



# Clear Lake

# NEWS

**JULY – SEPTEMBER 2009**

## CLA PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As I complete my term as President of your Clear Lake Association, I would like to thank all of you for your past and ongoing support. The Association has a dedicated Board of Directors and officers who will continue the Association's mission to initiate and support projects that benefit the Clear Lake Community and to inform and represent the Association members in regard to proposals and activities that impact them. The board members encourage your input. Please attend the annual meeting and continue to forward your comments, questions, and concerns to The Clear Lake Association P.O. Box 38 Fremont IN 46737

Thanks to instruction by the Steuben County Marine Patrol and lunch by the Clear Lake Marina the Boater Safety Class was a great success. We now have 16 newly trained and certified safe boaters on Clear Lake.

Planning for The 2009 Fireworks continues. We have acquired additional floating platforms so the show can be larger and faster. Please reserve Saturday, July 4, at dusk (approximately 10:00 pm) for the show.

The annual July 4<sup>th</sup> Boat Parade will convene at 1:30pm at the Yacht Club. Cash and trophies will be awarded for the best decorated boats. Join the fun!!!

The Clear Lake Association Annual meeting will be on Saturday morning, July 18, at 9:30am at St. Paul Catholic Chapel. Guest speaker, Pam DeCamp from the Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District will educate us on their offerings.

Our Clear Lake Town Council is continuing the process of adopting a new Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). This ordinance will define the rules and regulations that balance individual desires with the overriding requirement to preserve the quality of our wonderful Lake environment for future generations. Please refer to the official town web site, [www.townofclearlake.org](http://www.townofclearlake.org), for an accurate

summary of this process. Copies of the document are available for your review online and at Town Hall. The next Town Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 13.

Have a fun and safe Summer,  
Jon Fitzenrider

## TOWN COUNCIL

This quarter the council has been busy with a full agenda of ordinances, resolutions and contracts.

On May 4<sup>th</sup> the plan commission passed and certified the UDO. It was then passed onto the town council for their review.

On may 11 2009 the town council introduced the UDO and had its first reading. The town council is given 90 days to either passing the ordinance, reject the ordinance or return the ordinance with modifications to the plan commission.

The town council agreed with Bill Geiger that the ordinance is a good document. The council decided that there would be three readings of the ordinance and one more public reading. This will be the 12th public hearings on this ordinance.

Also at this meeting we had the 3<sup>rd</sup> readings of the weed control ordinances and the connection to the sewer ordinance. Both were passed.

Council also passed a resolution to transfer the town property of Husselman/Trumball to the Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy.

At our June council meeting we had our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings of the garbage contract. It was passed and we now have our 1<sup>st</sup> increase in rates since 1998. The annual fee will now be \$135 per year.

George Schenkel gave an update of our meeting with the county commissioners on the public beach. We will continue to have talks with them and will report back to the residents.

Council had the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading on the UDO and conducted the public hearing. Many people attended and everyone had a chance to speak to the council. At the close of the meeting the property owners were

informed that there will be a third reading in July, then the UDO will be published. After 30 days or on September 1<sup>st</sup> the UDO will become effective. The property owners were also informed that if they had specific concerns they should take written concerns to the Plan Commission advisory committee which meets twice a month on Thursday evenings. All concerns should be sent to Bill Geiger, President.

This process has been long but very thorough in its preparation. We are all thankful for the many hours our property owners have put toward this endeavor.

Robert Lewis, President  
Clear Lake Town Council

### **LARRY ARMSTRONG SENDS THANKS TO CLEAR LAKERS**

Larry Armstrong who resigned from the Clear Lake Town Council last month due to illness sends his sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone for their thoughts, support, prayers, and concern. Larry was diagnosed with a thoracic aortic aneurysm, had successful surgery to correct the condition, and is currently on the mend at home. Larry encourages all property owners and residents to support our town government and remain committed to the goals of the Clear Lake Association. Larry believes that Clear Lake is the best place on earth to call home! Larry states that we have a beautiful lake and natural resources but the people set us apart from all other lake communities!

### **MARSHALS REPORT**

It seems that summer has finally arrived and things are picking up. The Clear Lake Police Department has been busy patrolling the streets and the lake, putting in over 40 hours a week doing both. Thankfully, I do not have any major crimes to report to you but I would like to talk about golf carts and our intentions of creating a golf cart ordinance.

In the past legislative session, a bill was passed and has been signed by the Governor that will take effect July 1<sup>st</sup>. This law pertains specifically to golf carts on roadways. In the past, there was no specific statute that covered golf carts so it left a lot of room for interpretation. Our county Prosecutor preferred to treat them as slow moving vehicles so we used that statute to enforce the law when dealing with them.

The new law that will soon take effect more or less states that golf carts will be prohibited on roadways and should only be used to transport people and golf clubs while playing the game of golf. The statute allows for cities and towns to adopt an ordinance that allows for golf carts to be on the roadway with restrictions. It is our intention to create such an ordinance to allow golf carts to operate within the Clear Lake town limits under those restrictions. I am also working on an informational brochure to help educate the residents of golf cart safety.

The restrictions that the State has built in to the statute are similar to those covered in the slow moving vehicle statute. These include the display of the "slow moving vehicle" placard from the rear of the cart. There will also be age restrictions and proof of liability insurance required to operate the carts in the town. All of this will be covered in the ordinance and in the informational brochure.

As always, I look forward to working with you to keep Clear Lake a safe community and also a golf cart friendly community.

John Gonya  
Town Marshal

### **FIREWORKS**

Fireworks are a 4<sup>th</sup> of July tradition, but the State of Indiana and the Town of Clear Lake does regulate their usage. Here is a reminder of the town ordinance:

**CONSUMER USE OF FIREWORKS:** No person within the corporate boundaries of the Town shall use or display or permit to be used or displayed any type of fireworks on any day or time than the following:

1. June 29, June 30, July 1, July 2, July 3, July 5, July 6, July 7, July 8, July 9 between the hours of 1:00 pm to two hours after sunset.
2. July 4 between the hours of 1:00 pm and 12:00 midnight;
3. Memorial Day between the hours of 1:00 pm and 11:00pm
4. Labor Day between the hours of 1:00 pm and 11:00 pm
5. Between the hours of 10:am on December 31 and 1:00am on January 1;
6. No other date or time is permitted for consumer use of fireworks.

Have fun and have a safe summer for all.

## **TO ALL SEWER CUSTOMERS**

This is a friendly reminder to all sewer customers regarding your sewer grinder. We have been experiencing a lot of trouble accessing grinder stations and control panels. Our sewer ordinance prohibits planting of trees, flowers, shrubs, or other plantings within 5 feet of the grinder pump station. No structure shall be built or located within 5 feet of a grinder pump. The ordinance further states that no structure shall be built or placed in the easement or over a sewer lateral. Each grinder has a vent system and must remain uncovered. The Town asks that you look at your grinder and if you have plantings or structures too close, please remove them. Thank You

Bob Hull  
Town Superintendent

## **KNEE-HIGH NATURALISTS SUMMER, 2009**

- July 1 Where the Wild Things Are – Introduction
- July 8 Fun with Fish – Ted Bohman, Pokagon State Park (held at Clear Lake Marina)
- July 15 Wonderful Wetlands – Rich Goboy, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Kayleen Hart, Steuben Co., SWCD
- July 22 Hiking Hijinks – Nate Simmons, Blue Heron Ministries
- July 29 Bonding with Birds – Fred Wooley, Pokagon State Park

Knee-High Naturalists is:

- A program for children ages 6-12, sponsored by the Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy to promote understanding and appreciation of our lake environment
- Held each Wednesday of July from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at the Clear Lake Yacht Club, unless noted otherwise
- FREE! No reservations required.

## **CLEAR LAKE CONSERVANCY WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Water testing on the four inlets to Clear Lake has been completed for a second time since receiving

our own test kit last fall. This testing information is the baseline for future water quality analysis.

Two committee members attended a 3-day workshop on wetlands at the Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center. They learned to examine wetlands, read their physical histories, and identify their inhabitants. The instructors explained that wetlands are vital ecosystems in Indiana's landscapes and provide value to the citizens of Indiana. Unfortunately, our forebears weren't as informed about the value of wetlands and their activity resulted in an 85% loss of Indiana's wetlands during European settlement. The remaining wetlands heroically provide flood storage, water purification, ground water recharge and habitat for wetland plants and animals, many of which are on Indiana's threatened and endangered species lists. Wetlands are often misunderstood, but a bit of education and examination can reveal them for what they are: beautiful and rich ecosystems.

The Knee High Naturalists program on July 15<sup>th</sup> will focus on wetlands and the value they provide. Members of the committee will be assisting with this activity.

A Lake and River Enhancement grant application for the Clear Lake Watershed was submitted January 14, 2009. The grant awards are expected in July. The grant is for a design study to evaluate the watershed and recommend practices and projects to enhance the quality of water quality flowing into Clear Lake.

Our committee assisted Steuben County Lakes Council with the Soil Testing Study. The analyzed results are back and have been returned to participating homeowners. Thank you to all who participated. Please direct any questions or concerns to Mary Jo Fitzenrider at 495-4180.

The need to protect Clear Lake is important for recreation and wildlife habitat. The following link provides general information concerning the legal requirements for persons who wish to engage in activities that would impact Indiana waters or surrounding wetlands:

<http://www.in.gov/idem/files/wetlandswaterwaysbooklet.pdf>

Some helpful tips for a healthy lake:

- ✓ Leave a strip of UNFERTILIZED lawn along the lake edge.
- ✓ DO NOT rake or blow leaves, grass and other yard waste into the lake

- ✓ Remove aquatic weeds and debris that wash ashore to prevent them from decaying in the lake
- ✓ Promptly clean up after your pets
- ✓ DO NOT feed ducks and geese; fowl waste is especially high in phosphorus
- ✓ NEVER pour oil, gasoline or other similar products into the lake or on your yard.
- ✓ If you have a fire close to shore, remove ashes to prevent them from entering the lake

The water quality committee is working to be informed and proactive in the best interest of Clear Lake. If anyone is interested in joining the committee please contact Annie Skinner 495-0124.

### KEEPING THE CLEAR IN CLEAR LAKE

For those of you, who apply lawn fertilizer during the summer months, remember to use only those products that are phosphorus free. The warm, sunny weather, which we all have been waiting for, is also ideal growth conditions for weeds and algae blooms in the water. While lawn fertilizer products containing high levels of phosphorus promote a healthy turf for our lawns, it also provides nutrients for those “not so healthy” excessive weed and algae blooms in the lake. Below is a list of retailers and lawn care services that readily provide low level and zero phosphorus lawn fertilizers. Remember it's the MIDDLE NUMBER on the bag that indicates the PHOSPHORUS content (20-0-10)

#### RETAILERS

- Fremont Hardware
- Baker's Acres- Both locations
- Franz Nursery
- Menards
- Meijer
- Rural King
- Wal-Mart
- TSC (Tractor Supply Co.)

#### LAWN SERVICES

- KEITH'S LAWN 833-3440
- GREEN GROW Now Part of TRU-GREEN (See Below)
- ALL GREEN 668-7733/ Ext. 2105
- TRU GREEN 800- 997- 4758 or 260-489-6550
- TURF ONE 866- 357-3856
- LAWN AND TURF GROUP- 866-285-6814

PARAGON LANDSCAPE-866-627-8342  
(If your lawn care service is not on this list, most now carry Phosphorus Free materials and will apply it upon client request)

### OWNER'S INFORMATION UP-TO-DATE?

Please send any change of addresses, phone numbers, email addresses or other information to Kay Kummer, Clerk-Treasurer.

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, 5950 Gecowets Drive-Clear Lake, Fremont IN 46737.

### CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Your photo could be selected to grace the cover of our book, "*Clear Lake...A Place to Remember*".

Start taking pictures of the lake and its beauty through your eyes. Then submit photos to Heritage Committee at the Clear Lake Town Hall drop box by Labor Day, September 7, 2009.

Please place printed color 5" x 7" photos (minimum 300dpi) in an envelope marked "Cover Photo". Please include your name and contact information. Each individual can submit up to five photos.

The winning photographer will be presented with a complimentary, limited-edition copy of "*Clear Lake...A Place to Remember*" and receive a printed acknowledgement inside the book. The winner will be announced by Thanksgiving.

### REMINDER

The Annual Fourth of July Boat Parade will be held on Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 P.M. Meet in front of the Yacht Club for judging of the decorated boats. Cash Prizes and Trophies will be awarded to the best three decorated boats. A Police escorted parade around the lake will follow. Get your creative juices flowing and join us for the competition. All boats either decorated or not are welcome in the parade. Sponsored by the Clear Lake Association.



**Clear Lake, A Place to Remember**

The Clear Lake Heritage Committee proudly presents: Clear Lake, A Place to Remember, a beautiful heirloom coffee table book which will be available to you by June, 2010.

This full color, 9'X12' hardback 192 page book will take you back to the earliest days when Clear Lake was settled, through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century when family life centered on summers at the lake, to the community we know and love today.

Historical research, numerous pictures, collector postcards, and personal recollections have been gathered to produce the Clear Lake story.

Included in the book are articles about:

- Businesses
- Hotels
- Cottage life
- Churches
- Clubs & Organizations
- Romances, and much more!

This is a once in a lifetime Limited Edition that you won't want to miss! This Clear Lake Heritage book will make a treasured gift. Presale orders will begin July 3, 2009 for the special price of \$45. After Labor Day the price will be \$50.

Please use the attached form to order. Place the completed form and check in an envelope marked BOOK. Insert it in the Drop box at the Town Hall or mail it to the Town Hall address.

Presale orders: Presales will be available July 3, 2009, through September 7, 2009, at a savings of \$5.00 per book. If shipping is requested please add the shipping fee and necessary information. **Gift Certificates are available.**

Need more INFORMATION? Contact:  
Walt Chaput  
Phone: 260-495-0361  
Email: [wchaput@re-comm.net](mailto:wchaput@re-comm.net)

Janis Watson  
Phone: 260-495-3326  
Email: [janiswatson@verizon.net](mailto:janiswatson@verizon.net)

Any proceeds above the cost of the book's publication will be held by Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy in order to create a Clear Lake Heritage Archive.

**ORDER FORM**

Please enter my order for:

\_\_\_\_\_ X \$45.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(# of books) (price before September 7, 2009)

\_\_\_\_\_ X \$50.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(# of books) (price after September 7, 2009)

\_\_\_\_\_ X \$11.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(# of books) (shipping fee if requested)

This shipping fee price includes up to three books per box shipped to the same address.

More than three books will require additional shipping fees in increments of \$11.00

Total = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

For BOOK purchases please make checks payable to:

**CLEAR LAKE HERITAGE**

Family Sponsors: Pages will be set aside to recognize donations of \$500.00 or more. This entitles you to a complimentary book and 25 words to express an acknowledgement that you wish to include in our heirloom Clear Lake history book.

\_\_\_\_\_ X \$500.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my honorarium to read: (maximum of 25 words)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For tax purposes Family Sponsor check(s) must be made out to: **CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP LAND CONSERVANCY**. Please also fill in your contact information. Deadline: Must be received between July 4, 2009 – January 1, 2010

Send checks and order forms to:

Clear Lake Town Hall,  
C/o Clear Lake Heritage,  
5950 Gecowets Drive,  
Fremont, IN 46737

## **CLEAR LAKE IMPORTANT DATES**

Check the Town of Clear Lake website-[www.townofclearlake.org](http://www.townofclearlake.org) for updates and changes to the calendar

- July 3**-----Town Hall Closed for July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday  
**July 4**-----Lions Club Chicken Barbeque, 9:00 until sold out, across from Clear Lake Lutheran Church  
**July 4**-----Boat Parade, 1:30 p.m., Start in front of the Yacht Club  
**July 4**-----Fireworks sponsored by the Clear Lake Association, approx. 10:00 p.m. start  
**July 11**-----5K/10K Walk & Run, 8:00 a.m. start, across from Clear Lake Lutheran Church  
**July 13**-----Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall  
**July 19**-----Clear Lake Lions Club Car Show, noon to 3:00, across from 462 Lake Drive  
**July 18**-----Clear Lake Association Annual Meeting, 9:30 a.m., St. Paul Chapel  
**July 26**-----50<sup>th</sup> Annual Ski Show, 2:00 p.m., Yacht Club
- August 3**---Plan Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall  
**August 10**-Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall  
**August 17**-Board of Zoning Appeals, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- Sept. 7**-----Town Offices closed for Labor Day holiday  
**Sept. 14**----Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall  
**Sept. 19**----Heavy Trash Pickup, 8:00 a.m.

The members of the Clear Lake Association provide the funding for the publication and distribution 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

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