

Simonton Says...

Spring Issue 2022
Volume 15, Issue 2

Find us on 

GET READY FOR *Summer* ON SIMONTON LAKE



In This Issue:

Flag Burning Ceremony	pg 4
Zoning/Amazon	pg 6
Easements and Accesses	pg 11
Lake Shorts	pg 18
Invasive Weeds	pg 25





"Lights on a Summer Night" by Michelle Coleman

hello
SPRING



"Mama and her babies" by Gina Hoff



"Bambi?" by Gina Hoff



Theresa Maier scares the koots on her first spring kayak ride

INFORMATION & EVENTS

Simonton Says...
Spring 2022 Edition

ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

Doug Reese, President
51234 Aqua Drive
574-327-4484

Jack Tucker, Vice President
51110 Sail Bay Court
574-370-3326

Teresa Maier, Secretary
51211 Maplewood

Van Kessler, Treasurer
51172 Blue Ribbon Lane
574-370-2266

Susan Broderick,
Membership/Outreach
25424 North Shore Drive
574-903-6789

Randy Hoff, Environment
25369 Vernon Crossing

Mark Esenwein, Newsletter
51211 Blue Ribbon Drive
574-286-3875

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.simontonlakehoa.com

Email us at:
simon@simontonlake.org

Find us on 
SIMONTONLAKE HOA

Simonton Lake Area
Homeowners' Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1706
Elkhart, IN 46515-1706

STANDING COMMITTEES

Membership:

Susie Broderick, Sue Ward

- New Neighbors
Frank and Kathy Stec
- Lake Calendar
Gina Hoff
- Garage Sale
- Memorial Day Boat Parade
- Dues
Van Kessler

Communication:

Amy Matherly,
ramatherly@gmail.com

- To become an advertiser
contact Jon Hart at
- To sign up for Lake Alerts:
ramatherly@gmail.com

Environment:

- Ecozone
- Weir
- Water Quality Concerns

Safety:

- DNR related issues
- "Lake Alerts" - Chris Toles,
cmt6061@comcast.com
- Buoy Watch, report damaged
or loose buoys

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.

EVENTS ON THE LAKE

MAY 6, 7: Spring Garage Sale
MAY: Spring "Simonton Says"
MAY 14: Stamp Out Hunger
MAY 14: Sportsmen's Club
"Firecracker Open" Golf Outing
MAY 18: Lake Association
Annual Meeting
MAY 30: Memorial Day Flotilla, 1:00pm
JUNE 11: Kid's Fishing Contest
JUNE 29-JULY 1: Poker Run Hand
Sales and T-Shirt Sales
JULY 2: POKER RUN
JULY 3: FIREWORKS
JUNE 10: Deadline for Summer
SLNL issue articles and pictures
AUGUST: Summer issue of
"Simonton Says"
SEPT 24 & 25: Kid's Fishing Contest

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Simonton Lake Conservancy
574-206-8485

902 CR 6, Elkhart, IN 46514

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 Rules 317-234-1097
Or 317-234-1063

Sheriff Elkhart County
(574) 533-4151

EMERGENCIES-CALL 911

Osolo Township Fire Dept.
574-264-1066

Osolo EMS 574-262-3052

DWIGHT BOWSER MEMORIAL FLAG BURNING CEREMONY

SUNDAY JULY 3, 2022
Bob and Georgia Evans Island

For many years Dwight and Linda Bowser held a flag burning ceremony on the 4th of July in their yard on the lake. Dwight and Linda decided not to continue a couple of years ago. But last year Bob and Georgia Evans decided to revive the lake tradition and host it on their island. Dwight and Linda watched from their boat.

Dwight passed away on Oct. 23, 2021, but he will be remembered this year as Bob and Georgia continue to honor our flag on July 3rd.

How can I get my old worn flag to Bob and Georgia for the ceremony?

Bring your flag to any Lake Association Board Member or to your Area Representative (Newsletter Delivery Person). We'll take it from there.

If you are new to the lake, the island is in the southeast corner of Little Simonton. It's shallow there. Go slow.



Flag Burning Ceremony 2011

SATURDAY MAY 14TH

Every second Saturday in May, letter carriers in more than 10,000 cities and towns across America collect the goodness and compassion of their postal customers, who participate in the National Association of Letter Carriers

“Stamp Out Hunger” National Food Drive — the largest one-day food drive in the nation delivering more than one billion pounds of food the past 25 years.

To donate, just place a box or can of non-perishable food next to your mailbox before your letter carrier delivers mail on Saturday, May 14. Our local letter carriers will do the rest. The food is sorted and delivered to an area food bank or pantry. The food stays local and helps local families! Last year because of the COVID pandemic the “Stamp Out Hunger” Food Drive was cancelled. This really put a dent in our local food pantry reserves.

One in eight Americans face hunger every day in America. This drive is one way we can help our neighbors in our own area by simply placing some food in a bag at your mailbox.



Put it on your calendar! Help stamp out hunger!

Support the Lake Association with your 2022 Dues

Our annual Membership Drive begins each January. But you can still send in your dues.

It is our goal to bring our membership to 100%. We can do good things together. Get your 2022 dues in today!

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

Thank You
FOR YOUR SUPPORT
OF OUR LAKE ASSOCIATION!

SIMONTON NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Spring 2022 Edition

Yearly membership begins in January.

However, you can still send in your dues for 2022.

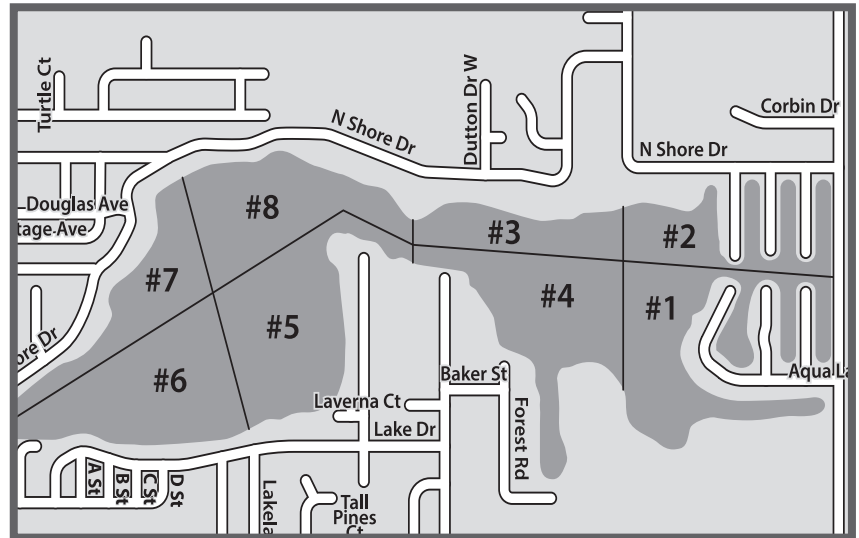
Remember that even if you are an Honorary Member and pay no money, your membership counts.

Contact your Area Rep. if you have questions about membership, volunteering, to let us know about a new neighbor or because you didn't receive your newsletter.

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Area #1 Van Kessler	262-1685
Area #2 Ann & Jerry Broderick 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 Melissa Price	849-9995
Area #7 Dave VanZile Theresa Maier	264-5201 361-0517
Area #8 Amy Matherly	262-4773

The Lake Association has divided the lake into 8 areas.
Check out your area in this map.



SLAHA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

DUES: PER HOUSEHOLD PER YEAR
JANUARY 1, 2022 - DECEMBER 31, 2022

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE/CELL(S) _____

PHONE/HOME _____

EMAIL(S) _____

CONTACT PREFERENCE: ☐ Email ☐ Cell ☐ Home Phone ☐ Mail
☐ I do not want my information shared outside the association

PARTICIPATION INTEREST IN A CURRENT COMMITTEE

- ☐ Lake Environment
☐ Lake Safety
☐ Membership/Outreach
☐ Newsletter
- Committee Chairpersons
are listed in Newsletter

☐ Regular Member \$30

☐ Senior (70-79) \$20

☐ Honorary (80 & Over) **FREE**
Life Member

SIMONTON LAKE AREA HOA \$

FIREWORKS FUND DONATION \$

SL PRESERVATION TRUST DONATION \$

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

ZONING REPORT

February 2022: Ronald E. Dosmann & Catherine S. Dosmann, Petition: for a 20 ft. Developmental Variance (Ordinance requires 50 ft.) to allow for the construction of an attached garage with second floor living space 30 ft. from the centerline of the right-of-way, and for a 2 ft. Developmental Variance (Ordinance requires 5 ft.) to allow for the construction of an addition 3 ft. from the northeast property line. Location: Southeast side of N. Shore Dr., 250 ft. Southwest of Bell Ave., 1,550 ft. East of SR 19, common address of 50908 N. Shore Dr. in Osolo Township, zoned R-2.

No other zoning appeals were made in the Simonton Lake area during the months of January, February, or March.

Zoning Questions with the Amazon Fulfillment Center

About 7 miles east of Simonton Lake, or about 15 minutes by car, Amazon is building an 800,000 square foot fulfillment center. North of the Indiana toll road and between County Road 17 and 19, this facility and another smaller delivery station facility near the Elkhart Airport will require about 1000 employees. Because our county already is hurting for workers, where will these employees come from? If, as some officials believe, potential employees come from outside the area, where will they live? We continue to watch this situation as additional land in our township may be rezoned for housing, and shopping to support these new residents.



Artist drawing of completed Amazon Elkhart Building

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SIMONTON LAKE ECOZONE

Where is it? Why do we have one?

For those of you who have lived at the lake for a while, the Ecozone is something that is not new to you. But, for anyone who has moved in within the last five years, a little review of this key area is a good thing.

Per Indiana Code IC 14-15-7-3 an "Ecozone" designates an area where motorized watercraft are limited.

- Ecozones include wetlands, marshes, and shallow areas.
- Ecozones function as a NATURAL WATER FILTER, filtering out nutrients and sediments that hurt water quality.
- Ecozones function as self-sustaining fish nurseries.

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 particularly good. However, three recommendations were made to continue to improve the water quality.

One of the three recommendations was the establishment of an Ecozone. We had the perfect spot: the southeast corner of Little Simonton, a shallow area already growing non-invasive and water filtering aquatic plants.

The Lake Association established a committee which went through the Indiana DNR process to establish an Ecozone. Final approval came in January of 2014.

The Simonton Lake Ecozone is protected by the Indiana DNR and the rules are enforced by Conservation Officers.



Simonton Lake Ecozone

No motorized watercraft.
Trolling motors are allowed.

No anchoring

Marked with buoys and a floating sign



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SIMONTON LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD

Spring **GARAGE -SALE-** **FRI/SAT MAY 6 & 7**

- An ad in the Elkhart Truth will be paid for by the Lake Association -
- Signs will be placed at major crossroads -

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SELL! SELL! SELL!**



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ACCESS AND EASEMENTS ON SIMONTON LAKE

On every one of Indiana's public lakes, the question of access to the lake is an issue. The land around Simonton Lake was platted at various times over the decades starting when the descendants of Samuel Simonton began creating lots for sale along the lake shore and ending when the lots along the channels were platted. In your official property information, you will find the original creation date of your lot or lots.

- There are several types of easements on "Big Simonton."
- There are no easements on the channels or on "Little Simonton" according to the data at the Elkhart GIS System.
- There is one public boat access at the north end of C.R. 109. This is the property of the State of Indiana.

If a real estate agent or a neighbor tells you that you have an easement in your neighborhood that you can use, you really need to check it out by calling the Elkhart County Assessor's Office.

DEEDED ACCESS VS. DEEDED EASEMENT

Deeded Access is when a resident has access to the lake through a specific property, and that access is noted on the deed to the resident's home or land. For example, if you purchase property near a lake but not on the shorefront, your house might have deeded access through an easement

property to get to the lake. We have at least one deeded access easement on the lake.

- Someone owns the land where you access to the lake.
- Those with deeded access have a right to use the property to access the lake as long as they own a home or property.
- If you have Deeded Access this should be specifically listed on the deed to your home or land.
- You do not pay property taxes on the easement because you don't own it. You simply have a legal right to use it.

Group Piers—If you are allowing other boaters to purchase a slip at your pier whether it is an access that you own or on your own property, you will need a DNR permit.

A Deeded Easement means a person(s) owns this property for his or her(their) sole use.

- If you own an easement, you will pay property taxes on the land.
- We have several of these on the lake.
- No one else can use this land for access to the lake unless you allow them to do so.

Pedestrian Easement—Some real estate developers plat their lake lots so that people living in the subdivision, but not on the lake, can walk to the



lake front. We have at least one pedestrian easement on the lake.

- A pedestrian easement does not include the right to place a pier at the lakefront.
- It's like a neighborhood park. You can use it like a park to enjoy the scenery.
- Can you have this changed? Call your lawyer.

Unused streets or alleys—When land was platted on Big Simonton some streets or alleys may have been laid out but, over the years, not used.

- This land belongs to Elkhart County.
- If you live near one of these never-used streets or alleys, can you use it for access to the lake? Can you put out a pier? Call the county.
- At least one unused street is referred to as a Water Court. We believe its original purpose was to allow ingress and egress for the fire department

Tradition—If you have no legal documentation to verify access, except that "everyone has always used it" you may want to check it out at the Elkhart County GIS website (Elevate) or by calling the Elkhart County Assessor's Office.

STAN SKINNER, OWNER

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SIMONTON LAKE AREA HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 18

Sportsmen's Club

Meal 6:00 p.m.

Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Good Food, Good Information, Door Prizes



MEMORIAL DAY FLOTILLA

Monday, May 30, 1:00

Parade Start-Northeast shoreline of Little Simonton

Decorate your boat with American Flags and other patriotic decorations.

Stan Skinner will play Taps from his pier at 1:00.

After Taps, boats will parade through the channel, go for a lap around Big Simonton and disperse at the sandbar.

As we enjoy the beginning of another summer on Simonton Lake, let us take a little time to honor our fallen heroes.

If you are not participating in the flotilla, then show your support by waving or saluting from your pier or boat!!

Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association



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CONSERVANCY CORNER

Simonton Lake Conservancy

WHAT NOT TO PUT INTO THE SEWER

There are some things you can do to make your grinder pump continue to work.

Remember these letters: F.O.G.S.

F stands for Fats

O stands for Oils

G stands for Grease

S stands for Sanitary "disposable" wipes

Grease and fats clog up pipes which eventually need to be cleaned out. And, those disposable sanitary wipes, well, for our system, they are NOT disposable.

BOTTOM LINE:

DO NOT PUT F.O.G.S INTO THE SYSTEM!

Conservancy Office has Moved

Just another reminder that the Conservancy Office is no longer at the corner of CR 9 and CR 6.

The office is being temporarily housed at a board member's home. Monthly meetings are being held in a meeting room at the Elkhart Aquatic Center. The search continues for a new office in or near the district.

ADA Compliant Pier Still in the Works

The Board is continuing to try to find a company to construct and install an ADA compliant pier at the Simonton Lake Boat Landing.

Simonton Lake Sewer Board of Directors

District 1.....	Paul Wilson
District 2	Ed Hickman
District 3	Ryan Matherly
District 4	Mark Lucas
District 5	Jane Mollo

Annual Meeting

The SLCD had their required annual meeting on February 19. Each year one District position is up for re-election, except Districts 4 and 5 which are both up for grabs the same year. Elections for board positions are held at annual meetings when there is a board position that is contested. This year there was only one candidate who ran for District 3. No election was necessary. Paul Wilson was elected as chairperson and Ed Hickman as vice-chairperson. Linda Wilson is the Secretary for the Conservancy and runs their office.

SLCD Website

The Conservancy has a website that has information on paying your sewer bill, board meeting minutes, upcoming projects, and board members. Did you know you can now pay your sewer bill online? Just go to the SLCD website and click on "Pay Online" on the menu bar!

SEWER MAINTENANCE

Maintenance of the Simonton Lake sewer system is an agenda item in every board meeting. Not only does the system itself need occasional upgrades or repairs, but the sewage itself needs to be monitored for harmful contents. Our sewage is sent into the Elkhart City system. The city can fine us if what we send to them does not meet their regulations.

SUMMER WEED SPRAYING

Check the SLSC website for dates of summer weed spraying.



MEMORIAL DAY 2022

ALTHOUGH NO SCULPTURED MARBLE
MIGHT RISE TO THEIR MEMORY,
NOR ENGRAVED STONE
BEAR RECORD OF THEIR DEEDS,
YET WILL THEIR REMEMBRANCE BE AS LASTING
AS THE LAND THEY HONORED.

~DANIEL WEBSTER~



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Hurricane



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MARINE





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SIMONTON LAKE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB



2022 Officers

David Miller, President

Jason Ringle, Vice President

Linda Fearnow, Secretary

Jaimie Hershberger, Treasurer

Jack Tucker, Sergeant of Arms

Board Members: Randy Cooper,

Bill Leighton, Tom Krueger,

David VanZile and Randy Miller.

.....

2022 Sportsmen's Club Events

Spring & Summer Events

Firecracker Open Golf Outing
Sat. May 14

Kid's Fishing Contest
Sat. June 11th & Sat. August 6th

Poker Run Hand Sales and T-shirt Sales
Wed-Friday, June 29, 30
and July 1, 5pm-9pm
at Re-Pete's and Flippen Cow
and Friday, July 1, 5pm-9pm
at My Dad's Place
Saturday, July 2, 8am-Noon
at Re-Pete's

Poker Run
Saturday, July 2

Fireworks
Sunday, July 3

FIREWORKS and POKER RUN 2022

The 2022 Poker Run will be held on Saturday, July 2nd.

The Fireworks will be held on Sunday, July 3rd.

Mark your calendars!

FIREWORKS HELP NEEDED

The Sportsmen's Club needs a volunteer(s) on July 3 to pull the fireworks barges to the launch site on Big Simonton AND to bring the firework personnel on your pontoon to the launch site as well. From your boat these people will launch the fireworks from their laptops.

YOUR FAMILY WILL SEE THE FIREWORKS AND OBSERVE THE LAUNCH PROCESS. Call Dave Miller at 574-596-4835

Another successful Turkey Shoot was held in March. The reason—great volunteers! ►



In March Club member Cody Walter caught this huge northern pike right here in Simonton Lake! ▼



JOIN THE CLUB

Membership is \$25.00 per year

Call Dave Miller at 574-596-4835 or e-mail Dave at davemilr@cs.com

LAKE SHORTS

CONGRATULATIONS!

Laura Byrns sent us this picture of her new granddaughter Charlotte "Charleigh" James Lane. She was born to Katy (Laura's daughter") and Neil Lane on April 5th. Laura reports that she is a wonderful addition to their family. Her big sister Raelynn is absolutely thrilled! Thanks so much for sharing her with the lake.

Laura's son Danny, and his wife Erica, are expecting in June. Laura has promised a picture our way.



Leaving the Lake

Longtime resident Diane Marlow is selling her home. For the past 20 years Diane has taken stunning pictures from her front lawn and shared them with all of us via "Simonton Says." She also served on the Ecozone Committee. Diane is moving to South Carolina where it doesn't snow very often. She will be missed.

Steve and Kathy Lard have sold their home on Maplewood Drive.

Simonton Lake Home Sales Reach a Milestone

As you know the housing market is hotter than hot these days. According to Zillow a home on Simonton Lake sold for over \$1,000,000. Wow!



Passings

The Matherly's faithful dog, Ella, who walked every morning with Doc, passed away suddenly in January. She was just nine years old and seemed in good health. Sadly, one night she went out into the yard to do her business and just never came in. She will be missed.



New Neighbors

- Doug and Mary Ann Bell have purchased a home on Lake Drive.
- Ron and Cathy Dosman have purchased a home on North Shore Drive in Wogoman's Cove.
- We have several other new neighbors on North Shore Drive: Dave Benton, Chelsea and Jeremy Thomas, Matt, Hayden and Kyra Kruger, Mike and Jessica Substanley, and Jack and Gina Vergonet.

Farewells

Antonia Maloney

Antonia "Ann" Maloney, 91, of Tucson, Arizona, passed away Friday, Nov. 12, 2021, in Tucson.

She was born on Dec. 9, 1929, in South Bend to the late Bernardus and Cornelia (Van Lierop) Vander Beek. She married the late James D. McHugh for 17 years, then she married the late **Dennis B. Maloney**, who remained with her for 49 more years until his passing in Elkhart in 2017.

She is survived by her daughter **Colleen (David) Replogle of Tucson formerly of Simonton Lake**; sons Larry (Susie) McHugh of Denver, Colorado, Mark (Doretta) McHugh of Summerville, South Carolina and Michael McHugh of Ketchikan, Alaska; step-children Karen (Percy) Herbert of Redland, California, and Maureen (James) Collins of Grenada Hills, California; her brother Theodore (Ted) Vander Beek; 12 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren, and a host of loving great-nieces and nephews, extended family and friends. Preceding her in death along with her parents and her spouses are her sisters Audrey Meyer and Angelina Eichorst and her brother John Vander Beek.

Ann enjoyed being a lifelong member of the New Apostolic Church, where she sang in the choir. She was also a member of the Elkhart General Hospital Auxiliary for over 20 years. She worked in the library and cafeteria at Mary Feeser Elementary School and then volunteered her time at the Osolo Elementary School Library.

Ann loved to spend time with her family, friends, and especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, whom she doted over. She also liked to sew, work outside in her flower garden, travel (especially with Dennis and friends) and living on Simonton Lake.

Friends and family wishing to make a monetary donation in Antonia's memory may do so by sending your contribution to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Ann was an amazing woman. For many years those of us who knew her as a neighbor would see her in the company of her husband, Dennis. They were always on the go. We missed them in the winter when they went to Arizona and welcomed them back to the lake every spring. She was one of those people you never forget.



Antonia Maloney

Kathryn Stettler

Kathryn "Kay" Carol Stettler, 85, of Elkhart died Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at her home. Kay was born November 1, 1936 in Elkhart to the late William and Nettie (Renaldi) Tappero. She married Jack Fredrick Stettler on May 30, 1959 at St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church in Elkhart.

She is survived by her husband Jack Stettler, children: Mark (Shelia Cornish) Stettler, Brent Stettler and Claudia (Mike) Watkins. Grandchildren: Jeremy Watkins, Brice Stettler, Abigail (Andrew) Schrottenboer and **Tate (Allison) Stettler of Simonton Lake**. Kay is also survived by a great grandson: Luke Schrottenboer, and a sister: Jean Bozzacco.

Kay attended St. Vincent grade school and graduated from Elkhart High School. Her first job was for the Elkhart Truth in the classified Ads department. Kay also was employed by Elkhart General Hospital in the switchboards with her dear friend Kate Arko where she was also a mail and stat lab runner. Kay was, also, an owner of Stett's Jean Shop and Premier Motors. Kay loved being with her grandchildren, she had many friends and talked to everyone she met. Kay was a devout catholic and active in her church community. In the infamous words of Kay - Catch ya, love ya.



Kathryn Stettler

Farewells

Dennis Kleitz

Dennis G. Kleitz, 74, of Summerfield, Florida, formerly of Elkhart, Indiana, was tragically killed on Oct. 3, 2021, while riding his Harley in Lake County, Florida.

He was born in Elkhart on May 27, 1947. He was raised by his beloved grandparents, William and Edna Huff, and later by his Aunt Ruthie Mansfield. During his childhood he spent a lot of time with his siblings and many cousins. They kept their grandparents busy and had many memorable fun times together.

Denny married Linda Wilson in Elkhart on April 18, 1969. They were life-long residents of Elkhart until they moved to Florida in 2015, which had been a dream of his for many years.

Linda survives along with two daughters, Tamara Butler of Knoxville, Tennessee, and Jennifer (Adam) Horn of Land O Lakes, Florida. Also surviving are five grandchildren, Olivia, Andrew and Abigail Butler, and Sarah and Brady Horn, all who were his pride and joy. A brother, Oscar Kleitz, and a sister, Darline Milbourn, preceded him in death. Surviving are two brothers, Larry (Melissa) Kleitz and Raymond (Karen) Kleitz, and a sister, Donna Wheeler (deceased Jan. 26, 2022). Denny was very close with Linda's family. Her parents, Mahlon and Doris Wilson, preceded him in death. **Linda's siblings, Paul (Linda) Wilson of Simonton Lake**, Charles "Chuck" (Sylvia) Wilson and Janet (Kevin) Young survive.

Denny was a member of the Elkhart Drillmasters Junior Rifle Drill Team in his teenage years and received many first-place awards in competitions in Indiana and Michigan. He joined the U.S. Army after graduating from Elkhart High School in 1965. He served with the 1st Calvary in the Artillery Division in the Vietnam War. Denny worked as a mechanic for Lochmandy Motors and in the RV industry, then as an "over the road" truck driver for Easco Aluminum/Indalex in Elkhart and Stripco in Mishawaka. He retired in 2010. During his 35-year career as a truck driver he logged millions of miles with no major accidents, received many safe driver awards, and made friends all over the country.

Throughout his life Denny worked hard and played hard. He most loved spending time with his family whether it was mowing the yard with a grandchild on his lap, playing games, or teaching them valuable life skills. He and Linda enjoyed many summers relaxing and entertaining family and friends around their backyard pool. The grandkids were taught how to swim in their pool at an early age and Papa made the best lemonade and mac and cheese.

Denny enjoyed traveling with his wife and relaxing on the beach, especially Madeira Beach, Florida, where he and Linda owned a timeshare and visited every year since 1992. Denny played like a child at Disney World, water parks, or a pick-up game of basketball with his children and grandchildren. He found peace riding his Harley on backroads on a beautiful day, which is how he spent his last moments of life. Denny was very patriotic and proud of his service to his country and in Vietnam. He never missed an opportunity to approach a stranger in uniform or other clothing indicating military affiliation to shake their hand, thank them for their service and share stories.

Denny was a very loving and devoted husband and in their retirement he and Linda were inseparable. They celebrated their 50th anniversary in 2019 on a Caribbean cruise. Denny was kind and generous. He would drive two hours or two days to help a friend or family member in need or to show support for his grandchildren in their activities. He loved fiercely and genuinely, never leaving any doubt how much his family meant to him. His unexpected and sudden death has shattered the hearts of those who loved him, but his legacy lives on in each of them.

A memorial was held in Elkhart on April 16.



Dennis Kleitz



ELKHART MUNICIPAL BAND SUMMER CONCERTS

Every Tuesday evening
from June 7- August 9
McNaughton Park Band Shell
8:00 pm

Concerts are
Free!

Bring your own
LAWN chair or sit
on the band shell
benches

NEW TO THE LAKE?

- Read the Indiana DNR Boating Manual. Available online. See the link at the Simonton Lake HOA website, www.simontonlakehoa.com
- Are you hooked up to the Simonton Lake Sewer? If you are, you'll have a grinder pump in your yard. Make sure your name is now on the account. Call the Conservancy Office at 574-206-8485.
- Water quality is something we all must protect. Don't blow yard waste or leaves into the lake. Be careful about using fertilizer near the water.
- Putting in a pier? Make sure you know the rules for piers. Check this out at the Indiana DNR website, in.gov/dnr/water
- Don't feed the geese or ducks. When ducks and geese get food from us, additional waterfowl who visit our lake will stay because it appears that there is plenty of food.
- Let us know you've moved in. We'll send you a New Neighbor Gift Bag.
- Join the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association. You'll find a membership form in your gift bag.
- Read the quarterly "Simonton Says" magazine to keep up with what is happening at the lake.
- Follow us on Facebook: **SIMONTON LAKE HOA**

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CRIME REPORT

Hit and Run at Auto Dealer

On March 31st, an Elkhart man crashed into vehicles at S and H Motors on Cassopolis Street just north of the Simonton Lake Drive In. He is accused of driving while drunk.

The man was arrested. He allegedly crashed into several vehicles on the lot which caused them to strike other vehicles.

April 2 Break In A man tried to break into the home of Heidi and Mike Compton on Lake Drive. Heidi has a nice video of him caught on their security cameras. The man simply walked up to the back of the house and began to open the slider which had not been locked. Heidi and Mike were inside. The man saw them and bolted. **NOTE TO ALL POTENTIAL BURGLERS:** The Compton's will be locking this door every night from now on.

As we move into spring be sure to:

- Lock all doors even when you are at home.
- Don't leave your garage doors open even if you are at home.
- Keep kayaks and lake gear up near your house
- Secure kayaks if possible
- Be a good neighbor and watch for persons who don't seem to belong in your neighborhood
- Make a police report when necessary so we can keep track of trends around the lake

PLEASE HELP KEEP INDIANA SCHOOL KIDS SAFE!



On March 29th, the Elkhart County Sheriff's Office announced that they are joining more than 200 police agencies for the spring enforcement campaign, as part of an ongoing effort to prevent reckless driving in school zones and around buses. Last year alone, more than 2,700 drivers were cited for stop-arm violations by Indiana law enforcement. One area bus driver reported that many drivers on Cassopolis Street violate the stop arm every day.

Let's keep kids safe.

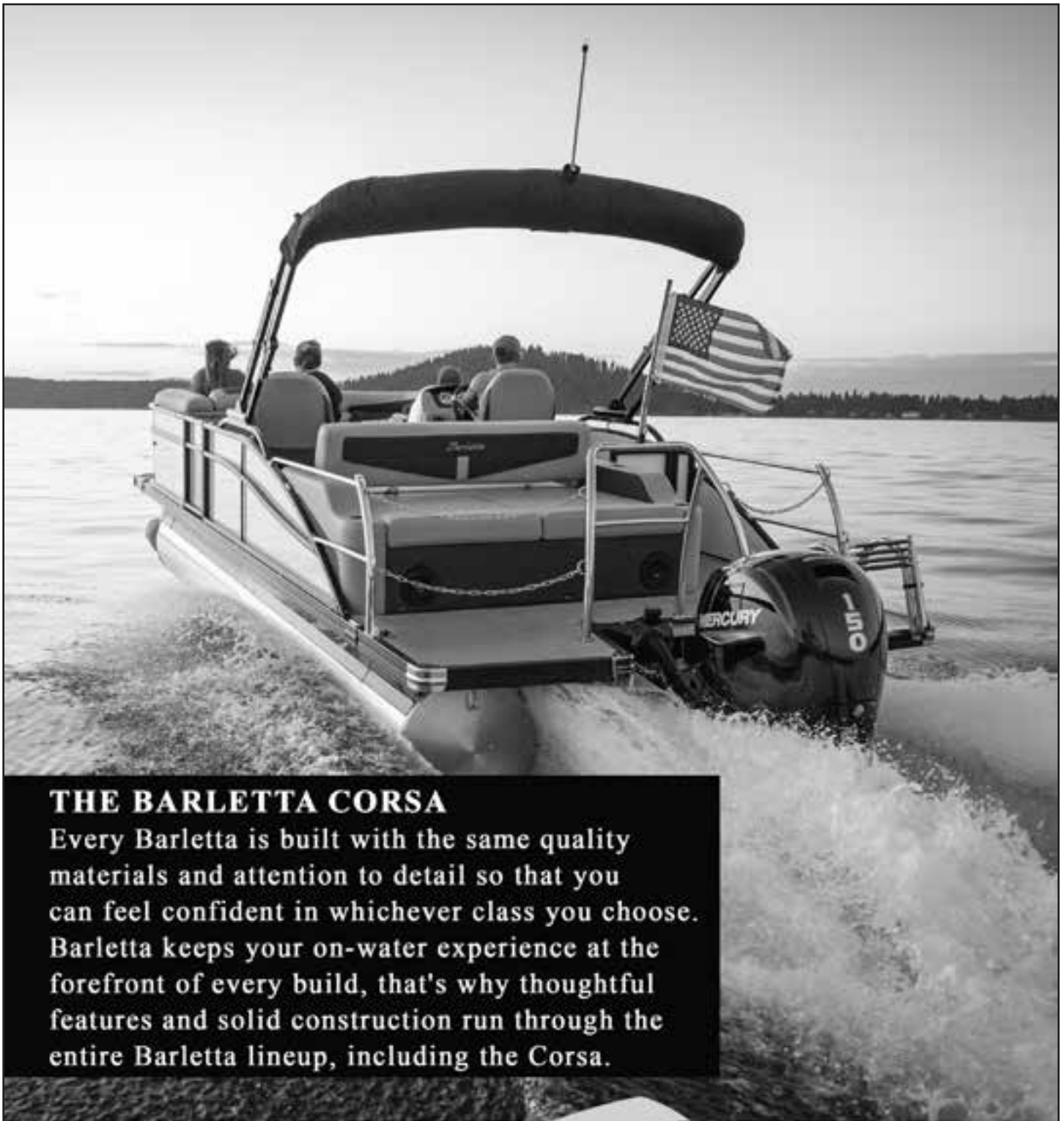


FIREWORKS DONATIONS

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Lake Association Dues
form

or

Send your donation
to
SLSC
25845 Lake Drive
Elkhart, IN 46514



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SPRAYING FOR INVASIVE WEEDS

Each year the Simonton Lake Conservancy sprays for invasive weeds. Specific areas of the lake have been identified as having these invasive weeds. The company the Conservancy has contracted with is Aquatic Weed Control, a company owned by Jim Donahoe.

Spraying for Invasive weeds on Simonton Lake is done twice each year.

If the weed spraying is going to be harmful to your lawn you will get prior notice by U.S. Mail, and a yellow flag like the one here will be placed in your yard. You can see from the notice that the homeowner is warned not to use the sprinkling system for three days after the spraying. If you get a notice like this and have neighbors who have gone out of town and might not have gotten the mailed notice, texting or emailing them would be the neighborly thing to do.

When Aquatic Weed Control sprays specifically for Starry Stonewort, which is NOT harmful to your lawn, you will NOT get prior notice. But a yellow flag will be placed in your yard just so you know they have sprayed.



Invasive Weeds

Know what they look like. Report them if you see them.

CURLY-LEAF PONDWEED



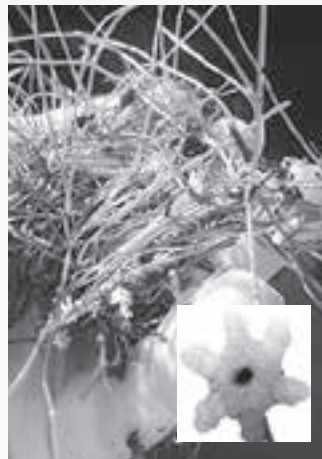
Three-inch leaves that are reddish green.
 Grows to form mat on water surface.
 Spread by cuttings that sink and root.

HYDRILLA



Small, serrated leaves.
 Spread by cuttings that sink and root.
 Looks like plants used in aquariums.

STARRY STONEWORT



Starry stonewort forms dense mats on the surface of the lake.
 Identify by star-shaped flower.

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL



Already found in Simonton Lake!
 Extremely fast growing.
 Feathery leaves with tiny flowers above water surface.
 Grows to form mat on water surface.
 Spread by cuttings that sink & root.

Report sitings to the Simonton Lake Conservancy 206-8485

Poker Run Hand Sales and T-shirt Sales

Wed-Friday, June 29, 30 and July 1,
5pm-9pm
at Re-Pete's and Flippin' Cow

Friday, July 1, 5pm-9pm
At My Dad's Place
Saturday, July 2,
8am-Noon at Re-Pete's

Poker Run

Sat. July 2
Turn in Your Hands
at the Island on Little Simonton

Fireworks

Sunday, July 3 at dusk



Summer Band Concerts

Having a band or DJ
at your home this summer?

Want to share the music with boaters
on Simonton Lake?

The Lake Association will provide a "Lake Concert"
sign for your yard or pier.

Contact ramatherly@gmail.com or any
Lake Association board member.



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ASKED

and

ANSWERED

QUESTION : Is there anything we can do about the very bright lights at the car dealership on Cassopolis Street near the lake?

ANSWER FROM:

H. Jason Auvil, Planning Manager and Zoning Administrator for the Elkhart County Department of Planning and Development I appreciate your concern. The eastern side of Simonton Lake adjacent to north Cassopolis St also known as SR 19 is a redeveloping commercial area. And in commercial areas security and parking lighting is really important.

The zoning ordinance states that light from adjacent or adjoining property can't shine onto your property. It doesn't address potential lights visible from across a property or body of water like a lake.

I contacted the property owner at S and H Auto Sales, and he informed me that about 6 months ago AEP replaced the existing lights with LED lights, which have brighter white color. He is definitely willing to see what can be done, however since these lights are AEPs this might be difficult.

For more information contact:

H. Jason Auvil, Planning Manager & Zoning Administrator
4230 Elkhart Rd.
Goshen, IN 46526
574-971-4582
hauvil@elkhartcounty.com

From the Simonton Says Staff:
If these lights are shining into your adjacent or adjoining property, then you can call and register a concern.

QUESTION : There are several properties on roads approaching the lake that just look awful! Abandoned cars litter the lawn, trash all over and in the summer the grass is rarely, if ever, cut. What can I do about this? Seems like the County should do something.

ANSWER : We found the answer to this question in an article from our Fall 2020 issue.

Elkhart County does have laws regulating homes in our neighborhoods including Weeds and rank vegetation, lawns over 8 inches tall, junk cars in lawns, debris in yards, structural issues regarding homes, sheds or other structures, trash and outside storage, people living in tents, unattended trash or leaf fires or RVs parked in a neighborhood.

Elkhart County planning and development director Chris Godlewski said the job of code enforcement is driven by complaints, usually from neighbors who believe someone may have violated an ordinance. County Enforcement Officers have as many as 30 investigations each day. The bottom line is: If you do not call in a violation, the county does not know there is a problem.

TO SUBMIT A COMPLAINT:

- Document your concerns with pictures. Document dates and times of incidents (smelly, standing water in the yard, dates of when the yard was last raked or mowed, etc.)
- Then call the Elkhart County Planning and Development Office with the address of the property in hand. Elkhart County Planning and Development **Phone: 971-4678**
- Ask for Code Enforcement. Depending on the type of complaint you may be sent to Nuisance Enforcement or Zoning Enforcement.
- Sometimes a letter with pictures is better than a phone call. Direct your letter to:
- Code Enforcement: 4230 Elkhart Road, Goshen, Indiana 46526 • E-Mail: pds@elkhartcounty.com • Hours: Monday, 8-5, T-F, 8-4

The Lake Association recommends that you have a conversation with your neighbor before making a report.



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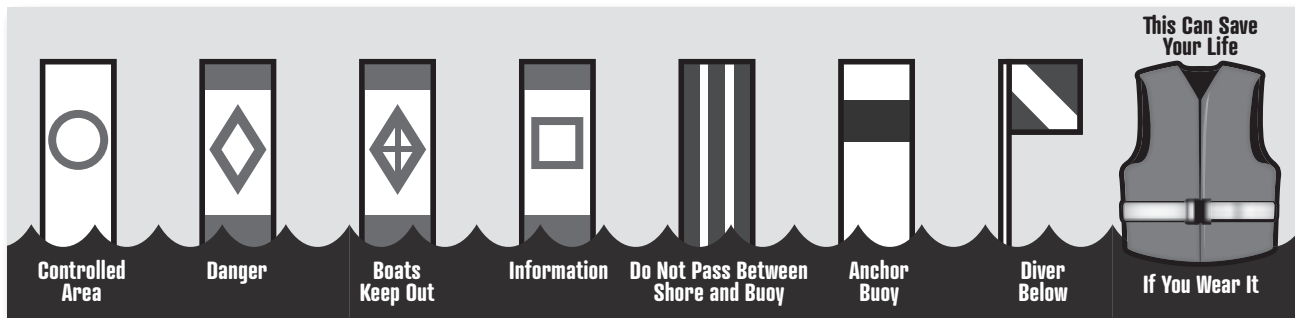
wecanfixthat.com

IT'S BOATING SEASON! BE SAFE, BE SMART, BE COURTEOUS!

— by the Safety Committee —

Especially, if you are new to the lake,
please read the “Indiana Boating Law” handbook and follow safe boating practices!

Know and Obey Buoys and Markers



Controlled Area: This buoy has a red circle and the information you need is printed inside that circle. On Simonton Lake you will see this buoy with the words “Slow, No Wake”

THE CHANNELS ARE NO WAKE AREAS.

IF YOUR BOAT PRODUCES A WAKE AS YOU DRIVE AND YOU ARE IN A NO WAKE AREA,
YOU CAN BE TICKETED

Information—On Simonton Lake our **Ecozone** is marked by several of these buoys. Only trolling motors are allowed in the Ecozone. No power boats! No wave runners! No anchoring!

When a power boat meets a sailboat, the power boat is the one which must change course



When meeting another power boathead on, keep to the right (starboard)



- Make sure your 2022 Boat Registration number and Excise Tax are properly displayed.
 - Make sure you have enough life jackets on board.
 - Watch out for swimmers in the water

To see an “Indiana Boating Law” Handbook, go to the link on our website www.simontonlakehoa.com



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BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

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

BIRTHDAYS

5/4----- Sue Taylor
5/4----- Katy Byrns
 Daughter of Laura Byrns
5/8----- Kelly Matherly Shewmaker
5/15 ---- Jeremy Walters
5/21 ---- Madelyn Grace Skipper
 Grandparents Buford & Becky Skipper
5/22 ---- Nixon Barhydt
 Grandson of Jim Ulery
5/25 ---- Linda Bowser
 Frankie Saleh
 Grandson of Bill & Susie Broderick
5/28 ---- Liam Trevor Skipper
 Grandparents Buford & Becky Skipper
5/31 ---- Tonda Lucchese
6/1 ----- Bob Dudek
6/3 ----- Sloan Espinas
 Daughter of Tony Espinas
6/7 ----- Dave Miller
6/11 ---- Audrey DeGeyter
 Daughter of Morrie & Peggy DeGeyter
6/12 ---- Lisa Wuchner
6/13 ---- Kay Marcus
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 ---- Albert Rodriguez Kessler (AJ)
 Grandson of Van & Cathy Kessler
 Chase Coleman
 Son of Nick & Michelle Coleman
6/18 ---- Carter Matthew Jones
 Son of Matthew & Cassie Jones
 Grandson of Ed & Nancy Jones
6/25 ---- Wendy Cooper
6/25 ---- Linda Jimison
6/25 ---- Emmaly Kate Kwasny
 Daughter of Kyle & Julianne Kwasny
6/28 ---- Martha Nickell
 Michelle Coleman
7/1 ----- Micah David Obendorf
 Grandparents Dave & Tammy Obendorf
7/1 ----- Susie Broderick
7/1 ----- Phyllis Nusbaum
7/2 ----- Elliot Reed Harding
 Son of Ryan & Erin Harding
7/2 ----- Katy Barhydt
 Daughter of Jim Ulery
7/5 ----- Joe Arredondo
7/5 ----- Danny Byrns

7/6 ----- Gia Matherly
 Granddaughter of Ryan & Amy Matherly
7/9 ----- Cale Ulery
7/12 ---- Curt Willis
7/14 ---- Brett Polizotto
7/16 ---- Peggy DeGeyter
7/17 ---- Randy Hoff
7/18 ---- Molly Grace Kessler
 Granddaughter of Van & Cathy Kessler
7/19 ---- Cam Snyder
7/24 ---- Emmett Riley Harding
 Son of Ryan & Erin Harding
7/25 ---- Jenn Walters
7/29 ---- Leighla Kay Winchester
 Granddaughter of Vaughn & Cindy Nickell
7/31 ---- Casey Willis
 Lisa Weinley

ANNIVERSARIES – May through July

5/16 ---- Katrina & Jason Barhydt
 Daughter of Jim Ulery
5/18 ---- Dan & Leanne Brekke
5/22 ---- Adam & Rachel Meyers
 Son of Bob & Bobbi Meyers
6/9 ----- Mike & Angie Peterson
6/11 ---- Judy & Ed Hickman
6/11 ---- Natalie & Josh Hochstetler
 Daughter of Dave & Colleen Replogle
6/11 ---- Jenn & Jeremy Walters
6/13 ---- Cindy & Vaughn Nickell
6/13 ---- Erica and Danny Byrns
 Son of Laura Byrns
6/16 ---- Courtney & Michael McIntire
6/19 ---- Christi & Erik Smith
 Daughter of Dave & Tammy Obendorf
6/23 ---- Heather & Wil Frentzen
 Daughter of Greg & Barb McGough
6/23 ---- Katy and Neil Lane
 Daughter of Laura Byrns
6/28 ---- Gary & Marlene Taska
7/11 ---- Ann & Jerry Broderick
7/11 ---- Ellen & Andrew Meyers
 Son of Bob & Bobbi Meyers
7/12 ---- Jenny & Nathan Montiel
 Daughter of Don & Carol Bradshaw
7/12 ---- Kelly & Greg Shewmaker
 Ryan & Amy Matherly's Daughter,
 Terry and Kathy Shewmaker's Son
7/16 ---- Esther & Joe Arredondo
7/17 ---- Sheila & Jim Dill
7/19 ---- Ryan & Erin Harding
7/20 ---- Derek & Isabelle Sapakowski

SIMONTON Message Board

www.simontonlake.org



What's for Sale at the Lake?

Houses at the lake are selling so quickly that we are not only including homes or property that is for sale but also those that have sold since January 2022.

For Sale:

- 51361 N. Shore
- 51315 County Road 11
- 51031 Beach Road
- Lot on Deer Run Lane
- Lots on C.R. 109

Recently Sold:

- 51172 Maplewood
- 25992 North Shore Drive
- 25820 North Shore Drive

Have you
paid your
Lake Association
Dues?






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WHO DOES WHAT AT THE LAKE?

We are very fortunate that we have several organizations looking out for or doing services for Simonton Lake and its residents. As Indiana lakes go, we are one of the smaller ones, but when comparing us with other lakes our size, we are way ahead of the others.

But, it often gets confusing. Who gets my sewer payment? Who gets my fireworks donation? I want to donate my woods to someone so it won't get developed?

Who do I call? Use the graphic below to help.

Simonton Lake Area HOA

Voluntary membership HOA
Newsletter, Website, Facebook
Invasive weed education, ecozone oversight
"Lake Alerts" email group
Fall and Spring Garage Sales
Lake "gear"
Assists with Fireworks expense
Cooperates and communicates with the Indiana DNR and local police

Simonton Lake Sportmen's Club

Social organization and community philanthropy
Regular events - Turkey Shoot, food drives, Fall Ball, golf outings
Regular stocking of the lake
Fourth of July fireworks
Scholarships
Kid's fishing contests
Poker Run

Simonton Lake

Simonton Lake Conservatory

Governmental body
Management of sewer system
Drainage
Erosion
Maintenance - dredging, weed control
Creation and maintenance of public parks, etc
Cooperates and communicates with County and State governments

Simonton Lake Preservation Trust

Not-for-Profit charitable organization
Donations tax deductible
Established to create enhancements to the Lake area such as parks, nature areas and community developments
May protect private land from development through legal means