siren actually might been a deterrent to the Soviets. Turn on the siren and they'd run for the hills.

If your grinder pump ever quits, once the siren is turned off, there are a series of steps you might want to consider:

1. Try going to the pump and swearing at it. If that doesn't work, try shunning it. But, trust me, it won't care because it knows that it holds you and your home by the throat.
2. A second step then is to kick the cover a bit. Maybe something has gotten stuck inside and that will loosen it. Exactly what has gotten stuck is up to your own imagination.
3. Now it's time to find who is to blame for the broken grinder pump. Trust me, someone at your home must take responsibility. It's part of the healing process.

4. Now, most likely the pump siren has gone off in the middle of the night or on a weekend so that help is either hours or days away. So, alternative plans have to be made for . . . well, you know. If you don't have a plan you might want to make one. I mean, we have fire escape plans, tornado plans, why not a grinder pump failure plan?
5. At some point, even though folks at your house might not have a clue about grinder pumps, there will be talk about removing the cover. That job and the job of looking into the grinder for stuck items and removal of said items is not part of my job description.
6. Somewhere in some manual it must say that spraying down the inside of the pump is a good thing. You will need a garden hose, plastic gloves, boots or waders and a face mask. A beverage of your choice is optional. The spraying seemed to work at our house. We muted the siren and turned the grinder pump back on. All was well . . . for a while.
7. When your expertise is exhausted it is time to call a service person. We didn't know one so we called Linda Wilson over at the Simonton Lake Conservancy Office. Linda's office does not fix grinder pumps but she can give you ideas of who to call. So, if you call Linda and leave a message there is no need to cry or get hysterical, it won't get you any faster service. Although she really did sound understanding about our situation.

The service man who came to the house was very professional and very reassuring. He took a look. There were, he told me, some items that he would need to remove from the inside of the pump. He wanted to know if I wanted to see them. Perhaps this is part of the protocol. I said no. He replied that they were chunks of soap scum and I was somewhat relieved.

The final verdict was that a part was defective. The pump would be as good as new. So now, barring floods or a prolonged electric outage, life is once again good at the lake.

Until Next Time

Luminary Night

Luminary Night was held Sunday, May 24. Despite the threat of rain several lake residents set out their lighted luminarias. The Membership Committee has organized this event for two years and is a bit disappointed at the participation. However, this year we sold luminary bags and candles and made a profit. Thanks to Margot Rutter and Melissa Price who sold the bags and candles at the annual Association meeting.



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Flag Burning Ceremony



The American flag, a sacred symbol of our nation, flies proudly above our government buildings, offices, schools and homes. Flags can be purchased at many places and for a variety of prices. But, no matter how well your flag is sewn, at some time it will need to be replaced. An American flag can never just be disposed of in the trash. The flag must be burnt at a time and place with an appropriate ceremony.

Oftentimes local units of the VFW or the American Legion will hold these ceremonies.

We are fortunate that we have a flag burning ceremony right here at Simonton Lake. Gerry Arnold, former lake neighbor, held a flag burning ceremony for many years at her lake front home. When Gerry passed away, her neighbors Dwight and Linda Bowser carried on the tradition. Lake neighbor Stan Skinner plays taps at the close of the ceremony.

Everyone is invited to the ceremony at 8:30 on July 4th at the Bowser's home on LaVerna Ct. just off of Maplewood Drive. The ceremony lasts for about 20-30 minutes, so you'll have plenty of time to get set for the fireworks. Off street parking is plentiful.

The rain date is July 5th.

Dwight says, "You can walk, drive, swim, or anchor your boat off shore, but don't miss this chance to remember the real reason for our 4th of July celebration, and to honor those who made it possible."

Thanks to Dwight and Linda for hosting this event and for Stan Skinner for supplying taps. Play it out over the water, Stan, so that the whole lake will pause.



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Pet Tails

On a cold March evening at dusk I was taking my regular walk with our dog Ella. This golden doodle has been to several months' worth of obedience training but all that goes out the window when a r-a-b-b-i-t appears. It had been a long day and I was tired. It was cold so I had my gloves on. So, when she bolted for the rabbit I was slow to react and the leash came right out of my hand.

I wasn't too worried because she had bolted a time or two before. Always her leash, dragging behind her, caught on something and I would give chase finding her attached to someone's mailbox or shrubbery. But not this time. She took off into the darkness and just seemed to disappear. I had my handy, dandy flashlight with me and tracked her through a patch of snow still on the ground. But, then her trail disappeared. I called her name into the darkness time after time. I stopped to listen for her bark. There was nothing.

Frantic, I ran home, got Ryan and got into the car. She had run north so I went down each street in the neighborhood to the north of North Shore Drive. She was nowhere to be found. The temperature went down to 38 degrees, but occasionally I would stop the car, roll down the window and listen. But there was nothing.

Ryan drove up Dolph and onto State Line Road. Nothing.

He returned home and went out on foot, into Sellers' Woods, through Vetter's Woods, into fields. Nothing.

That next day we were to leave on a week-long vacation with friends. I called them. I sent out an e-mail asking people to watch for her or what was left of her. In no time at all there were 10 or more people on North Shore Drive in the dark with flashlights looking for her. Nothing.

At 11:30 we re-covered the roads in our car looking this time for her body. With no barking, and no dog, we feared the worst. We just wanted to bring her home. Nothing.

We came home and tried to sleep.

That next morning as soon as it was light, Ryan said he would go out again and look for her. I would join him but would first call the shelter and the vet. Maybe someone had found her and brought her in.

Ryan went down the street to a place by a line of fir trees where we both had searched several times the night before. There she was, leash tangled in the lowest branches of the tree. She wasn't hurt, wet, stinky or frantic. She looked at Ryan as if to say, "What took you so long?" That phone call, "I've got her!" will be one I will remember forever.

Where she ran to I'll never know. But, we know she wasn't by those fir trees at 11:30 the night before. Our guess is that she was on her way home when she got caught up in the tree.

There are several lessons in this story:

- When you have a big dog make sure you have control at all times;
- Don't wait until dusk to walk your big dog who likes to chase rabbits; and



- There are a lot of good people and dog lovers at Simon-ton Lake. Weeks after this incident we talked to a friend who lives on the channels. He told us he left early for work so he could drive around and look for Ella.

Words cannot express how thankful we are for all of our lake neighbors and friends who helped us look for our Ella.



Farewells (con't from page 32)

1999. He loved spending time with the family and grandkids, riding his Harley-Davidson motorcycle, camping and water sports. We will all miss him.

Another one of our "Queens of the Lake" has left us.



Frieda Baskerville, 96, long-time resident of North Shore Drive, passed away on June 14th. Frieda was born in Noble County, in the town of Ege, to John and Frances (Stefanski) Kostielney. She married John W. Baskerville on Aug. 17, 1940, in Elkhart. John died on Sept. 21, 1994. Surviving are a son, Kent Bas-

kerville and wife Stacia who lived with Frieda for the last few years; daughter Deb Weaver and husband Bob Foster; and a son-in-law, Larry Phoebus; nine grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren, who meant more than anything to her. She was preceded in death by her husband, John; a daughter, Rita Phoebus; granddaughter Julie Phoebus; and brother Aloysius Kostielney.

Goodbye

Richard and Pam Zinsmeister have moved from their beautiful home on the main channel. Since 1981 the Zinsmeisters have been residents of the lake. In addition to their home, they improved the land behind the house. Driving in their driveway from 109 you feel like you're going into a park. They will be missed.

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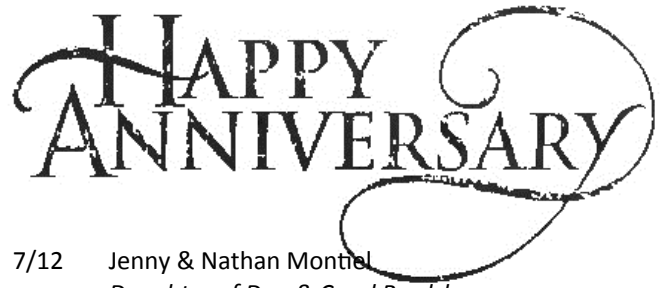


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Birthdays

- 7/1 Micah David Obendorf
Grandparents Dave & Tammy Obendorf
- 7/1 Susie Broderick
- 7/2 Elliot Reed Harding
Son of Ryan & Erin Harding
- 7/2 Katy Barhydt
Daughter of Jim Ulery
- 7/2 Dwight Bowser
- 7/5 Joe Arredondo
- 7/6 Gia Matherly
Granddaughter of Ryan & Amy Matherly
- 7/9 Cale Ulery
- 7/12 Curt Willis
- 7/14 Brett Polizotto
- 7/18 Molly Grace Kessler
Granddaughter of Van & Cathy Kessler
- 7/19 Cam Snyder
- 7/24 Emmett Riley Harding
Son of Ryan & Erin Harding
- 7/29 Leighla Kay Winchester
Granddaughter of Vaughn & Cindy Nickell
- 7/31 Casey Willis
- 8/3 Mary K. Mooi
- 8/3 Nadia Polizotto
- 8/4 Ginny Bellamy
- 8/5 Jaxon Patrick Kern
- 8/9 Buck Ulery
- 8/19 Cindy Nickell
- 8/19 Amy Matherly
- 8/23 Henry William Saleh
Grandparents Bill & Susie Broderick
- 8/24 Sloan Cooper
Grandparents Randy & Wendy Cooper
- 8/26 Erin Hoffman Harding
- 8/31 Adam Moore
Grandson of Theresa Maier
- 9/3 Diane Marlow
- 9/12 Lincoln McIntire
*Grandson of Cam & Sue Snyder,
Brad & Pam McIntire*
- 9/8 Lois Sellers
- 9/11 Tim Taylor
- 9/14 Wyatt Samuel Skipper
Grandson of Bufford & Becky Skipper



- 7/12 Jenny & Nathan Montiel
Daughter of Don & Carol Bradshaw
- 7/12 Kelly & Greg Shewmaker
*Ryan & Amy Matherly's Daughter
Kathy & Terry Shewmaker's Son*
- 7/19 Ryan & Erin Harding
- 7/20 Derek & Isabelle Sapakowski
- 8/1 Courtney & Patrick Qualls
Doug & Myra Cors' Daughter
- 8/6 Bob & Lou Putnam
- 8/18 Sue & Ron Taylor
- 8/19 Barb & Don Rospopo
- 8/25 Larry & Ginny Bellamy
- 8/29 Kristin & Mike Newkirk
Daughter of Carole & Dave Foutz
- 9/1 Connie & Jon Hart
- 9/10 Pat & John Brown
- 9/12 Cam & Ab Saleh
Daughter of Susie & Bill Broderick
- 9/22 Pam & Richard Zinsmeister

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To place a classified ad, e-mail: ads@simontonlake.org
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New to the Lake

Don and Janis Hile have bought a house on North Shore Drive in the area formerly known as Wogoman's Cove. Janis is Carole Foutz' cousin. Welcome!

Sean Broderick, son of Susie and Bill Broderick, and **Kiera Ward** have moved to Aqua Drive. Welcome to the lake.

Pam Goddard, lake resident, will marry **Jim Dunfee** on July 1 in Jamaica. We've met Jim and think he'll fit in just fine at the lake. Congratulations to both. Pam has promised us a picture for the next issue.

Alex Freshour, grandson of **Theresa Maier**, just graduated from Edwardsburg High School and was their class valedictorian. He will attend Bethel College this fall. Congratulations!

Susie (aka "Gaga") and **Bill** (aka "Poppy") **Broderick** have a new grandchild. Frankie Saleh was born on May 25, weighing 7 lbs 6 ozs. Frankie's parents are Cami (Broderick) and Ab Saleh. Frankie joins big brother, Henry and big sister, Louisa. Ann & Gerry Broderick are Frankie's great grandparents.



Louisa, Frankie and Henry

Farewells

Barbara K. Harding, 93, long time Lake



Drive neighbor, passed away Monday, April 13, at East Lake Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. She was born July 4, 1921, in Lebanon, to John "Glenn" and Ethel (Kreisher) Harding. She was raised in nearby Kirklin. Survivors include several nieces and nephews. She is also survived by a long-time companion, Nora Allen of Lake Drive.

Barbara worked for more than 45 years as a microbiologist at Elkhart General Hospital and later at the South Bend Medical Foundation. She enjoyed spending time golfing and spending winters at her home in Texas.

Memorials in her name may be made to the Humane Society of Elkhart County or the Alzheimer's Association.

David Gawthrop, 63, of Elkhart, passed away peacefully Saturday, May 30, at his home on Maplewood Lane surrounded by his family.

Dave was born June 3, 1951, in Wolf Lake, to James D. and Sally M. (Barr) Gawthrop.

On Aug. 28, 1971, in Wawaka, he married Betty J. (B.J.) Kinnison. B.J. and Dave have four sons, Ryan (Natasha Cain) of Elkhart, Rod of Bristol, Richard (Kristi Price) of Elkhart and Reid (Jennea Schirr) of Bristol; 10 grandchildren; a sister, Mary (Mike) Bolin of Wolcottville; and his father, James of Kim-mell.

Dave graduated from West Noble High School in 1969 and from Ball State in 1973, with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

He started his career with McGladrey, Hanson and Dunn as a certified public accountant, followed by Federal Press, Patrick Industries, Stiles Inc. and ending at Dynamax Corp.



A member of Trinity United Methodist Church, Dave served as an usher and alongside his wife as an elementary level Sunday School teacher. Dave was also a member Kiwanis Breakfast Club, the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association and numerous accounting organizations.

When the boys played at Osolo Little League, Dave was a regular on the sidelines and in the dugout. He watched the boys play soccer, basketball and baseball and enjoyed every minute. Dave also enjoyed Notre Dame Athletics, the New York Yankees, gardening and taking walks.

Over 600 people came to the visitation the day before the funeral, a testament as to Dave's character, his love for his family and his impact on the community. He will be sorely missed. We hope to continue to see B.J. with her kids and grandkids on the lake.

Memorials for Dave may be made to the Riley Hospital for Children or Ronald McDonald House. Online condolences may be made at

www.stemmlawsonpeterson.com.

Larry D. Walker, 73, Lake Drive

resident, passed away Thursday, May 21, at Memorial Hospital in South Bend as a result of a motorcycle accident. Larry was born Sept. 5, 1941, to John Oliver Walker and Billie Marion Gouse.



He was preceded in death by his parents and a daughter, Melissa Seanor.

On July 16, 1977, in Cassopolis, Mich., he married the former Jackie Waterman.

Surviving are his wife of 38 years, Jackie; two sons, Mike (Beverly) Walker of Granger and Robert (Sue Call) Walker of South Bend; son-in-law Greg Seanor of Osceola; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren,

Larry worked for Dodge Manufacturing for 33 years before he retired in

(con't on page 28)