



Simonton Says...

April 2017
Volume 15, Issue 10

Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc. Newsletter
Elkhart, Indiana.....www.simontonlakehoa.com



March Sunset Over the Lake

A warm winter with a late snow storm sets the stage for April and spring. *By Diane Marlow*

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Safety Committee Reminders

by Paul Wilson

Know and Obey the Buoys

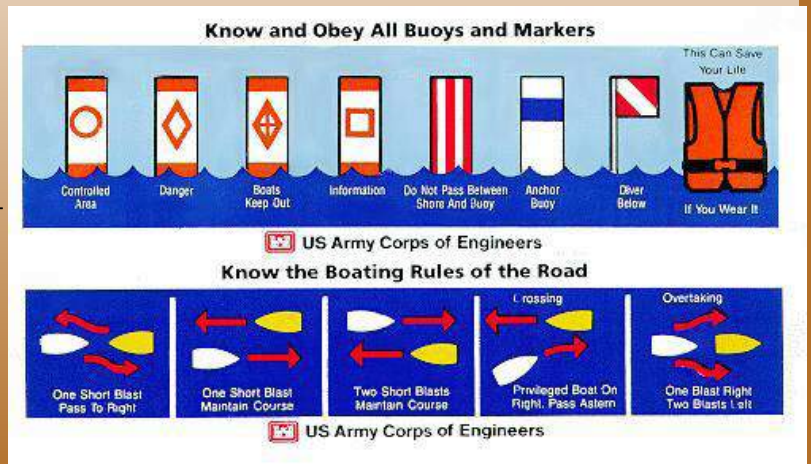
The Safety Committee reminds all boaters to know what the symbols on the buoys mean and that you obey the buoys. One of our biggest problems on Simonton Lake is speeding in the channels. When a buoy says "Slow, No Wake" that is what it means. The instructions on our buoys are like speed limit and stop signs on the roadways. Ignoring the buoy can mean a ticket if you are caught.

Use this chart below to identify the different kinds of buoys on Simonton Lake.

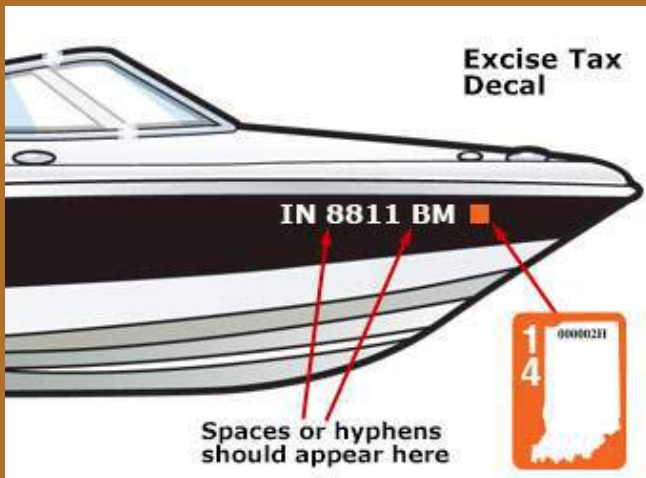
Controlled Area: This buoy has a red circle and the information you need is printed inside that circle. On Simonton Lake you will see this buoy with "Slow, No Wake"

Boats Keep Out: This buoy is also known as an 'exclusion' buoy. An example of this would be "Swim Area".

Diver Below: These buoys are set by persons scuba diving on the lake. They are set by the divers themselves and are removed when the divers return to their boats. Stay clear of diver flags.



We do not have any "Danger" or "Information" Buoys on our lake at this time.



REMEMBER By Indiana Boating Law (Section 25) you cannot:

- Moor or attach a boat to a buoy
- Move, remove, displace, tamper with, damage or destroy a buoy.

Buoys are expensive and are purchased, maintained, placed and stored by lake residents.

Displaying your Boat Registration Numbers

Boaters are reminded to register their watercraft and to display both the registration numbers and the Excise Tax decal. For more information see the "Indiana Boating Laws" at simontonlakehoa.com. Click on "Safety" for the drop down list.

Printed copies of the Indiana Boating Law Handbook are available from the Indiana DNR website.

Know the Rules of the Road

Much more information can be found in the Indiana Boating Law Handbook. But, here are the basics.



INFORMATION AND EVENTS

Association Board Members

Vaughn Nickell-President
 51147 Maplewood Drive
 574-262-3195
VLNickell@gmail.com

John Rose-Vice President
 51332 Forest Road
 574-333-2433
Johnrose11@comcast.net

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

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

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 26137 Lake Drive
 574-264-2233
zipi@choiceonemail.com

Carole Foutz-Big Lake Director, South
 26109 Lake Drive
 574-262-3908
clyfoutz@yahoo.com

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

Simonton Lake Area
 Homeowners' Association, Inc.
 P.O. Box 1706
 Elkhart, In. 46515-1706
NEW www.simontonlakehoa.com
 Email:ramatherly@gmail.com

Standing Committees:

Membership: Ken & Sue Ward
sckjward@comcast.net and Gina &
 Randy Hoff gmhlifeisgood@aol.com

- New Neighbors
- Lake Events

Newsletter: Amy Matherly
ramatherly@gmail.com

- Submit information 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: Paul Wilson
pwilson@markleyent.com

- Buoys
- Public Landing
- Hazards in the water
- Neighborhood watch

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

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

April	"Simonton Says" Spring issue
April 1	Lake Assoc. Garage Sale
April 8	Drop Off 1-3 Sportsmen's Club Casino Night 6:00
April 29	Lake Assoc. Garage Sale Drop Off 1-3
May 1, 2, 3	Lake Assoc. Garage Sale Drop Off 5-7
May 5 and 6	Lake Assoc. Garage Sale
May 17	Annual Lake Assoc. Mg & Dinner
May 20	Sportsmen's Club Mostaccioli Open Golf Tournament
May 28	Luminaria Night
June 24	Sportsmen's Club Kid's Fishing Contest
July 1	Poker Run/Fireworks

Community Contacts

Simonton Lake Conservancy
 574-206-8485
 902 CR 6, Elkhart, In. 46514

DNR
 Main Office (317) 232-4160
 Or toll free 1-877-928-3755

Sheriff Elkhart County
 (574) 533-4151

Neighborhood Contact:
 Cpl. Casey Lehman
clehman@elkhartcountysheriff.com
 574-535-6553

EMERGENCIES-CALL 911
Osolo Township Fire Dept.
 574-264-1066
Osolo EMS 574-262-3052

REMEMBER OUR NEW WEB ADDRESS: simontonlakehoa.com

Update on the Process to Add Purposes to the Simonton Lake Conservancy

Over a year ago a process was begun to add purposes to The Simonton Lake Conservancy.

The purposes which are proposed to be added are:

- Improving Drainage
- Developing Forests, Wildlife Areas, Parks and Recreational Facilities
- Preventing Erosion
- Operation, maintenance and improvement of any work of improvements for water-based recreational purposes (Dredging, Water Quality)

The following steps in this legal process have been completed:

- Petitions were circulated
- Petitions were presented to the Circuit Court
- Public presentation of a "District Plan" detailing the implementation of the purposes

The next steps are:

- The Natural Resource Commission, DNR parent organization, will conduct a public hearing and prepare a report to the Circuit Court.
- The Circuit Court will then hold a public hearing.

Please watch for updates on this process on our website at simontonlakehoa.com, at our Facebook page and in each issue of "Simonton Says"

What is the District Plan?

According to State Code Indiana 14-33, commonly known as the Indiana Conservancy Act, every Conservancy District must create a "District Plan". This is an engineering report that sets forth the general and comprehensive plans for accomplishing the purposes of the Conservancy District. So, in the Simonton Lake Conservancy District Plan the contents include how do deal with drainage, preventing erosion, and so on.

Our plan, The Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association 2016 Mater Plan of Improvements, is an extremely detailed 27 page document which sets forth the problems as well as the plan to deal with these problem. Each issue is identified in detail which is followed by a detailed solution, as well as the benefits of the improvements and the costs.

Maps found in the report include: a watershed map, a depth map, and areal maps from 1938 and 2013 showing the filling in of the lake. A map of the current location of Starry Stone- wort can be found here along with a map of Drainage Problem

Areas and Major Erosion Points.

If you have not yet reviewed the recently published Simonton Lake Area Homeowner's Association's 2016 Master Plan of Improvements document, you may do so by logging on to the SLAHA website, www.simontonlakehoa.com. To access the document, click on the "Environment" button at the top of the page, then click the "2016 Master Plan of Improvements" button from the drop down menu.



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Annual Dinner and Meeting

MAY 17th 6:00

Sportsmen's Club

\$5.00 per person

Reservations Needed!

RSVP to Amy Matherly at

ramatherly@gmail.com or 262-4773

by May 10!

Meeting Follows at 7:00

Monthly Bike Rides Are Back

By Dave Foutz



For the past two summers Simonton Lake residents have drug out their trusty bicycles and participated in the monthly Bike Elkhart Recreational rides. These rides are typically on the first Tuesday of the month and finish at an area restaurant that serves adult beverages.

There is no charge to participants. There are always two groups, one taking a six to ten mile loop and another following a twelve to fifteen mile course. Riders in both groups ride at a relaxed pace. This is NOT a race! This is about enjoying a scenic, leisurely ride.

All rides begin at 6:00 PM. Fortunately for Simonton Lake residents, the season kicks off once again at Pete's Simonton Lake Tavern. The schedule is as follows:

- May 02 Pete's Simonton Lake Tavern
- June 06 Iechyd Da Brewing Company
- July 11 Hunters Bar Meet at Sterling Park,
corner of Sterling and Indiana Ave.
- August 01 Hacienda

If you haven't previously participated, grab your neighbors and enjoy the ride with others from the lake. If you have questions contact Dave Foutz at dfoutz61@aol.com.



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Crime Report for April 2017

January 2, 2017

A utility trailer was stolen from a home on North Shore Drive. The trailer was locked.

February 2017

Two dogs were reported missing from a home in the Dutton Drive area. The homeowner noticed that the gate at the back of his property was open the night before. He shut it. The following day he found the gate was open again and this time his dogs were gone. The dogs were found near North Shore and State Road 19.

March 20, 2017

A Mishawaka man didn't need air in his tires to lead police on a 16-mile chase across the east and north sides of Elkhart early Sunday. The Elkhart County Sheriff's Department attempted to pull over 36-year-old man for a traffic violation north of Goshen around 1:30 a.m. He sped off westbound on U.S. 20 toward C.R. 17, according to a sheriff's department report.

The driver then took off northbound on C.R. 17 at high speeds. Police laid down spike strips on C.R. 17 at the intersections of C.R. 10 and C.R. 6 and blew out most of the tires on the car, said sheriff's department spokesman Capt. Jim Bradberry.

The driver continued north on C.R. 17 before turning westbound onto C.R. 4. Police giving chase reported he only had one tire inflated, but he was still able to continue driving at speeds over 60 mph across the north side of Elkhart on C.R. 4. Police laid down spike strips a third time at the intersection of C.R. 4 and S.R. 19, deflating the fourth tire on the car, according to the sheriff's department. However, he continued driving at 50 to 65 mph west on C.R. 4 until it dead ends at C.R. 1. The driver was finally apprehended on C.R. 10 just east of Ash Road. The sheriff's department and Elkhart Police Department conducted a felony stop on the car, arresting the man without incident a few minutes later.

Abigail "Abby" Williams, 13, and Liberty "Libby" German, 14, were reported missing on February 13 after they were dropped off to go hiking near the Monon High Bridge in Delphi, Indiana, and didn't return. Their bodies were found the following day in a wooded area near the Delphi Historic Trail.



Overnight, the reward for information leading to an arrest doubled to more than \$200,000 thanks to a \$100,000 donation from Colts kicker, Pat McAfee and team owner, Jim Irsay.

So, Simonton Lake residents, don't let a walk in the woods turn to tragedy. Be alert when you walk, go with a buddy, be aware of your surroundings and always let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return.

Delphi Murders Remind Us to be Safe while Walking or Hiking

One of the benefits of living here at the lake are the open woods and fields that allow us to enjoy nature by hiking or walking to our heart's content. But the recent death of two young girls from Delphi, Indiana reminds us to be smart when we take off on foot, even in the daylight.

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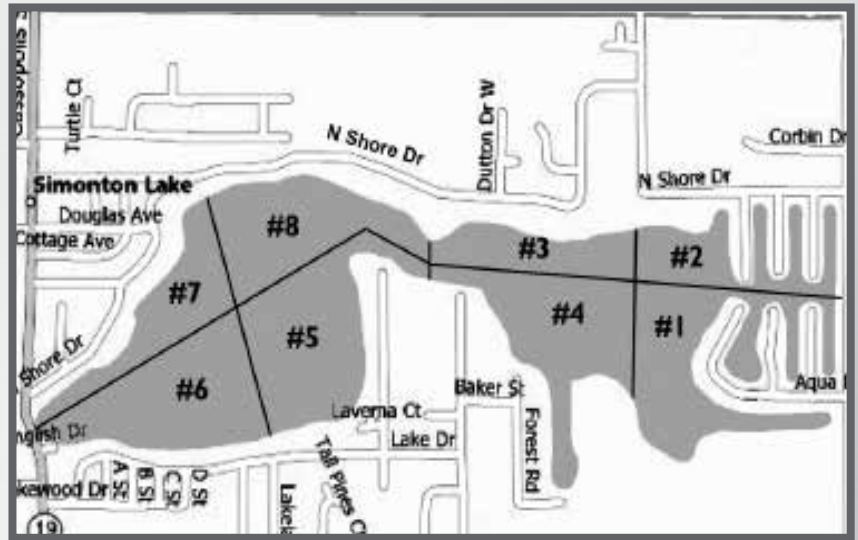
Notes From The Board

Association Dues are Due: Dues for the 2016-2017 year were due June 1, 2016. Our year runs from June 1 to May 31. There is still time to support us for the current year. Use the form below. If you have questions, contact Association Treasurer, Susie Broderick at susiealice@comcast.net

Area Representatives -your delegates for neighborhood concerns



- Area #1. Van Kessler 262-1685
- Area #2. Ann & Jerry Broderick 264-1331
Ken and Sue Ward 206-0450
- Area #3. Maria Hopman 262-1655
- Area #4. Jon Hart 262-1404
Randy Hoff 596-8885
- Area #5. Bob Meyers 675-0970
Cindy Nickell 262-3105
- Area #6. Dick Martin 264-7656
Ron Taylor 262-1332
- Area #7. Dave VanZile 264-5201
Theresa Maier 361-0517
- Area #8. Maria Hopman 262-1655



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

SLAHA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

DUES: per household per year

Household: \$30
 Senior: (70 and over): \$20
 Senior Honorary Membership:
 (80 and over):
 FREE lifetime member

FIREWORKS FUND DONATION:
 Donation Amount: \$ _____

Member's Name: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$

w/ Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

2nd/Spouse Email: _____

Preference for contact: Email Phone Mail

Participation Interest: _____

Current committees: Lake Environment, Lake Safety, Membership/Outreach, Newsletter/Website

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

Please check the appropriate box below if you are NOT willing to share this information in a directory sent to members. We will not share this list outside of the association without your permission. Address _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Pike Caught

Tyler Divjak whose mother lives on Lakeview Drive, caught a Northern Pike on April 10th in the Beach Dr./ Twilight Drive channel. Nice fish!



STAN SKINNER, OWNER

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“Piers — Do They Require a DNR Permit?”

By Alysson Oliger & Suzanne Delay, PE, CFM; DNR- Division of Water, Compliance & Enforcement Section

Earlier this spring, the newsletter staff was contacted by the DNR Compliance and Enforcement Section and asked to run an article on pier regulations. Just before this newsletter was printed we were informed that several lake residents had received letters from the DNR about their piers. What follows is the article written by DNR officials Alysson Oliger and Suzanne Delay, Division of Water, Compliance and Enforcement

Natural public freshwater lakes, such as Simonton Lake, are a very special resource. The Lake Preservation Act (IC 14-26-2) was enacted in 1947 in order to protect the natural resources and scenic beauty of these lakes and to hold them in trust for the public. This statute, therefore, requires the approval from the DNR Division of Water for any construction or project that is proposed along or lakeward of the shoreline and below the legal or normal water level of a public freshwater lake. However, the Public Freshwater Lake Rules (312 IAC 11) authorize the placement of certain temporary piers under a general license. The general license provides for an approval by rule, so if it is determined that a proposed pier qualifies for the general license, no coordination is required with the DNR Division of Water.

To qualify for the general license for the placement of a temporary pier, the pier must be:

- Easily removable
- Not mounted in or comprised of concrete or cement
- Supported by auger poles or other poles that rest on the lake bed and that do not exceed 3.5” in diameter
- Installed by a riparian owner or with permission of a riparian owner
- No longer than 150’ lakeward of the shoreline
- Installed so that it does not infringe on the access of an adjacent landowner or restrict navigation

See the picture below



Details of the general license requirements are outlined in 312 IAC 11-3-1. This section of the lake rules should be referenced when determining whether a proposed pier will qualify for the general license. If a proposed pier does not qualify for the general license, then written approval from the DNR Division of Water is required for the pier.

All group piers, marinas, and individual piers that do not comply with the general license require formal review and approval from the DNR Division of Water. Permanent piers, including piers that cantilever out over the lake, are typically not approvable. For these projects and any shoreline alteration projects, a permit application should be submitted to the Division of Water for review.

A link to the application form as well as a link to a Permit Application Assistance Manual can be accessed from the DNR Division of Water’s website at: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/water/2455.htm>

Please keep in mind that we have only discussed DNR regulations. Before scheduling any project, you should also check with other local, state, and federal agencies to see if other permits are required.

Additional Information and Resources:

- Lake Preservation Act: <http://iga.in.gov/legislative/laws/2014/ic/titles/014/articles/026/chapters/002/>
- Public Freshwater Lake Rules (including the general license criteria): <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T03120/A00110.PDF>
- The general license criteria is outlined in 312 IAC 11-3-1, which begins on page 10 of the Public Freshwater Lake Rules document.
- Information about determining riparian zones can be found in the Natural Resources Commission's nonrule document on Riparian Zones Within Public Freshwater Lakes and Navigable Waters (Bulletin #56) at: <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/20100331-IR-312100175NRA.xml.pdf>
- Public Trust Doctrine: <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/20111012-IR-312110582NRA.xml.pdf>
- Legal and Average Normal Water Levels: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/water/5068.htm>
Simonton Lake has a Legal Lake Level of 772.86' MSL (772.86' NGVD)
- Contact the Technical Services section of the DNR Division of Water with questions about the permitting process at water_inquiry@dnr.IN.gov or toll-free at (877) 928-3755, Option 1.

Temporary Pier: Placement of the pier would be allowed by a riparian owner under the general license as long as all of the conditions are met. Note that shoreline alterations (seawalls, etc.) may require a permit from the DNR Division of Water.



**If you have received a letter from the DNR about your pier, our recommendation to you is to:
Attend the meeting on April 26th at The Sportsmen Club at 6:30pm**

Set Out Your Luminaries!

Set out your luminarias along your beach or seawall on Sunday night, May 28. Let those who pass by our lake on the highway, those who visit our lake that day and those who might pass by overhead, see the shining lights from Simonton Lake as we remember those who have fought and still fight for our freedom.

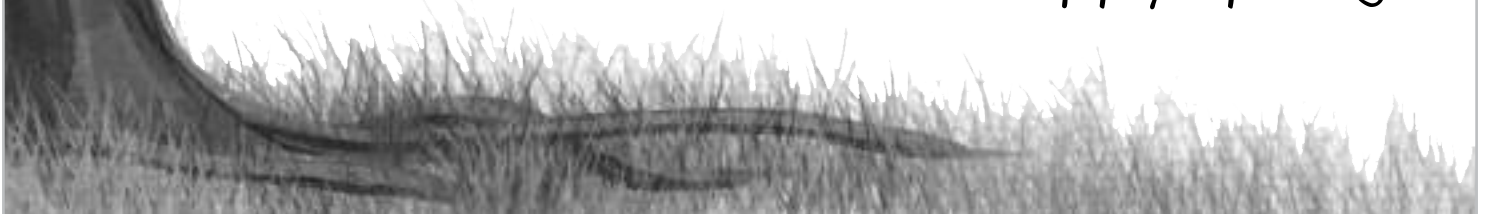
Simonton Lake *Spring* Word Search

Created by Angela Black



R A G L L F R A I N G X Z V I	SPRING	INSPIRING
E S P O R T S Y N E A S T E R	DAFFODILS	PASTEL
N B H E O G M D D S M P W B N	GARDENING	FRAGRANT
E G A M G N P G L M C F G A E	EASTER	
W N P V I I Z A C Z V H N I V	FLOWERS	
I I L L G R N T G T B R I R P	RAIN	
N N L U C I Q P N H B O N Y I	CARDINALS	
G A Y D D P Z K L A V Y E R C	BIRDSEED	
N E F R E S S L Y M R S D T N	BONFIRES	
I L A H N N Q N M G B G R B I	PICNIC	
R C O G N I N E K A W A A P C	SPORTS	
P T F L O W E R S F F Q G R V	CLEANING	
S S R H L B O N F I R E S C F	AIRY	
U B U Z D A F F O D I L S O N	AWAKENING	
L E T S A P B I R D S E E D U	RENEWING	

Happy Spring!



Report from the Environmental Committee

This committee is one of the busiest in the Lake Association with several major projects ongoing.

Adding Purposes to the Conservancy

Our Simonton Lake Conservancy was originally established to take care of sewage. Now we are asking that several other, legally allowed, purposes be added. Please check out the article entitled "Update on the Process of Adding Purposes to the Simonton Lake Conservancy".

Weed Control

Bob Kelsey and Paul Wilson have accepted the Weed Control Subcommittee Co-Chairmanship. The responsibilities of this subcommittee are to provide oversight, coordination and leadership in developing a program to document our situation, develop an appropriate Control Plan, and create an implementation plan for Bi-annual treatment applications. The process is heavily regulated by several governmental agencies and will require multiple permits.

Earlier this year, the Committee commissioned and received a Tier II Survey documenting aquatic vegetation throughout the lake. Our biggest concern is Starry Stonewort, which currently covers more than 10% of the surface of Simonton Lake. A meeting has been scheduled between the Subcommittee and a potential consultant to gather information for developing a Comprehensive Aquatic Plant Management Plan. This Plan will be submitted to various regulating authorities during the permitting process, as outlined in SLAHA's 2016 Master Plan of Improvements.

No work can be authorized until funding has been secured, however it may happen next year through private tax deductible contributions until annual funding is secured. For more information contact Bob Kelsey, zipi@choiceonemail.com, or Paul Wilson, pwilson@markleyent.com

Dredging

Bob Paul, chairperson of the Environment Committee, chairs this sub-committee. We are pleased to report that funding has been secured to complete the remaining two un-dredged areas of the current contract. Work is being scheduled for fall 2017.

The Application for permitting of the general lake dredging according to the phases of the SLAHA's 2016 Master Plan of Improvements is currently underway. In preparation for this application, a new Lake Sediment Removal Plan, which includes all of the 11 new areas noted in the Master Plan, has been prepared. The plan received preliminary approval from the State Biologist following a tour of the lake, additionally, meetings are being scheduled with other appropriate governmental officials to discuss the drainage and erosion issues of the Master Plan.

Randy Cooper has accepted the Neighborhood Dredging Subcommittee Chairmanship. The responsibility of this subcommittee will be to provide leadership, coordination and oversight for lake residents seeking individual dredging permits. As this process is heavily regulated by several governmental agencies, DNR has asked the Homeowners Association to streamline this effort into a single group application. (This will not preclude individual applications, if desired.)

Randy will be conducting individual District town hall meetings (8 in all) to inform residents about the Neighborhood Dredging Program and collect neighborhood input. The meeting schedule will be posted on the SLAHA website at www.simontonlakehoa.com. These meeting will be further coordinated through our 8 SLAHA District Representatives.

These preliminary steps need to be completed before any action is taken. No work will be authorized until funding has been secured. For more information, contact Randy Cooper at racoper63@gmail.com.

As events unfold, they will be posted in the Environment section of the SLAHA website – www.simontonlakehoa.com.

If you have comments or questions concerning for the Environment Committee, please contact the appropriate subcommittee chairman or **Bob Paul**, Environmental Committee chairman at kabopa730@yahoo.com or through the Comments section of the website.



Farewells

Melvin Blad, father of Carole Foutz, 99, died 10:30 p.m. Thursday, March 23, at Miller's Merry Manor, Wakarusa. He would have been 100 years old on April 17, 2017.



He was married to Arlene Evelyn (Friesner) Blad on June 28, 1941, and she passed away on June 22, 1991. He married Leona E. (Wolff) Blad on October 22, 1991, and she passed away on August 6, 2012.

Melvin is survived by a daughter, Carole (David) Foutz of Elkhart; a son, David Blad of Osceola; a son-in-law, Robert Doty of Mishawaka; 6 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren. One daughter, Diane Doty preceded him in death.

A 1936 graduate of Grovertown High School, Melvin worked as a carpenter until he enlisted with the Army Air Corps in 1941. After his training as a ground air assistant, he served in the Philippines, New Guinea, Solomon Islands and several other Pacific Theater areas in World War II. After being discharged in 1945 from the military, he worked as a carpenter on many large structures in Michiana, including the Notre Dame Library, ACC and the Cook Nuclear Power Plant.

After retirement, he spent many years wintering in Florida and enjoyed fishing and golfing. He had lived in Miller's Merry Manor in Wakarusa since 2008. A celebration of life service will be held at a later date.

As with many of us, Carole cared for her dad for many years, making regular and frequent trips to Miller's Merry Manor. It was not a duty, just an act of love of a good daughter. Our hearts go out to the family.

Glenn Hemund, long-time resident of North Shore Drive, passed away on March 10. He had recently moved from the lake to Tavares, Florida. Glenn was a proud veteran of the United States Army Air Corps. He retired after 36 years from NIPSCO where he worked as a service dispatcher. Glenn was an avid fisherman. Most days you could find Glenn out on the lake in his boat, sometimes with the grandkids and sometimes alone. He enjoyed spending time with his family. He will be missed.

Norma Jean Pletcher, mother of Brad Pletcher 89, of Elkhart, passed away Sunday, Jan. 8, at Elkhart General Hospital. She was born March 23, 1927, in Elkhart, to Wilber O. and Ethel M. (Martin) Madlem. On Oct. 1, 1948, she married her husband of 68 years, Paul D. Pletcher. He survives at home.



Other survivors include two sons, Lake Resident, Brad (Deb) Pletcher and Dan (Bonny) Pletcher of Toledo, Ohio; five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one sister, Eileen Mishler.

Norma worked at CTS and in the office at Ziesel's for a while after getting married and then enjoyed staying at home and raising her sons. She later worked part time at Cookie Hut and also delivered Meals-On-Wheels.

Norma was a member of Creekside Church of the Brethren. She enjoyed spending summers with her family at their cottage on Shavehead Lake. In the winters, Norma and Paul spent several weeks each year, for 27 years, at Fort Myers Beach, Fla.

Norma's family has very fond memories of the wonderful years they had together and enjoying her delicious homemade food. The beautiful afghans that she crocheted will continue to provide her family with warmth and comfort for years to come. *Norma will be greatly missed.*

Dorothy Marlow, mother of Bruce Marlow 94, of Elkhart passed away Saturday, March 4, at Elkhart Hospice House. She was born July 22, 1922, in Angola. She married Paul R. Marlow on Feb. 24, 1940, in Huntington. He passed away on Feb. 4, 1987, in Elkhart. She is survived by a daughter, Paula (Thomas) Ternet, of Elkhart; two sons: Patrick (Linda) Marlow of Elkhart and lake resident Bruce (Diane) Marlow; 13 grandchildren; 40 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren.



She was preceded in death by her husband; a son, Myron Marlow; her twin sister, Doris Thimlar; and three brothers, Donald, Robert and Harold McKinley.



She retired from Whitehall Laboratories as a Lab Technician after 30 years. Dorothy enjoyed traveling. She loved her family, especially her grandchildren, and her dog, Taffy.

Memorial contributions may be given to Elkhart Hospice House.

Brad Collins, 38, passed away in Elkhart on Feb. 7th. He was born Aug 11, 1978, to the late Dennis Collins and Mrs. Nancy Collins, who still resides on Forest Road where Brad grew up. He married Rikki Reed in June 2005. In addition to his wife and mother, Brad leaves behind three daughters, Paige, Madilyn, and Teagan. Also, brother Chad Collins, sister Jennifer Igney, and Rikki's family, parents Joe and Teri Reed, and brother, Jason Reed. Brad worked for more than ten years as an AEP electrical transmission lineman, and had formerly served as a firefighter with the Osolo Township Fire Dept for almost ten years. He was a talented mechanic and enjoyed tinkering, taking things apart and fixing them. In his free time he liked to fish, spend time on Simonton Lake, and be a doting father to his three girls.



The Collins family has lost a wonderful son and brother, and Forest Road will miss a dear friend of those who played with Brad and watched him grow up on the channel. He made it an adventurous life, and is fondly remembered by the boys in the neighborhood for being the one who always wanted to go the fastest, climb the highest, and have the biggest stereo!



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: simon@simontonlake.org

Moving to Tennessee

Pam and Carl Staines who lived on Beach Road are moving to Tennessee. They got a great send off from their Beach Road neighbors. Best wishes from all of us at the lake.



A Valentine for Don and Barb Rospopo

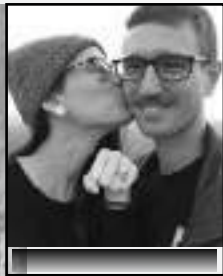
This cute little Valentine is the great grandson of Don and Barb Rospopo. Isn't he a little doll! Don and Barb, keep sending those pictures.



Maddox Theodore Scott

Rospopo Grandson engaged

Don and Barb Rospopo's grandson Finn McNally got engaged. Here he is with his fiancé. Nice!



Congratulations

Pam Goddard - Dunfee has been a registered nurse 45 years. The last 26 years has been in management. She retired December 31, 2016 from Elkhart General Hospital after 6 years as Executive Director of Surgical and Cardiovascular Services. She and her husband, Jim plan to travel to warm weather during the cold months and enjoy Simonton lake during the warm months. Now she'll have time to enjoy yard work, scrap booking, golf and spending time with family and friends.



New Neighbors

Ryan Snyder moved to Forest Road in Feb, along with his fiancée Jessica, and their daughter Adalynn. He's now just three doors down from his folks, Cam and Sue. The previous owners, Mike and Debby Wheeler, have moved to Louisiana to be close to the grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. George Gyori. Have purchased a home on Aqua Drive. They moved to the lake from Granger. They are the parents of Jody Divjak a Lake Drive resident.

Dave and Jocelyne Cole are new N. Shore Drive residents. They've come to us from Iowa.

Welcome to Adam and Becky Warble who are new neighbors on Twilight Drive.

Randy and Carlene Miller are new neighbors on N. Shore Drive.

Welcome to the Lake!

Leif and Kathryn Freehafer have purchased a home on Lake Drive.

Moving, but Not Moving Away from the Lake

Randy and Lesa Hershberger are moving from their home on Aqua Drive to North Shore Drive. They are building a new home. So, boaters will get to watch the building progress this spring and summer.

Ryan and Amy Matherly have moved temporarily to Lake Drive to the home Ryan's parents built on Lake Drive. Their house on N. Shore will be torn down and a new house built there this spring.

Have a new neighbor in your neck of the woods? Please let us know. The Membership Committee has a Welcome bag which they'd like to deliver. Please e-mail sckjward@comcast.net



Almost time for Summer!

Luminary Night

**Sunday, May 28th
Sunset**

Place your Luminaries along the lake shore

Ready-made luminaries will be available to purchase at the May 17th, 2017 Lake Association General Meeting and beginning May 18 from the following people:

- Maria Hopman, 25918 N. Shore Drive
- Gina Hoff, 25369 Forest Road
- Amy Matherly, 26097 Lake Drive
- Margot Rutter, 51172 Aqua Drive
- Melissa Price, 51180 Maplewood Drive



However, feel free to make your own with a paper bag or plastic milk jug, sand and a votive candle.

Let's show our support for those that protect our freedom.
Sunset on Sunday, May 28th, 2017

Membership Committee To Have Garage Sale With Donated Items

This year the annual Simonton Lake Neighborhood Garage Sale will be held on Friday and Saturday, May 5th and 6th.

As usual the Lake Association will pay for the ad in the Elkhart Truth and put signs at major intersections.

This event has been so successful in the past that the Membership Committee has decided to hold their own Garage Sale as a fund raising event.

If you would like to get rid of any items EXCEPT CLOTHING, donate them to this sale. You'll be rid of the things you don't want, and we'll make money for the Lake Association.

DROP OFF SITE is the storage building near the corner of State Road 19 and Roseland Road.

DROP OFF DATES AND TIMES APRIL AND MAY

Saturday, April 1, 1-3
Saturday, April 29, 1-3
Monday, May 1, 5-7
Tuesday, May 2, 5-7
Wednesday, May 3, 5-7



North Shore Neighborhood Park

A Simonton Lake Preservation Trust Project

At the intersection of North Shore Drive and Bell Avenue is a small neglected area of land that belongs to the county. Those of you who live on N. Shore and drive past it each day can attest to leaves which never are raked, limbs and branches that litter the ground and a burn pile that seems to grow each year. Those neighbors who live close by are especially vexed by this neighborhood blight.

Many decades ago this land was a neighborhood park. A tire swing hung from one of the many oak trees and a cement pad and basketball hoop was put in and used by neighborhood kids. Various neighbors took care of the raking and mowing. But, as time went on those neighbors moved away, the cement cracked and the branch which held the swing fell.



Neighbors along the street are interested in seeing this small area cleaned up and become useful once again. The Simonton Lake Preservation Trust which can own land and not pay property taxes began to research a solution to the problem. A call was made to Mike Yoder, County Commissioner who was happy to work with us in ceding control of the area to the Trust.

The land is small and its uses are limited. Maybe it simply will be a place for walkers and bike riders to stop and rest. But, we feel that at the least it could be cleaned up and be an asset to our neighborhood, not an eyesore. As the county attorney works to put a legal document in place, the SLPT has begun to take the following steps:

- A survey of the land will be done to determine the lot line between the land and the property to the west
- An estimate on a fence to mark that lot line will be sought

- We are seeking estimates on tree trimming and removal.
- An Eagle Scout candidate from South Bend is ready to do general clean up, help with fence installation, landscaping and design. This project will be a great fit for his Eagle Scout Badge project.

The Trust is interested in getting more grants for projects around the lake. With two properties under our control, we can begin the process to become accredited. Accredited trusts have an advantage when it comes to being awarded grant money. So, this project helps the neighborhood and helps the Trust.

As we determine the cost of each of these steps we will communicate our needs to the neighbors.



**Simonton Lake Neighborhood
Garage Sale May 5th & 6th**

Membership Committee Report

by Gina Hoff

Garage Sale-This year the Annual Lake Association Garage Sale will be held on Friday, May 5 and Saturday, May 6th. As usual, an ad will be placed in the Elkhart Truth Classifieds courtesy of the Lake Association. Signs will be placed at major crossroads. You will be responsible for signs to your home.

NEW THIS YEAR Would you like to get rid of some things but don't want to have your own garage sale? Well, have we got an answer for you! This year the **Membership Committee will be running their own sale.** We are calling it the **GIANT GARAGE SALE.** Donate your items to this sale. We'll sell the items and donate the money to the Lake Association. You will get a tax receipt for your donated items. Sounds good to me. Look for details in a separate article. NOTE: We will not accept donations of clothing.

HELP NEEDED FOR THE GIANT GARAGE SALE

- We need tables (card tables, picnic tables, tailgate tables).
- We need help the week of the sale to sort and price
- We need help on sale day for 2-hour shifts.

Contact Gina Hoff at gmlifeisgood@aol.com if you can help

The Lake Association Annual Meeting and Dinner will be held on Wednesday, May 17 at 6:00. See details in this newsletter, on our website and our Facebook page.

Luminaria Night is scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend on Sunday, May 28 at sundown.

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New Business Card Size Ads

Beginning with this issue, we are offering an annual contract for a business card size ad in the newsletter. Our plan is to devote as much of a page as needed for a business listing, using the cards as the ad. It's a great way to promote your goods and services to our Simonton Lake residents. And, it's an affordable way to reach the 600+ homes receiving our newsletter.

There are two issues left for this year...July & Oct...and the cost would be just \$50, payable in advance. Ideally, we will want an electronic file of your business card.....PDF or JPEG. If that's not available, we can take a picture of it and work with the photograph.

So far, we've had just one business come aboard, C & S Construction, but certainly would like to see many more of you take advantage of this. If interested, give Jon Hart a call at 612-4123 or email to jkhadman@comcast.net.

Next Door-The Neighborhood Website

By Amy Matherly

There's a new social website out there for neighbors. Well, at least it's new to me. It's called Next Door and is a networking site for neighborhoods.

This site was recommended to me by another neighbor who found it via the Elkhart County Police Department. Our county police post things on this website by neighborhood to alert us to crimes, accidents and so on that might directly affect us.

Neighborhoods are marked out by the first person from your neighborhood to join. Then your neighborhood is a "pilot" neighborhood for 21 days. If there are no posts, the neighborhood goes away.

While we have our e-mail alert system, our website and our Facebook page, Next Door would provide you with a smaller geographic area. You can not only post crime alerts but advertise your garage sale or ask if anyone has seen your dog or your raft that floated away. Take a look at this site and see if your "neighborhood" is already established.

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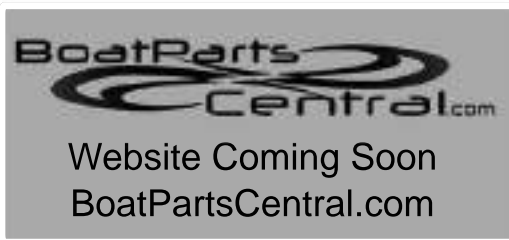
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Starry Stonewort Found in Simonton Lake

By Paul Wilson and Bob Kelsey

Starry Stonewort is a very aggressive invasive aquatic plant that is moving into Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana. It forms dense mats that can reach the surface in 6 to 8 feet of water and severely impact lake use and beneficial native vegetation. It was first found in Indiana in Lake Wawasee in 2009, with about 20 acres being present. Today, starry stonewort distribution has expanded in Lake Wawasee to 238 acres.

This species was found in Simonton Lake during a vegetation survey conducted by Aquatic Weed Control on August 29, 2016. Starry Stonewort is present in approximately 31 acres in Simonton Lake and will likely become the dominant aquatic plant species in many shallow water areas. It is important to note that managing starry stonewort will not eradicate the plant from Simonton Lake nor will it stop the plant from spreading. However, aggressively managing starry stonewort should help to slow its spread and control its density. Aggressive treatment of this plant can provide effective seasonal control that allows lake residents to use areas of the lake that might otherwise become unusable or unnavigable because of severe starry stonewort infestations.

We are currently working on getting an estimate on the cost of treating our lake for this aggressive weed. Funding for the treatment is also being discussed. However, the longer we wait to get after this invasive plant the more area will be infested.



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DECEASED 2016-17 MEMBERS

Bachman, Beverly	Honorary
Elliott, Carter & Betty	Honorary
Falcone, Ruth	Honorary
Hemund, Glenn	**
Linn, Jim	Honorary
Vetter, Vivian	Honorary
Matherly, Chet & Doris	**

Thanks to all of you who have supported the SLAHA with your dues.

Thanks to all of you who donated to the Sportsman's Club Annual Fireworks Display.

THANK YOU



MESSAGE BOARD



Wishing you a very

Happy Birthday!

To add your family birthdays and anniversaries to this list e-mail

tkshewmaker@yahoo.com

4/2 Ryan Matherly
 4/3 Dave Adams
 4/5 Cassandra Ulery
 4/8 Shirley Adams
 4/14 Ryan Harding
 4/19 Finley Alan Shewmaker
 Grandparents Ryan & Amy Matherly,
 Terry & Kathy Shewmaker
 4/24 Preston Thomas Ryan
 Grandparents Tim & Phyllis Nusbaum
 4/26 Heidi Polizotto
 4/28 Michael Thomas Fix
 Son of Katy Rutter & Ryan Fix;
 Grandparents Margot & Tom Rutter
 4/30 Grant Brekke
 5/2 Janet Kelsey
 5/4 Sue Taylor
 5/4 Jim Friend
 5/5 Brian (Bucky) Linson
 5/8 Kelly Matherly Shewmaker
 5/9 Greg Ferro
 5/21 Madelyn Grace Skipper
 Grandparents Buford & Becky Skipper
 5/22 Nixon Barhydt
 Grandson of Jim and Chris Ulery
 5/24 Steve Troyer
 5/25 Linda Bowser
 Frankie Saleh
 Grandson of Bill & Susie Broderick
 5/28 Liam Trevor Skipper
 Grandparents Buford & Becky Skipper
 6/1 Brynlee Grace Landis
 Daughter of Eric & Jody Landis
 6/13 Jacob Moore
 Grandson of Theresa Maier
 6/14 Alex Freshour
 Grandson of Theresa Maier
 6/14 Pam Shultz
 6/14 Randy Cooper
 6/16 Bill Leighton
 6/16 Albert Rodriguez Kessler (AJ)
 Grandson of Van & Cathy Kessler
 6/18 Carter Matthew Jones
 Son of Matthew & Cassie Jones
 Grandson of Ed & Nancy Jones
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 6/24 Jodi Ferro
 6/24 Theresa Leighton
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 6/25 Linda Jimison
 6/25 Emmaly Kate Kwasny
 Daughter of Kyle & Julianne Kwasny
 6/28 Martha Nickell

Classified Ads

To place a classified ad, e-mail: ads@simontonlake.org Classified ads are free for paid members of the Lake Association. Non-members pay \$5.00 per ad. Ads must be resubmitted for each issue. No commercial business ads will be accepted to protect our sponsors who are supporting this newsletter.

Deadline: 15th of the month prior to publishing month

FARMER'S MARKET MANAGER sought for Farmer's Market for late spring 2017 through fall 2017. Two to three days each week. Responsible for working with vendors, collection of fees, set up and clean up. Must be on site on market days. Some experience preferred. Manager may also be a vendor. E-mail the Simonton Lake Preservation Trust at ramatherly@gmail.com Or call 262-47773

GIANT GARAGE SALE May 5 and 6, Sponsored by the Membership Committee. We take anything but clothing. See the article for drop off dates.

Lost and Found

Pulled out of Little Simonton: WOOD CLASSIC CONCAVE SLALOM SKI. CALL: 849-2056

Happy Anniversary!

4/4 Karen & Ron Glick
 4/4 Matt & Elie Hart
 4/14 Lonnie & Cari Waggoner
 4/30 Bob & Bobbi Meyers
 5/12 Bucky & Sue Linson
 5/16 Katrina & Jason Barhydt
 Daughter of Jim Ulery
 5/18 Dan & Leanne Brekke
 5/22 Adam & Rachel Meyers
 6/9 Mike & Angie Peterson
 6/11 Judy & Ed Hickman
 6/11 Natalie & Josh Hochstetler
 Daughter of Dave & Colleen Replogle
 6/13 Vaughn & Cindy Nickell
 6/16 Cortney & Michael McIntire
 6/19 Christi & Erik Smith
 Daughter of Dave & Tammy Obendorf
 6/23 Heather & Wil Frentzen
 Daughter of Greg & Barb McGough
 6/23 Lisa & Jordan Swanson
 Son of Tom & Deb Swanson
 6/28 Gary & Marlene Taska

Graphics Group Ad

Simonton Lake



Late Winter
by Maralee Macumber

The 2016-17 ice which held such promise for ice fishing, snowmobiling and skating disappeared with our warm temperatures of January. That led Maria Hopman to launch her kayak. How many people can say they kayaked the lake in January?



Looks cold, Maria!



Beaver on Forest Road Channel



February Moon
by Diane Marlow



Send us your pictures. We are already collecting Photos for the Lake Calendar 2017