



Winter Issue 2019
Volume 12, Issue 1

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Simonton Says...



40 years ago on Simonton Lake

Simonton Lake Ski Team Summer 1979



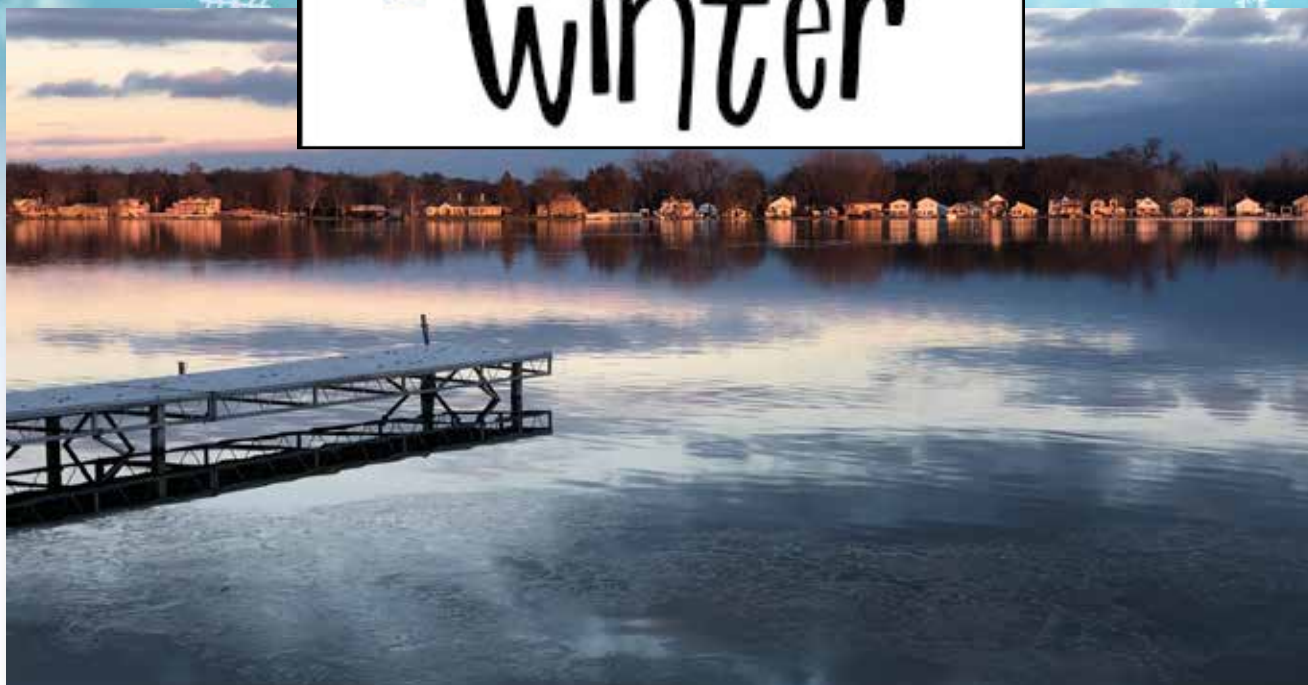
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FISHING IN JANUARY



Maria Hopman



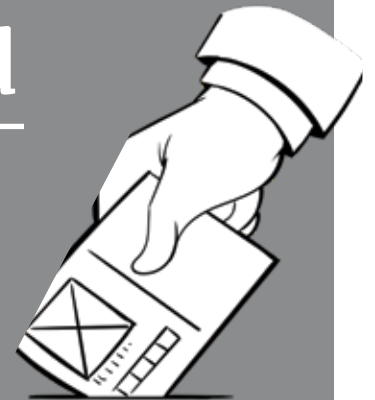
Jana Spears

JUST BEFORE THE DECEMBER FREEZE

**FEB
16TH**

Simonton Lake Conservancy Board **ELECTION**

In our Conservancy we have 5 Sections.



THE CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1-Paul Wilson

Section 2-Ed Hickman

Section 3-Roger Robison

Section 4-Bob Kelsey

Section 5 Jane Mollo

WHAT SECTIONS ARE UP FOR RE-ELECTION?

This year elections will be held for Sections 4 & 5.

REFER TO THE MAP TO SEE IF YOU LIVE IN
EITHER OF THESE SECTIONS

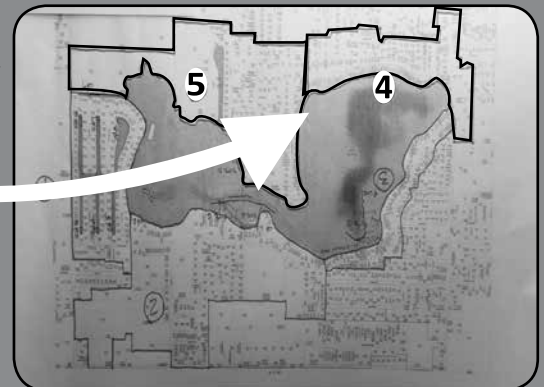
WHO ARE THE CANDIDATES?

Candidates for Section 4 are: Bob Kelsey and Vaughn Nickell

Candidates for Section 5 are: Jane Mollo and Melissa Price

Roger Robison, representing Section 3, has decided to resign from the board.

John Lendman is the only candidate who has filed for Section 3.
Because he is unopposed, he will be the representative for District 3.



WHEN IS THE ELECTION?

DATE:

Saturday, February 16, 2019

TIME:5:00

WHERE: SLCD office

corner of Johnson Street and C.R. 6 in the Jeffrey Corn Dentistry Office Building

WHO CAN VOTE?

- Property owners in Section 4 or 5
- Only one freeholder (property owners) per freehold (property) may vote
- I WON'T BE IN TOWN ON THE 16TH. CAN I VOTE ABSENTEE?
- Absentee ballots can be picked up at the Conservancy Office beginning on Friday, Jan. 18 at 4:00
- Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:30-4:30
- Absentee ballots must be mailed or delivered to the Conservancy District Office by Friday, February 15 at 4pm
- If you cannot pick up your absentee ballot call the Conservancy Office at 574-206-8485

INFORMATION & EVENTS

SIMONTON

Winter 2018 Edition

Association Board Members

Carole Foutz-Interim President
26109 Lake Drive
574-903-5991
clyfoutz@yahoo.com

Susan Broderick, Treasurer
25424 N. Shore Drive
Elkhart, Indiana 46514
susiealice@comcast.net

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

Heidi Cintron-Legal Advisor
24788 North Shore Drive
226-6644
heidijo@hotmail.com

Bob Evans
51275 Aqua Drive
574-320-3366
gkingbevans@gmail.com

Jack Tucker-Little Lake/Channel
Director
51110 Sail Bay Court
574-370-3326
Jtu977@frontier.com

Standing Committees

Membership: Jodi Ferro jodiferro@hotmail.com
Ken & Sue Ward
स्कjward@comcast.net

- New Neighbors
- Lake Calendar
- Garage Sale
- Dues

Newsletter: Amy Matherly
ramatherly@gmail.com

- Submit info. or pictures
- To become an advertiser contact Jon Hart at jonhart150@gmail.com
- Website: Erin Kirchner-Lucas wickedpics@gmail.com

Environmental: Bob Paul
kabopa730@yahoo.com
513-431-2432

- Ecozone
- Weir
- Dredging

Safety:

CHAIRPERSON POSITION OPEN

- Hazards in the water
- Neighborhood watch

To activate our Neighborhood Watch contact Chris Toles
cmt6061@comcast.net

EVENTS ON THE LAKE

Feb.....Lake Assoc. Dues Due
Feb.....Sportsman's Club "Blue Ball Ice Golf Tournament", pending weather
Feb.....Winter Issue of Simonton Says
Feb. 16.....Conservancy Elections
Mar.16 & 17.....SLSC Turkey Shoot
April 15.....Articles and pictures due for spring issue of Simonton Says
April 27.....SLCS Casino Night
May.....Spring issue of Simonton Says
May 3 & 4.....GARAGE SALE
May 15...Annual Lake AssociationMtg
June 22.....Fishing Contest
July 6.....Poker Run and Fireworks

Community Contacts

Simonton Lake Conservancy

574-206-8485
902 CR 6, Elkhart, In. 46514
Hours M-F 8:30-4:30
Mtg. times/dates posted on door.
Contact the Conservancy for:
-Sewer issues
-Drainage issues
-Erosion issues
-Weed Control
-Public Landing
-Buoys
-Hazards in the Water

DNR

District Office 574-457-8092
Pier Regs. 317-234-1097

Sheriff Elkhart County

(574) 533-4151

EMERGENCIES-CALL 911

Osolo Township Fire Dept.

574-264-1066

Osolo EMS 574-262-3052

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

NEW: www.simontonlakehoa.com

Email: ramatherly@gmail.com

REMEMBER OUR WEB ADDRESS:

simontonlakehoa.com

"LIKE" us on Facebook

Sign up for LAKE ALERTS at:

ramatherly@gmail.com

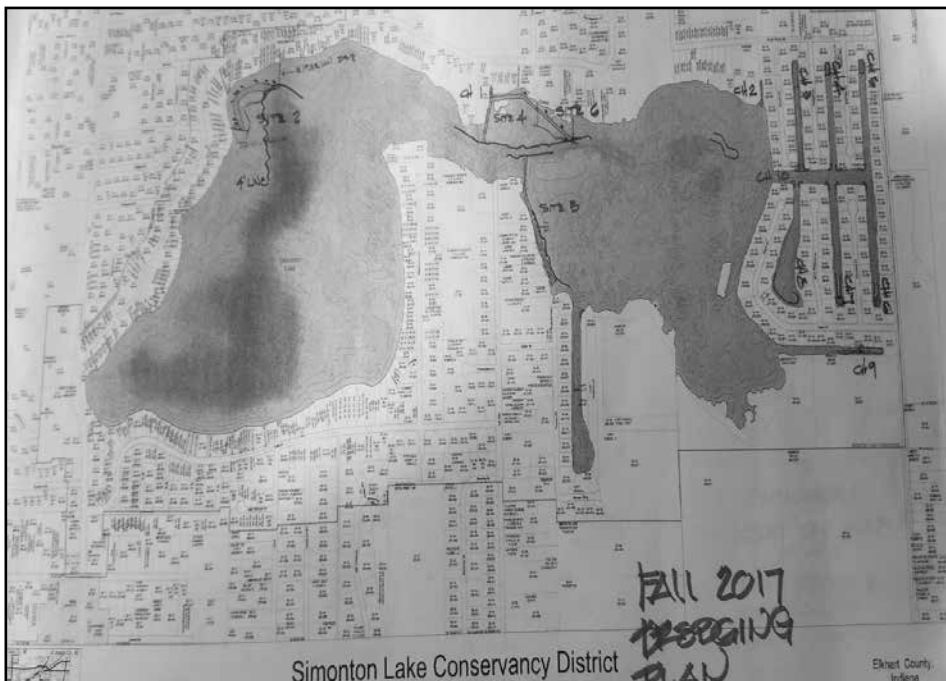
Dredging Update from the Environment Committee

By Bob Paul, Dredging Chairman

As you have noticed, dredging has been suspended for the winter, this is because of Department of Natural Resource Rules and Regulations. SLAHA is using this "downtime" to re-group and re-plan the completion activities with Superior Seawalls, Docks and Dredging.

Dredging completed in 2018 include Sites 4, 5, 6 and Channel 1, which is about 65% of the Contract. Areas which were not completed include Site 2, and the remainder of the channels. Please see the chart below for the results of dredging these areas.

DREDGING SITE	DEPTH BEFORE DREDGING	DEPTH AFTER DREDGING
Site 4	1.54 ft.	7.1 ft.
Site 5	2.29 ft.	6.3 ft.
Site 6	1.24 ft.	6 ft.
Channel 1	.21 ft.	6.25 ft.



Total sediment removed from Simonton Lake=more than 11,950 cubic yards.

To complete the 2018 Contract, it is planned to recommence dredging as early as possible in the spring (pending DNR permission). If you have any questions please contact Bob Paul, Dredging Chairman at 512.431.2432 or kabopa730@yahoo.com.

5TH ANNUAL

**Lake Neighborhood
Garage Sale**

Friday, May 3

Saturday, May 4

SEND US YOUR PICTURES

We are already collect-
ing photographs for the
2020 Calendar.

WE LOVE OUR ADVERTISERS!



CRIME REPORT

Nov. 4

A car was stolen from the 25000 block of North Shore Drive. The vehicle was chased into Cass County, Michigan. The car was found and the suspect located.

Nov. 13

A hedge trimmer, leaf blower and weed eater were stolen from a garage in the 25000 area of North Shore Drive sometime in the last few days. Be alert! Keep your garage closed! Keep your doors locked.

Dec. 20

A theft on Fawn Lane was reported to county police.

Dec. 31

A person was reported outside a residence on Aqua Drive rummaging through an unlocked car. Nothing was stolen.

Dec. 31

Other residents on Aqua Drive and Blue Ribbon Lane report items stolen from vehicles parked outside.

Please take some time to read the full account of a home invasion which happened last fall on Cottage Avenue below this report.



County Police remind us to:

- Lock all vehicles parked outside
- Keep your garage door down even if you are at home.
- If you are going to be gone for any length of time this winter, call the Elkhart County Police so that they can do regular checks on your home.
- Lower your speed to be safe on ice and snow.



Also, in light of the terrible accidents that have taken the lives of Indiana children, please:

- Stop your car when the bus driver puts out the stop sign arm.
- Don't follow a bus too closely
- Remember that buses must stop at railroad tracks.

When an incident occurs in your neighborhood, first call the police, then let us know so that a LAKE ALERT can be sent out. We currently have 250 persons on the list. SIGN UP FOR LAKE ALERTS AT ramatherly@gmail.com

SCARY STORY ON COTTAGE AVENUE BY GRETA WEIR

We reported this incident in our fall newsletter Crime report but only had the barest details. Greta sent this complete story to us and we thank her for sharing her story. We think it will help others.

My husband and I live on Cottage Ave and we had an intruder in our home last August. My husband held him at gun point until the police arrived.

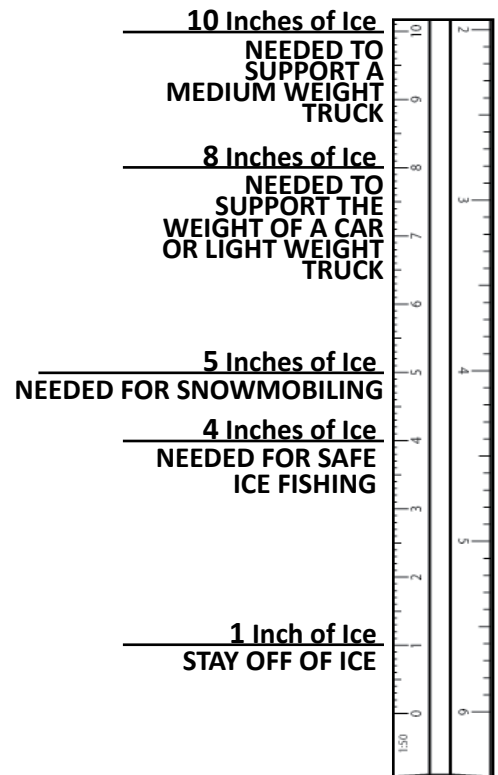
We were waiting for a friend to come over a little after 9:00pm on a Friday night and while the garage door was open the intruder came in. I first realized he was in the house when I saw part of a body standing in our kitchen area. My husband got his gun and, with our friend, went looking for the person. They did not find anyone. We all sat back down in the living room believing that he was gone.

continued on Pg. 7

WHEN IN DOUBT, DON'T GO OUT! BEWARE OF THIN ICE!

These safety reminders come to us from the Indiana DNR

Ice Safety Guidelines



1. Drill your own test hole near shore. Your test hole, should show at least a four-inch thickness of clear ice like you get from your freezer.

2. Wear a life jacket for extra warmth and safety.

3. Be Aware of various ice strength and qualities. One area of a lake may be a foot thick while another spot of ice may only be an inch thick.

4. Ice Strength can also change. Thick ice is rotten after rain. Old honey-combed ice, slush-ice or ice with current under it is also dangerous. New ice is almost always stronger than old ice. Wind, waterfowl and beavers can also keep areas of ice thin.

5. Indiana law limits ice fishing holes to a diameter of twelve inches.

6. Fishing shanties must have reflectors on each side so snowmobiles won't crash into them at dusk or during snowstorms.

CONTINUED

FROM PG 6...SCARY STORY ON COTTAGE AVENUE

I then went down to the basement to finish laundry and after about 7-8 minutes, the intruder came out from a darkened corner toward me with his finger over his mouth indicating for me to be quiet. I ran screaming up the basement steps and my husband met the intruder in the stairwell at gunpoint. Thank goodness I was not home alone. I am not trained to use a gun but my husband has a gun carry permit and has many years of experience using guns. It pays to be comfortable in using one in a case like this as the guy kept inching toward my husband and closing in on him in a small area.

It was very scary. Our son is a detective for the Elkhart PD so he had all the information on this guy and worked closely with the prosecutor. With the intruder's criminal background our situation could have ended up so much worse. He had every opportunity to come behind me and harm me. Luckily he was not armed. But, he was drunk and high.

We went to court in October and faced this man which was very emotional. This man had come into our private space and I cannot explain the feeling.

The intruder has an extensive criminal background and is now serving nine years of jail time for crimes before invading our home including trespassing and battery of a police officer.

Please take this incident as a warning to be more cautious. We never thought twice about having a problem leaving our garage door open but we do now!!! I would have had the mind-set that it would not happen to us but it did. Terrifying!!! We will be installing some form of a security system. We have a couple we are researching that have door sensors and motion detectors.

If you have questions or would like to talk with us, feel free to call. Chuck & Greta Weir -740-438-8166.

SIMONTON NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Winter 2019 Edition

Association Dues: Lake Association Dues are due in January. Letters were sent out in December.

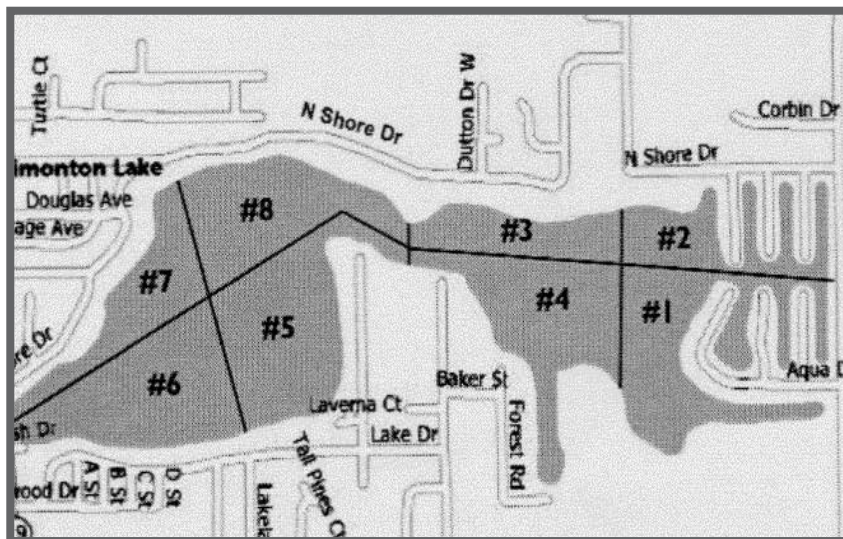
Remember that even if you are an Honorary Member, your membership counts. To represent you to the county, the DNR or the State of Indiana, we need to say that a majority of residents belong to the Association.

Check out the map below.
What area of the lake do you live in?

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Your Delegates for Neighborhood Concerns

Area #1 Van Kessler	262-1685
Area #2 Ann & Jerry Broderick Ken & Sue Ward	264-1331 596-2020
Area #3 Maria Hopman	262-1665
Area #4 Jon Hart Randy Hoff	262-1404 596-8885
Area #5 Bob Meyers Cindy Nickell	675-0970 262-3105
Area #6 Ron Taylor	262-1332
Area #7 Dave VanZile Theresa Maier	264-5201 361-0517
Area #8 Amy Matherly	262-4773



Contact your Area Rep. if you have questions about membership, volunteering or to let us know about a new neighbor.

SLAHA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: CELL CELL HOME
 Email: _____
 Email: _____

DUES: PER HOUSEHOLD PER YEAR
 JANUARY 1, 2019 - DECEMBER 31, 2019

_____ **Regular Member:**\$30
 _____ **Senior: (70-79):**\$20
 _____ **Honorary (80 & Over):**FREE
 FREE lifetime member

CONTACT PREFERENCE: ☐ EMAIL ☐ CELL ☐ HOME PHONE ☐ MAIL

SL PRESERVATION TRUST DONATION \$ _____

PARTICIPATION INTEREST: ☐ Lake Environment

FIREWORKS FUND DONATION \$ _____

IN A CURRENT COMMITTEE: ☐ Lake Safety
☐ Membership/Outreach
☐ Newsletter
☐ Website

TOTAL ENCLOSED

\$

Please mail your completed form & check made out to SLAHA to: Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc
 PO Box 1706 Elkhart, IN 46515-1706

If you are NOT willing to share this information in a directory sent to members, please check here: ☐
 We will not share this information outside the association without your permission.

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SEA-DOO

By April Givens

CAPPY'S A FAMILY TRADITION

This article is reprinted here as it was originally printed in the Elkhart Truth in Dec. 2018. Linda Kilgren Anderson and her husband, Merle ran "Pete's Simonton Lake Tavern" for many years for Linda's mother Lou Kilgren. Linda and her siblings grew up at Simonton Lake.

There is something beautiful about a family-heritage-owned business. The smell of fresh spaghetti sauce and meatballs fill the air, and Linda Kilgren Anderson is passionate about where she comes from.

"There has always been a restaurant in my family. This restaurant belonged to my grandfather. He bought the building in 1949. My mom and dad also owned a restaurant, on Simonton Lake, where we grew up as kids, Pete's Simonton Lake Tavern," Linda says. "My extended family also own restaurants here in Elkhart and New Jersey and Lansing, Michigan."

Linda has beautiful memories, as a little girl at her grandmother's house, that there was always something cooking. "The kitchen was a place of conversation and cooking for our entire family," Linda says. Her Grandmother Cappelletti's had two kitchens in her house, one upstairs and downstairs. "She had an island before they were called islands," Linda smiles. "It would be nothing to go down in the kitchen and see six to eight women standing around her island downstairs in the basement making macaroni."

There were galvanized trash cans in the corner full of flour and sugar and yeast. With her grandparents moving here from Italy, there was always a love for food and company. Linda's other grandmother also was a fabulous Norwegian cook, with a wonderful pie crust.

"It was fun to be a part of it, always eating good food. There were always gatherings around food, even in our small house on Simonton Lake where five kids grew up. Family dinners, we would end up with 12 to 20 people around the table. Today, friends and family still talk about eating at my mom's house and how wonderful the food was," Linda says. Linda cooks only by taste and texture, no specifically measured recipes. "It's just the way that it was, and to this day I still cook that same way."

Linda was a nurse manager and cooked as a hobby. She had just left a job where she was running a physician's practice of 50 doctors. Her aunt called and asked if she wanted to purchase her grandfather's bar-restaurant. She and her husband, Merle, decided to take ownership of Cappy's Northside Tavern and Restaurant on 1000 N. Michigan St., Elkhart, in the winter of 2013. "It was a labor of love to revitalize the building and also the menu," Linda says.

Linda makes sure the food is made fresh and in small batches several times a week, not large batches.

"We feed a whole lot of people out of that tiny kitchen. We try to make it fresh and make it here, not shipped in frozen from other companies," Linda says.

This location was a popular place for many years with all of the many industrial companies nearby. "At one time, there was close to 7,000 people employed near this location," Linda says. The building was constructed in 1921 and started as a grocery store and then became a restaurant with a bar in it and that is when Linda's grandfather bought it. Most of the building remains the same. Most of Linda's customers are retirees with past stories from when her grandfather owned the business,

"This business is about people. It's like bringing people into your living room, and they are greeted that way," Linda smiles. Linda also has a connection with customers because of her career at the hospital, being Italian, being Catholic, and living in the city for most of her life.

NEWSLETTER TEAM ASKS FOR YOUR HELP

Please help us by:

-Letting us know of news in your neighborhood: From new neighbors to crime, we would like to share what is happening in your neighborhood with the rest of the lake.

-Share your pictures: Whether it is a holiday photo of your family, a family milestone or a great sunset picture, send it to us at ramatherly@gmail.com

-Share your memories: Some of our best stories are from your scrapbooks. Send us old articles and pictures to share.

This year, 2019, Simonton Says issues will celebrate what happened 10 years ago, 20 years ago 30 years ago and so on. So if you have pictures or other memories from 2009, 1999, 1989, 1979, 1969, 1959 and so on SEND THEM TO US.



In the May issue we'll celebrate the graduating classes from those years. DIG OUT THOSE SENIOR PICTURES AND E-MAIL THEM TO US. Better yet, send us the senior picture of someone else and surprise them when the May newsletter comes out!

NEXT NEWSLETTER MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11 AT RE-PETE'S AT 6:30 COME JOIN US!

Come back in March for a mug or a jug of ice cold root beer.

Now available in cans too!!



SKI TEAM MEMORIES

BY DAVE VANZILE AND AMY MATHERLY

SKI
JUST

For those of us who did not grow up on Simonton Lake, the stories of a ski team and a ski jump on the south side of the lake are just that, stories. Dave VanZile provided evidence that a ski team actually did exist. He found a picture and an article from 1979 when the 2nd Simonton Lake water ski team rode the wakes.

The article was printed on July 1, 1979 in The Elkhart Truth and written by Dan McNeile. It was entitled "Water Ski Show on 4th."

Starting at 2 p.m. July 4 Simonton Lake will be the sight of a spectacular water ski show put on by the "Spraymasters" Ski Team.

The show should have enough highlights to thrill even the hardest to please spectator. Just some of the highlights will be a three-man barefoot pyramid, a five-man pyramid, a 360 degree "heli-copter" off the jump, a barefoot start from the jump and a slalom exhibition by Eddie Johnson, the Indiana State Junior champ. It will mark the team's first show of the year.

Our own Dave Steed, president of the club reported that the team got its start in 1978. There had been a previous club called the Sundance Club. That group had broken up about four years previous. Our own Bill Hanna, vice-president of the Spraymasters was one of two holdovers of the Sundance group. He told the reporter that anyone could join. You didn't have to be an expert skier because part of the program was to teach and learn.

The members of the club ranged in age from 15 to 22 and raised money by having car washes. Two members of the team were individually sponsored for state-wide competition and practices were held every morning.

We just couldn't resist putting the picture on the cover. Several of the people in the picture still live on the lake. My goodness you guys look GOOD!

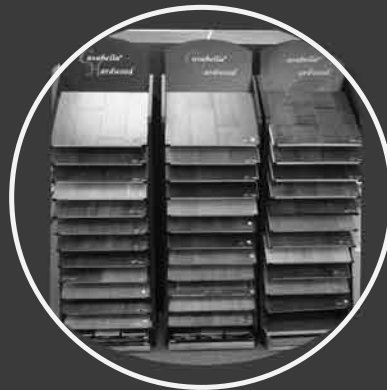
And just who are those good-looking people on the cover:



Front Row (left to right): Bill Hanna, Mike Mollo, Jeff Bowdoin, Heidi Johnson, Jeff Phillips, Tonda Phillips, Jayne Stutzman, Scott Stutzman, Rob Jenks, and Dave Steed.

Back Row: Aaron Warlick, Robin Anderson, Dana Lockwood, Todd Stutzman, Eddy Johnson, Sue Overhulser, Rod Yoder, Dawn Rospopo, Jeff Yoder and Joe Kilgren.

STAY TUNED FOR OUR NEXT ISSUE! We've got more on the Ski Club days at Simonton Lake. If you have information or pictures contact us at ramatherly@gmail.com



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THE INCIDENT OF THE SWAN MURDER

We received this story last fall but ran out of room in our fall issue. It's a great story and we thank Randy for sharing it with us.

Upon arriving home from lunch on Mother's Day, Gina was pleasantly surprised to see a swan lawn ornament that one of the kids placed in the landscaping at the front of the house. As Gina approached to get a closer look, the swan moved. She quickly realized this was no ornament, but a real live swan. She ran inside to get her camera and took several pictures. Upon getting a closer look we realized it was "Nick". He was given this nickname (no pun intended) years ago by our family because of the nick in his bill. He was a common presence around the lake and we came to enjoy his company. I was curious though, because he was staying so close to the house and seemed to welcome our presence. This went on for a few days, he hung around the house, swam and ate, then back up to the house and bushes. He never seemed aggressive or bothered by us or the lawn mower, as I mowed within a few feet of him and he never moved or hissed.



BY RANDY AND GINA HOFF

About this time, I started to replace my pier, as so many of us had to do, that's when things started to get interesting. I was working on the pier and Nick was laying in the grass about ten feet away when he suddenly made a bee line to the bushes next to the house. Then I heard this loud "Thump, Thump, Thump" noise coming down the channel. I looked up and saw this huge swan with his wings spread and slapping the water, his head lowered for an attack, coming hard and fast. He went right into the bushes and started attacking Nick. He covered Nick with his wings, pinning Nick to the ground. The attacker was bigger and seriously outweighed his victim and savagely delivered blow after blow with his bill to Nick's head and neck. About this time I recovered from my shock of what was transpiring before my eyes and thought, "H___, no, not in my backyard"! I immediately grabbed two stakes that were laying nearby and ran to Nick's rescue. Using the stakes, I was able to persuade the attacker to vacate the premises. The attacker then returned to the water, turned around, then raised out of the water with his wings spread and neck stretched high and hissed at me. Then he turned and swam away. I then realized that Nick was in danger and the other swan was staking his claim on the channel. I went over and checked on Nick who looked okay except for a few missing feathers, but he appeared visibly shaken. I looked down at my hands and realized that my knuckles were white from squeezing the stakes.

Over the next five days this ritual repeated itself with the bigger swan trying to attack Nick. Most days I was able to fend off the bigger swan with my stakes by clanking them together and confronting the evil swan on the pier before he could come ashore. On each occasion the evil swan would raise up stretch his wings and look me in the eye and hiss. He was fearless. He was patient. After each attack, Nick seemed to grow weaker. Then I realized that he had to eat the seaweed in the water but if he did the evil swan would attack without mercy. The evil swan was starving him to death as well. I decided this had gone on too long and called the DNR for assistance.

They referred me to the nuisance animal control department. They told me that swans are not protected like other water fowl that are hunted such as geese and ducks. Nick was on his own. They typically consider swans a nuisance and if they become aggressive, destroy them. However, they will not bother with it themselves.

I was seriously thinking how to dispatch the evil swan but decided that killing a swan would not look good being an Environmental Committee member. The next day Nick was just laying in the back yard and I noticed a pile of feathers around him. I ran out and checked on him. He had been attacked during the night and was in rough shape. I did not know swans were nocturnal and felt I had let Nick down. I was his protector and had abandoned him when he needed me most. He had been pecked clean of feathers on the top of his head and several inches down his neck. He was rolling side to side and trying to raise his head. He looked delirious and in pain. He was trying to make a sound but could only make a rasping noise. I decided to avenge Nick's attack. However, it would have to wait.

I got in my truck to pick up materials for the pier and as I turned the corner I was able to look back at the yard and to my horror saw the evil swan finishing Nick off for good. When I returned Nick was dead. He had been plucked clean down his entire neck. I picked up Nick's lifeless body and saw the sharp spurs on his legs and the claws on his webbed feet. I realized that swans are graceful and pretty but also extremely aggressive, strong, territorial and persistent. I buried Nick out in the woods with a view of the pond. I will miss him.

*If you have a lake story, please send it to us at
ramatherly@gmail.com*

201920192019 Simonton Lake Neighborhood Garage Sale



**FRIDAY
MAY 3RD**

&

**SATURDAY
MAY 4TH**



•*An ad in the Elkhart Truth will be paid for by the Lake Association*

•*Signs will be placed only at major crossroads*

•*You will be responsible for other yard signs*





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1. The dog is not allowed in the house
2. OK, the dog is allowed in the house, but only in certain rooms
3. The dog is allowed in certain rooms, but has to stay off the furniture
4. The dog can only get on the old furniture
5. Fine, the dog is allowed on all of the furniture, but is not allowed to sleep in the beds with the humans
6. OK, the dog is allowed on the bed, but only by invitation
7. The dog can sleep on the bed whenever he wants, but not under the covers
8. The dog can sleep under the covers by invitation only
9. The dog can sleep under the covers every night
10. Humans must ask permission to sleep under the covers with the dog

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- Plywood Decking
- Pontoon / Boat Ladders
- Replacement Fence Skin
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Lake Shorts

Lake Shorts features news about you . . .

Tell us what is happening on your street. Do you know someone who is having a birthday, anniversary, etc? Email us at rmatherly@gmail.com



Delores Troyer and Steve Wogoman are doubly blessed by the birth of two grandsons. **Oliver Lee** was born to daughter Chelsea and her husband Ryan on October 16th. **Brooks Dallas** was born to their son Graham and his wife Lizzi on October 24. Oliver was 5 lbs. 15 oz. Cousin Brooks weighed in at 9 lbs.!



Lost Cat

In a Lake Alert sent out many weeks ago, we asked residents to watch for the Snyder family's lost cat. Sadly, the cat had wandered out onto some thin ice and fell in. All pet owners at the lake worry about this possibility. Animals are often intrigued by the ice, especially if it is clear. Our sympathies go out to the family.

New Neighbors

- Philip and Patti Jo Krajewski are also new neighbors on Lake Drive purchasing the home formerly owned by Nora Allen.
- Paula and Roger Broman are new neighbors on Lake Drive. They purchased the home formerly owned by Janet Leer.

To all of our new neighbors

Welcome to the Lake

Leaving the Lake

- **Janet Leer**, long time resident of Lake Drive has sold her home. Janet's parents built the home in 1953. She will be missed.
- **Phil DeJohn** of CR 11 is selling his home. Phil's wife Millie passed away in October of 2017.



Just couldn't resist putting this into the newsletter even though it was from last summer. This is **Mike and Deb Smith's grandson, Tanner**. Tanner looks happy. Not so sure about the frog.

Mike and Deb Smith also submitted this photo of what they think is a mink outside their home!



Farewells

Barry Bartlett, 66, brother of **Myra Cors**, passed away on December 24 in Fort Wayne after a brief illness. He had recently retired from the South Bend airport as an agent for TSA. He thoroughly enjoyed his job while making it an upbeat time for travelers by telling jokes as they waited inline. He was a licensed amateur radio operator. He has served in the U.S. Army as a Specialist 4 in light weapons infantry. Donations can be made in his name to the Humane Shelter of DeKalb County or the American Stroke Association. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Myra and Doug during this difficult time.



Pamela S. Zinsmeister, 83, of Elkhart, passed away at Elkhart General Hospital on Wednesday, December 5, 2018. She was born in Butler, PA on July 22, 1935 to the late John R. and Mabel (Hawk) Muir.

She married Richard Zinsmeister on September 22, 1956 and spent 62 wonderful years together, Richard survives along with their two sons, Jeff (Shari) and John (Lisa) Zinsmeister. She had a great love for her family.

Pamela loved to read and ride her motorcycle, which she did avidly for over 30 years. She and her husband, Richard, were members of the BMW Club in the Chicago region and later in the South Bend/Elkhart area.

Pam and her husband Rich, known to many of us as "Zinny" lived on Simonton Lake for many years. They were sad to leave the lake but felt the need for a smaller home and less land. She will be missed.

Yoshi, **Jamie and Adam Dexter's**, gentle giant of a dog died this fall. She was only 8 years old but had a brief run in with cancer. Jamie and Adam said she loved her big yard. What a good dog! We'll miss her.



VanZile's New Dog

That's right you read this correctly. In the last issue we reported that the VanZiles had lost their dog, **Happy Joe**. Kristine VanZile, who walked Happy Joe every day down N. Shore Drive felt odd walking by herself. But, Dave VanZile was adamant. No more dogs. Then later this fall there was Kristine with a new dog. He's a beagle mix and his name is Toby Mac. Trust me, he's a real sweetheart!

Christmas Pictures



Kay Wuchner with her family this Christmas



The Macumber family this Christmas



ASKED & ANSWERED

September 2018

From: Don H.

RE: Rules on wave runners

Over the Labor Day weekend there were several wave runners doing 360's right out in from of my pier. My pier is 36 feet long. Surely they have to go out further than 36 feet to go full blast. I have kids in the water off of my pier. It's really a worry.

Answer: Indiana Boating Laws and Responsibilities Handbook

For many questions about boating you will find answers in the Indiana Boating Laws and Responsibilities Handbook. These booklets are available online. The Lake Association gives a written copy to all new residents of Simonton Lake. Here is your answer from page 51.

"A Personal Watercraft (PWC) is considered an inboard and must abide by the same rules and requirements as other vessels. A person may not operate a boat in a manner that does any of the following:

1. Unnecessarily endangers the person or property of another person.
2. Unnecessarily interferes with the safe and lawful use of public waters by another person

A personal watercraft operated on public waters must at all times be operated in a reasonable and prudent manner."

October 2018

From: Larry M.

RE: Burning

I'm new to Elkhart County. I heard from my neighbors that the County was going to ban leaf burning. Is that so? I've got a lot of trees in my yard. If there is a ban, is there a fine?

Answer: Elkhart County Commissioners

While County Commissioners are grappling with the effects of leaf burning, they did not issue a ban yet. However, in an effort to cut down on leaf burning in the county they organized an Elkhart County Leaf Collection Competition from Sept. 10-Nov. 21. In the competition each ton of leaves dropped off equals \$500. A ton of leaves is about 4 full-sized pickup trucks filled with loose dry leaves. The top leaf collectors got a share of \$50,000. The Commissioners are not sure if the competition will be offered next year. For those of us who do burn leaves, we can continue to burn this year. But, stay tuned! For those lake residents who suffer from the smoke and ash created by leaf fires, let's hope that a compromise can be found. Can a company be hired to pick up our leaves for a reasonable price?

August 2018

From: Lake Resident

RE: Lawn Waste in the lake

I recently saw my neighbor putting lawn waste into the water. Seems like this is not a good idea. Could you confirm?

Answer: Yard waste including leaves, grass clippings and flower cuttings are very harmful to the lake. Any time vegetation not naturally found in our lake is added it upsets the ecological balance. Fertilizer, especially ones with phosphorus are extremely harmful. That phosphorus, once in the water, is there FOREVER! It is continually stirred up by boats and people and feeds the harmful weeds in the lake.

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- Industrial Machinery and Equipment Merchant Wholesalers
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- Residents over the age of 79 are Honorary

Your dues supports the newsletter, the website, Lake Alerts and other safety programs, the New Neighbor program, the Annual All-Lake Garage Sale, water quality, and so much more.

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SIMONTON Message Board

www.simontonlake.org

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Lost and Found

This raft floated up on a windy day. Please contact hheritz@hotmail.com if this is yours.



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

To add your family birthdays and anniversaries to this list,
e-mail tkshewmaker@yahoo.com

SPORTSMEN CLUB

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FIRE WORKS & POKER RUN SATURDAY, JULY 6

BIRTHDAYS

1/20 ---Gianna Marie Nickell
Grandparents Vaughn & Cindy Nickell
1/23 ---Graham Ryan Matherly
Grandparents Ryan & Amy Matherly
1/24 ---Larry Bellamy
2/12 ---Bob Shultz
2/16 ---Graham Duncan
2/17 ---Sue Johnson
2/18 ---Kathy Shewmaker
2/19 ---Janie Friend
2/23 ---Terry Shewmaker
2/25 ---Vaughn Nickell
3/26 ---Eulah June Shewmaker
Grandparents Ryan & Amy Matherly, Terry
& Kathy Shewmaker
3/27 ---Bill Broderick
4/2 -----Ryan Matherly
4/5 -----Cassandra Ulery
4/14 ---Ryan Harding
4/24 ---Preston Thomas Ryan
Grandparents Tim & Phyllis Nusbaum
4/28 ---Michael Thomas Fix
Son of Katy Rutter & Ryan Fix;
Grandparents Margot & Tom Rutter
4/30 ---Grant Brekke

ANNIVERSARY

2/6 Ken & Sue Ward
2/19 Don & Carol Bradshaw
4/4 Karen & Ron Glick
4/14 Lonnie & Cari Waggoner
4/30 Bob & Bobbi Meyers

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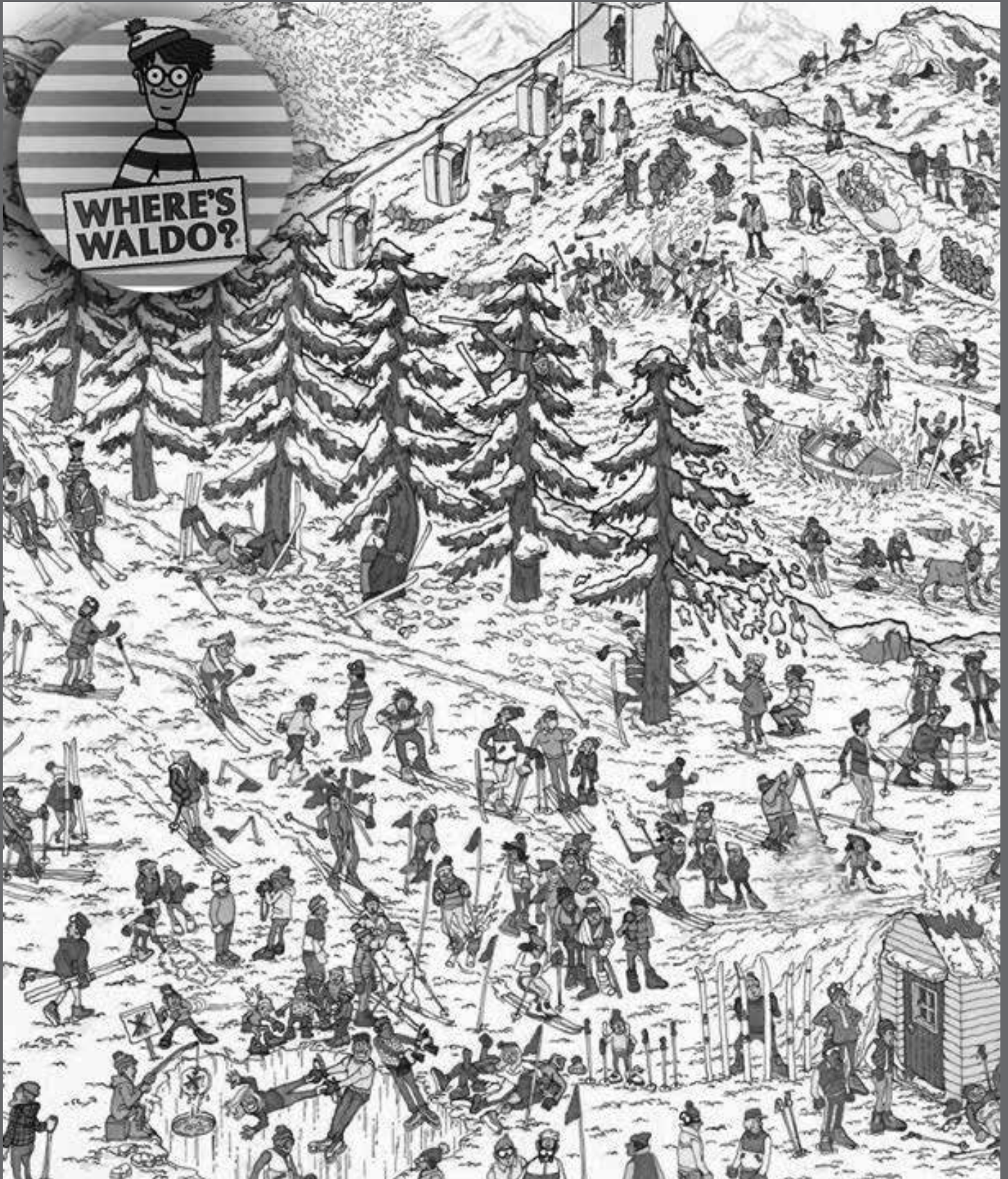


What's for sale on the lake?

Information Courtesy of Zillow and Elkhart County

- Phil DeJohn of CR 11 is selling his home

WHERE'S WALDO? Can you find him?



— By Dave Borgaard —

REMINISCENCES-THE LAKE

Dave's parents lived on Maplewood for many years. His dad died five years ago. His mother just two years ago. This is the last chapter, a chapter all of us sons and daughters write for our parents. We thank him for sharing it with us. It was always "the lake".

It was always "the lake".

When we were young children, our parents would put us in the station wagon, an old white car with the rear seat facing backwards so we could get car sick...and we'd head for vacation at "the lake".

It was in Minnesota. Big Thunder Lake. Great big beautiful lake. We'd be up at 4:00 am headed out to an old wooden fishing boat with a little Johnson outboard on the back and Big Springs Resort painted on the side. We would try to catch our share of Walleye. Mom would cook these fish for breakfast with fried potatoes and "dippin' eggs". Pan fried Walleye is still my favorite way to have fish today.

As we got older we spent less time at the lake, but my folks said they'd always like to be able to live on a lake, so they'd be able to enjoy it every day. Dad's job moved us once again and we found ourselves in Indiana.

Through mutual friends they found a little place on the lake near the city and took a chance and bought it. It needed some updating, but it was warm with knotty-pine paneling and a fireplace. Right out of the front window was "the lake". They made it. No more vacations to "the lake" for them.

We had all grown and gone by then, but now were able to bring our children to "the lake". It was great. It gave them the chance to know what living near the water does for your soul. What it does for your head when you can walk out and sit on the pier and just stare at it. It helped all of us go back to "the lake" as adults.

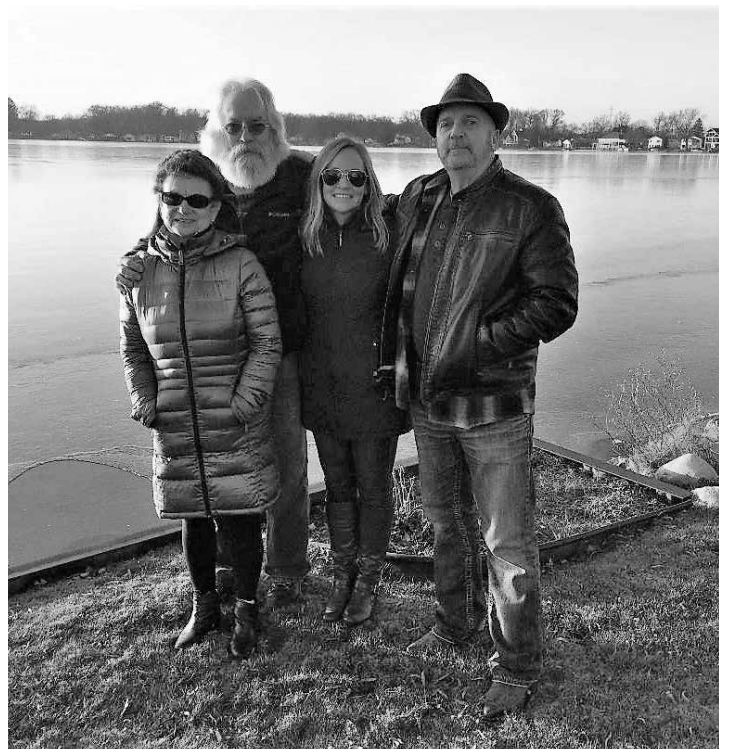
Sunrise, sunset, hot summer days, frozen in the winter...it captivated my folks.

When we had to let the place go, it was hard. Our parents had made so many friends and so many memories there, it tugged at our hearts. Mom was able to go back and stay at the lake through the generosity of her friend Theresa Maier, when she was in her 80's. It was winter time and she loved to be able to watch out the front window again and just be back at "the lake".

Dad had written about his favorite place near his home in Nevada, an old river bed called The Arroyo. He spent a great deal of time in the Arroyo walking, making friends, petting people's dogs and watching kids play...but it wasn't "the lake". When he passed five years ago, and we had to decide what to do with his remains. The decision was simple. We started at the top of the Arroyo and walked him to the bottom spreading his ashes, so he could become part of what he loved so much. Then we brought part of him to "the lake" and put him in his very favorite place.

Mom passed two years ago, and we found ourselves asking what was best for her? Again...simple obvious choices. Part of her is now up in the mountains in Nevada which was one of her favorite places. Part of her now walks with dad again in the Arroyo and the rest of her is now back with him at "the lake".

It's still all about "the lake".



Theresa Maier with the Borgaard kids

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WINTER ON SIMONTON LAKE



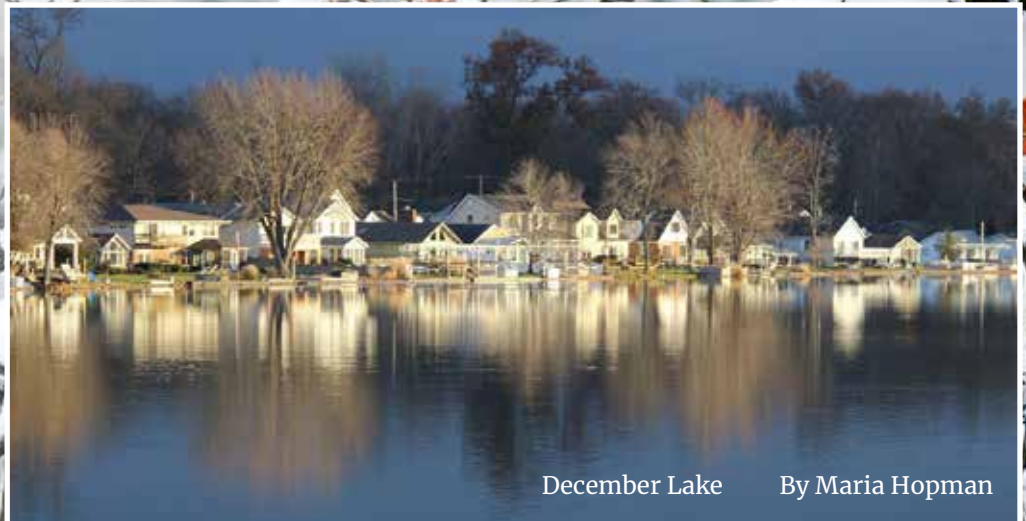
Sunset from the deck By Theresa Maier



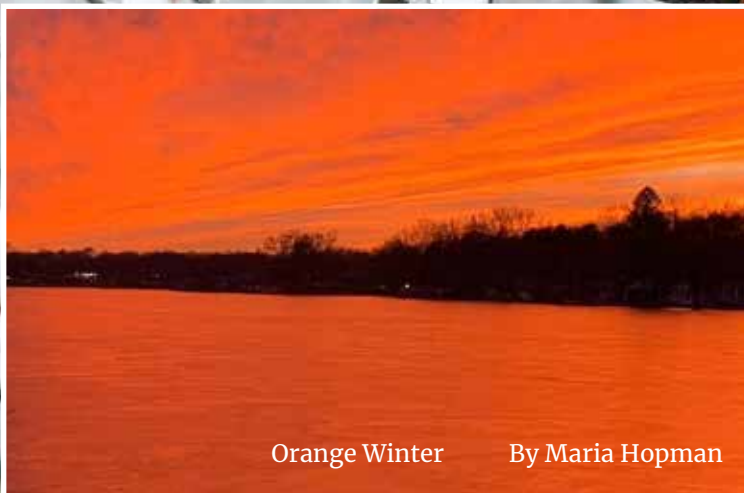
Fall at the Lake By Jana Spears



Sunset on the Little Lake
By Bob Evans



December Lake By Maria Hopman



Orange Winter By Maria Hopman



Winter White By Jana Spears