



# Clear Lake

# NEWS

April - June 2007

## Greetings

As President of your Clear Lake Association, I would like to welcome everyone back as we look forward to another safe and fun season at The Lake. I thank you all for your continuing support of the Association and its activities. The Association will continue to be guided by its mission statement and strive to bring benefit to ALL who enjoy Clear Lake.

The CLA is sponsoring a Boater Safety Class on Saturday June 9. Mr. Jim Kidd, Head of the Steuben County Marine Patrol, will conduct this class at the new Clear Lake Town Hall. The class is open to everyone 11 and older. We encourage parents and grandparents to attend. A free lunch is included.

One way we can all be better stewards of our Clear water is to inform ourselves about the effects of chemicals we use on our lawns and gardens. If you are considering Spring lawn fertilization, please be aware that one pound of phosphorous in our lake can produce 10,000 pounds of wet weeds and algae. Please refer to the 'Clear Lake-Clear Water What's Phosphorous Got To Do With It' article reprinted in this newsletter.

The board members of the Association will be meeting soon to finalize activities for 2007, to address issues of Clear Lake, and to share information of interest to Clear Lake property owners. The board encourages your input. Please forward your comments, questions, and concerns to me at: Clear Lake Association P.O. Box 38 Fremont IN 46737 or via e-mail to [jonfitzenrider@aol.com](mailto:jonfitzenrider@aol.com)

Jon Fitzenrider, President

## Town Council Report

Spring has arrived and town government has moved to our wonderful, new Town Hall located at 5950 Gecowets Drive. For the

convenience of the public, as well as effective operations, each town function now has a private office. Town Council received an appraisal on the former town hall property at 122 Outer Drive and, after receiving your input, will decide on future uses or possible sale of the property.

The new truck purchased by the town has been delivered and will be used for sewer maintenance functions, street repair, snow plowing, and general town use.

2007 promises to be a busy year for town government. A re-codification of all town ordinances and codes will take place in late spring. The Comprehensive Master Plan update that began last year will be completed, and plans are being considered for constructing a maintenance/storage building near the new town hall. Street resurfacing and repair will take place. A short term, mid-term and long range strategic operational plan for town government will be considered.

The town has a healthy long-term financial outlook and has invested the 2006 Major Moves distribution wisely. We look forward to a progressive and successful year.

## Council Approves Resolution to Expand Council Membership

At its regularly scheduled meeting on March 12, 2007 the Clear Lake Town Council passed Resolution 02-2007--a resolution to submit a public question on the November 2007 ballot. The question will be to expand the Council membership from three to five trustees.

All Town of Clear Lake registered voters will be eligible to vote yes or no on the ballot. If approved by the voters the Council then must pass an ordinance enacting this change during the December 2007 meeting.

More details will appear in the July-September issue of the Clear Lake News.

## **The Clear Lake Association**

Are you a member of the Clear Lake Association? The Association was formed in 1919 and was the forerunner of town government. Members of the Board of Directors are elected at the July Annual Membership Meeting. The Board of Directors receives no compensation and the Association Secretary-Treasurer (formerly a paid position) accepts no pay for a very time consuming position.

Membership in the Association is voluntary with minimal dues of \$25 per year. Membership letters will be mailed to all property owners in May. In addition to sponsoring the very public and successful annual fireworks display, publishing the Clear Lake Newsletter that you are reading, community donations (Fremont Fire Department, Steuben County Underwater Rescue Team, etc.) and other events, the Association lends a strong voice in town affairs.

The Association has, and has always had, a great deal of support from many civic minded and generous Clear Lake residents. We have a concern. Association records indicate that 40% of cottage owners are not members of our strong organization and we would like to know what we can do better to increase membership.

## **2007 Knee High Naturalist Club Program** **Schedule**

**Sponsored by the Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy**

Hey kids age 5-12! Join us for one week or all four weeks in July (Wednesday mornings except July 5th) having a great time learning about nature around Clear Lake! All programs begin at 9:30 a.m. and will last until 11:30. We will meet rain or shine. Rainy day activities will be held at the Yacht Club. Sometimes we may end early and sometimes we'll run late. Earn a free tee shirt for participating! Adults and Junior Leaders are welcome and expected.

- July 5, 2007-"Insects, Spiders and Bugs, Oh My".

Location: Clear Lake Lutheran Chapel outside deck behind the building. Then we will go to Koeneman woods. Wear your shoes; it could be wet in the woods. Presenter: Gary Moughler, USDA Entomologist, (Insect Biologist).

**Please note: This program meets on Thursday due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday**

- July 11, 2007-"How to Fish Clear Lake".  
Location: Clear Lake Yacht Club. We'll begin on the dock and then board a pontoon. Bring you life jacket! Presenter: Ted Bohman, long-time Clear Lake fisherman and Pokagon State Park Manager

- July 18, 2007-"The Birds of Clear Lake and Surrounding Watershed Habitat".

Location: We'll begin at the Yacht Club and then walk to the woods behind the tennis courts. Presenter: Fred Wooley, Pokagon State Park Naturalist

- July 25, 2007-"Exploring Spangler Grove".

Location: Spangler Grove next to the condominiums. Presenter: Nate Simons, Executive Director of Blue Heron Ministries and prairie restoration specialist.

For more information contact:

Megan Morris (847-612-9939)

Josie Kramer (260-495-4572)

Angie O'Neill (260-402-0108)

## **Kasota Island Status**

The Kasota Island Preservation Committee has been busy over the winter planning for a very active 2008 summer. It is our goal to conclude the campaign by the end of August.

As of 3/24/2007 we have \$1,242,387 or 76% of the goal of \$1,650,000. That leaves us with \$407,613.00 to raise this summer. \$236,013.00 would be to pay for the island and the remaining \$171,600.00 will be for the Conservancy Endowment Management fund. We presently are working on two grants totaling \$35,000 with the Steuben County Foundation and Ducks Unlimited.

As you can see we are close to completing this community wide campaign. We are all grateful for those who have pledged, contributed, and participated in this campaign. We look forward to this summer and will be encouraging more residents to take part in this worthwhile event. If you need for information on this campaign please don't hesitate to contact anyone on the committee.

Once again we will be having an auction for the benefit of the island. This was the event last year that brought many of our residents together for a great cause. The tentative date for the 2007 KASOTA ISLAND (cont'd page 5)

## April 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	<b>2-Plan Commission</b> 7:00 pm Town Hall	3	4	5	6	7
8	<b>9-Town Council</b> 7:00 pm Town Hall	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

## May 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	<b>14-Town Council</b> 7:00 pm Town Hall	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	<b>26-CL Lions Chicken Barbeque</b> 9:00 am until sold out -Lutheran Ladies Bake Sale 10:00 am -Clear Lake Cuisine On Sale@Marina
27	<b>28-Wooden Water Ski Museum</b> Open House 10 am to 1 pm 598 Lake Drive	29	30	31		

## June 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2-Heavy Trash Pickup Have roadside before 7 am
3	4	5	6	7	8	9-Boaters Safety Class- 8:00 am Town Hall
10	11-Town Council 7:00 pm Town Hall	12	13	14	15	16
17	18-Board of Zoning Appeals 7:00 pm Town Hall	19	20	21	22	23-Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy Annual Meeting 10 am Town Hall
24	25	26	27	28	29-TGIF-Yacht Club-open to public	30

## July 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2-Plan Commission 7:00 pm Town Hall	3	4	5	6	7-5k/10k Walk/Run -CL Lions Chicken Barbeque -CLA FIREWORKS @ Dusk
8	9-Town Council 7:00 pm Town Hall	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21-CLA Annual Meeting
22-2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Clear Lake Auto Show	23	24	25	26	27	28-
29	30	31				

BENEFIT AUCTION is August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007, at the Yacht Club.

A letter will be mailed to all property owners in May which will include an auction items donor form. For those who have pledged the letter will also contain an "I (heart) Kasota Island" sticker.

So as you can see the summer will be busy with many activities. For those of you who have not had the opportunity to pledge or contribute our volunteers will be asking you for your support as we close out this great community activity.

Thank You for Your Support!

Bob Lewis Co-Chairman-495-5015

Bill Geiger Co-Chairman-495-1775

### **Kasota Island Shirts**

Back by popular demand, we received a new shipment of white Kasota Island T-shirts last fall. Sizes include all adult sizes (S – XXL) in addition to requested children sizes (4 – 16). These can be purchased from Clear Lake Marina or Bonne Brown for \$15.each. We also have on hand a very few gray sweatshirts (\$35.) and long sleeve T-shirts (\$20.) in adult sizes only. These can be purchased from Bonnie or on the net @ [clearlakefun.org](http://clearlakefun.org) and follow the link to Kasota Island.

*Shirts always make great Easter Basket fillers!*

### **Comprehensive Master Plan Update**

During 2006, as most residents and property owners are aware, the Town Council of Clear Lake initiated the process of updating and constructing a new Comprehensive Master Plan. Volunteers for the Master Plan Steering Committee were sought and 24 full and part time residents contributed many hours to committee and public input sessions.

Three public opinion surveys were mailed to property owners and residents and the information gleaned from those surveys contributed to the construction of policies, goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Master Plan that was recommended by the Plan Commission and adopted by the Town Council.

The next step in completing the Comprehensive Master Plan includes an evaluation of the Town's Building Code and zoning ordinances with the goal of bringing them

in compliance with the policies, goals, and objectives.

The Town Council is again seeking volunteers for the Steering Committee for this phase. Both full and part time residents as well as any property owner are being sought. Work for the Steering Committee includes attendance to Steering Committee and sub-committee meetings, assisting with public input sessions and surveys, research, and actively participating in bringing Town ordinances up to date.

If you are able to commit your time and talent please contact any Town Council member before April 20, 2007. The Steering Committee will be named in hte April and will begin work immediately.

### **Owner's information up-to-date?**

The Town works diligently to maintain current owner's information but it is no small task. Please help by keeping your information up-to-date.

Changes can be submitted using the form provided on the Town of Clear Lake website: [www.townofclearlake.org](http://www.townofclearlake.org), by telephone to 260-495-9158 or by mail to the Town Hall.

### **2008 Calendar**

We are planning to publish just one more Women of Clear Lake Calendar, a 2008 issue that will be available for sale by early August 2007. This edition will be slightly different in that it is being done with seasonal pictures. We have been taking pictures since October of 2006 and have done fall through Christmas, Valentines and St. Patrick's Day. We are planning to get some early spring shots Easter weekend and will finish up by July 4<sup>h</sup>. *We are still looking for new models-If you are nearly 50 and over WE WANT YOU!!* We love mother/daughter, sisters and extended family shots. We love if you bring a few neighbors along– the more the merrier. 2007 featured 75 women and we would like to top that number for 2008. For more information please contact: Judy Johnston: 495-4427 [clearlakejj@verizon.net](mailto:clearlakejj@verizon.net) Bonnie Brown: 495-2771 [donbon1@verizon.net](mailto:donbon1@verizon.net) Mary June Augspurger: 495-4513

[vzjermar3@verizon.net](mailto:vzjermar3@verizon.net)

## **Clear Lake Cuisine-Available Soon!**

The 'cookbook ladies' are pleased to announce the publication of CLEAR LAKE CUISINE! This quality, hardcover cookbook includes over 900 recipes in three ring binder format. Approximately 290 area women (and men!) shared their favorite recipes for all of us to enjoy. All proceeds from this \$25 cookbook will help fund the Kasota Island Preservation effort.

Providing the publisher meets the promised deadline, the initial distribution will be Saturday, May 26th at the Clear Lake Marina from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Thank you to Joann and Jim Stanley for sharing the Marina on a busy holiday weekend! Also, cookbooks will be available each Friday evening at the Yacht Club. For additional information visit [www.clearlakeindiana.org/island](http://www.clearlakeindiana.org/island) or contact:

Joyce Augspurger,  
260-625-3222 (Fort Wayne)  
260-495-4894 (lake/weekends)  
[jema7749@comcast.net](mailto:jema7749@comcast.net)

Sandy Ayres  
260-625-4996 (Fort Wayne-late May)  
260-495-2198 (lake/whenever)  
[ayrs1225@aol.com](mailto:ayrs1225@aol.com)

Pre-sale orders can be called in or e-mailed now; shipping is available for a \$5 charge per book. Please watch for posters, e-mails, and signs regarding sale dates and other information.

Thank you for your interest in this fun project and remember, Clear Lake "Cooks"!!

## **Clear Lake-Clear Water**

### **What's Phosphorus Got to Do With It?**

A September 2006 Clear Lake water sample tested positive for a mildly toxic algae bloom that previously had not been found in this area. Its growth causes reduced water oxygen levels that can hurt fishing and cause a rash in humans. The most probable cause and biggest contributor to recurring algae blooms is phosphorus. Run off from lawn fertilizers followed by goose and pet feces are the primary sources of phosphorus. Phosphorus is literally "junk food" for algae. One pound of phosphorus can produce 10,000 pounds of wet weeds and algae.

While we can't control every factor that impacts our water quality, every property owner

can do their part by insuring that no phosphorus enters our lake. We need to create a Phosphorus Free Zone around Clear Lake by using ONLY PHOSPHOROUS FREE products on lawns and gardens. Most Indiana soils contain adequate amounts of phosphorus and extra amounts are not needed for a healthy turf.

If you feel you must use fertilizer to maintain a healthy lawn, please apply it sparingly and select only phosphorus free lawn foods. Such products are readily available at several merchants in the area: Fremont Hardware, Baker's Acres, Franz Nursery, Rural King and other retailers. When buying lawn food, look at the three numbers on the bag. The middle number indicates the amount of phosphorus and should read zero (0), for example: (22-0-10)

If you contract with a lawn service please insist that only phosphorus free fertilizer be used for all applications, both spring and fall. In response to a recent survey, the lawn services listed below carry phosphorus free fertilizer but in most cases it is up to you, the client, to request the phosphorus free applications. Lawn services which responded to the survey:

- Keith's Lawn Care-833-3440-**Only Phosphorus Free Materials**
- S & D Lawn-517-278-6830-**Only Phosphorus Free Materials**
- Green-Grow Lawn Care-800-729-5322-Client Request
- TruGreen-260-489-6550-Client Request
- Turf One-260-357-3865-Client Request
- T & T Lawn-316-9876-Client Request
- All Green-800-729-5322- Client Request
- Insta-Green-495-2527- Client Request- (Primarily sod installation)

In addition we will continue the efforts to reduce the goose population. The Clear Lake Association has obtained a permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Clear Lake Lions Club will be treating nests during April. If you are aware of any nest please contact Bob Bruick at 495-5515 or Bob Hine at 495-4565 before April 10, 2007.

It is also very important that we clean up after our household pets. Please do not feed the ducks or geese as this only adds to our clean water challenges.

Our Clear Water is our most valuable asset. Please, let's all be good stewards of our natural treasure and protect her with healthy practices for both our lawns and lake.

### **Another Threat to our Lake**

We all need to be aware of the invasive aquatic plant, hydrilla, which was discovered for the first time in Indiana last fall at Lake Manitou in Fulton County. While the DNR is working to eradicate the hydrilla at Lake Manitou, we need everyone to be on the lookout for it and do our part to prevent it from spreading to new waters.

Hydrilla verticillata: Hydrilla is an exotic and extremely invasive aquatic plant. Hydrilla typically has 5 leaves whorled around the stem although that number can range from 2 to 8. Leaves have distinctly serrated edges. Individual leaves can range from 1 to 2 cm. If nut like tubers are found on the roots the plant is definitely hydrilla.

If hydrilla is discovered, please report immediately to the Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator at 317-234-3883.

### **Hydrilla is illegal to possess in Indiana.**

For additional information and pictures visit [www.clearlakefun.org](http://www.clearlakefun.org) and click on "DNR Hydrilla Information". A web search for "Hydrilla, Indiana" will display several links to the DNR and newspaper articles about the discovery of hydrilla in Lake Manitou.

### **Clear Lake Wooden Water Ski Museum**

Do you have old wooden water skis cluttering up your basement or garage? Are you thinking of throwing them out or making a bonfire with them? Wait! Let us rescue them! We have a growing collection of over eighty-five wood water skis here at Clear Lake. Maybe it's because they remind us of our youth or maybe because it's because we think we'll someday refinish them and hang them in a real Clear Lake museum, but in any case we would like to rescue your old wood skis and add them to the collection.

Please send us an email at [webmaster1@clearlakeindiana.org](mailto:webmaster1@clearlakeindiana.org) if you would like to donate your wooden water skis to the collection and save them from the bonfire. We'll rush right over and pick them and take them back to their new home.

Better yet you can bring your donation to the "museum" and admire the growing display. We are having an Open House on Memorial Day, May 28 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at 598 Lake Drive. Wooden water ski donations will be accepted during the open house.

### **It's Time for Swim Buoy Placement!**

It will soon be time to install docks, boat lifts, and place your swim buoys in the water. Indiana DNR rules require swim buoys to be no farther than 200 feet from shore. If you are the caretaker for your neighborhood swim buoy please place it in the lake as soon as possible. As a guide for distance, the Town has a 200' line available for your use. It may be picked up and returned to the Town Hall.

It is the policy of the Town that swim buoys be placed at no closer than 300' intervals. This allows maximum coverage for the buoys we have available. The Town Marshal coordinates the distribution of new and the replacement of damaged swim buoys. Swim buoys are purchased by the Town using donations from your Clear Lake Association.

### **Women of Clear Lake 2007 Calendar**

Thank you all so much for making the calendar an outstanding success! To date, we have profited nearly \$25,000, all profits going directly to our beloved Kasota Island!

These "COLLECTOR CALENDARS" can still be purchased locally at the Clear Lake Marina, the Clear Lake Pub or from Bonnie Brown or Judy Johnson. They are also still available on the internet-[www.clearlakefun.org](http://www.clearlakefun.org); just follow the link to 2007 calendar.

## **Clear Lake Association**

## **Annual Fireworks Display**

**July 7<sup>th</sup> at dusk**

Rain date: July 8th

## **FREE BOATER SAFETY CLASS**

Sponsored by the Clear Lake Association

**June 9, 2007-----8:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

**CLEAR LAKE TOWN HALL**

5950 Gecowets Drive (CR 725E)

Open to everyone 11 and older. We encourage parents and Grandparents to attend.

**\*All materials and lunch will be provided\***

**CALL 495-4180 OR 495-3121 BY JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup> TO ENROLL**

This class qualifies as a boating education course for those under age 16 and may also help you qualify for a rate reduction on your boating insurance

Jim Kidd, Head of the Steuben County Marine Patrol will conduct the class.

The Clear Lake Association provides the funding for the publication and mailing of the "Clear Lake News". The purpose of this publication is to communicate Clear Lake town government and other Clear Lake organizations activities to all property owners.



**CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION**

**P.O. BOX 38**

**FREMONT IN 46737**



