



Clear Lake

JANUARY – MARCH 2010

NEWS

GREETINGS LAKERS

On behalf of the Clear Lake Association, I wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year. As President of the Association, I would like to thank you for your support of the Association and its activities. My family and I are enjoying our 4th winter as residents of Clear Lake and even though it's cold there are still many fun activities to enjoy. Ice hockey, ice skating, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, and many other SNOW-related activities. Clear Lake is truly of beautiful place to live.

The board members of the Association will be meeting soon to plan projects for 2010, addressing issues, and to share information of interest with Clear Lake property owners. I encourage your comments, questions or concerns for our board meeting discussions. Below I have included my email address and my telephone number. Please give me your feedback and suggestions.

Rick Behnfeldt
708 Lake Drive
rick@figleystamping.com
260-495-9906

YEAR IN REVIEW-2009

It hardly seems possible that another year has gone by; however I do believe many of us are glad 2009 is over. Throughout the year the town has tried to provide the same level of services knowing that some funds may not be available.

Personnel changes

With Virginia Nye's retirement in May we were very fortunate to have Kay Kummer take the position of clerk-treasurer. When Larry Armstrong retired from the Council due to health reasons we were fortunate to have Alan Korte accept the vacant position.

Public Beach

We began discussions with the Steuben County Commissioners' regarding the county's intent with the public beach. We also sent out a public beach survey and had a public meeting regarding the survey. The majority of people who returned the survey prefers to keep the property a public beach but do not want to use public monies to purchase the beach. The results of the survey were given to the Commissioners. The town worked with the conservancy to make a purchase offer but the offer was denied. For the survey results visit www.townofclearlake.org and scroll down the home page to Steuben County Public Beach Survey Results

Free CPR training

For the first time the town of Clear Lake provided free CPR training through the American Red Cross for Clear Lake residents. We hope we can schedule this training again in 2010.

Transfer of property

The town initiated the transfer of the following property to the Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy:

Hussellman-Trumball property
Hanna Nature Preserve property
Clear Lake Town Park.

Road Works

Even with limited funds available this year Bob Hall, Town Superintendent was able to have two sections of road paved this summer. We hope to do the same amount of paving in 2010.

Legislation

This was a busy year with several resolutions and 13 ordinances. Three of the major ordinances were

1. Ordinance for not connecting to town sewer system
2. Golf cart ordinance
3. UDO ordinance in September and the UDO amendments ordinance in December.

Clear Lake Deer Hunt

We conducted our first controlled deer hunt within the town limits of Clear Lake. It was a success with 13 deer taken. John Deem of the DNR was pleased with the number harvested as the weather was very difficult during the season. The DNR are looking forward to helping us again next year.

Phosphorus Resolution

The Clear Lake Town Council issued a resolution authorizing a waiver from the state chemist to allow enforcement of the Clear Lake phosphorus ordinance. Mary Jo Fitzenrider presented this resolution along with the Steuben County's resolution to the state chemist this fall. We await a decision.

Water Quality Committee

Annie Skinner and her committee put together a request for a design study grant for \$45,000. This was their first grant application and they were successful. The grant is for the Cyrus Brouse ditch as well as other surrounding Clear Lake areas.

Capital Improvements

A new salt barn was completed in December. We now can store salt and sand for the winter and not have to make trips back and forth to Fremont.

Donations

Thank you to the Clear Lake Association for its donation of \$1,500 for the Marshal's hand held radio and the Frasier Fir tree planted beside the Town Hall.

Service

Thank you to Rick Behnfeldt and Jerry McArdle for their service on the Clear Lake Plan Commission and to the Town of Clear Lake.

Remembrance

The year ended on a sad note with the passing of John & Karen McArdle. Among his many activities Jack was a past- President of the Clear Lake Town Council. You can visit these websites, <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/fortwayne/obituary.aspx?n=john-e-mcardle-jack&pid=137306022> and <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/fortwayne/obituary.aspx?n=karen-a-mcardle-lupke&pid=137306021> for their obituaries. They will be missed by the Town of Clear Lake and our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Unfortunately, 2010 started off on a sad note as well with the loss of a long time resident and friend, Bob Troll. Bob was on the town council for 6 ½ years and was a past-President. Bob always felt that it was

an honor to be in public service and to be able to give back to the community. His service is a testament to that fact. He will be missed and remembered by all of us. You can visit <http://www.beamsfuneralhome.com/sitemaker/sites/BeamsF1/obit.cgi?user=159733Troll> to read Bob's obituary. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time.

Thank you for your support and help.

Bob Lewis, President
Clear Lake Town Council

MARSHAL'S REPORT

Winter is here and things have really slowed down here at the lake. There are some nights when I am patrolling that I think there has to be more ice fishers on Round Lake then there are resident's in town. Thankfully, the police department has very little to report to you because of this "slow down" at this time of year.

I was hoping to announce the arrival of our new police vehicle that was due to be delivered in early January. Unfortunately, I was recently informed that the build date has been pushed back by GM so you won't see the new car until the middle to end of February.

We have drafted a registration form for compliance with the golf cart ordinance. On the form are several bullet points that explain what is needed to comply with the ordinance and what the officer's will look for when inspecting the golf cart. We will be ordering stickers soon and will have them on hand as the season nears. When you are ready to register the cart, you can pick up an application at the Town Hall, fill out your portion and call for an inspection when ready. After an officer inspects the cart, a registration sticker can be purchased at the Town Hall for placement on the cart. Just call the police number (495-9620) if you have questions.

I hope you all have a safe winter and we look forward to seeing you as the weather warms up a bit around here. And again, thank you for allowing us to serve you and work together with you to make Clear Lake a safer community.

John Gonya
Town Marshal

GOLF CART ORDINANCE

The Clear Lake Town Council has enacted an ordinance governing the operation of golf carts on the town's roads. You may recall that a state law became effective on July 1, 2009 banning golf carts from operating on all Indiana roads and highways. However this law does allow individual cities and towns to enact local ordinances allowing golf carts to operate.

The complete ordinance and references to the state law definitions cited in the ordinance is available on the town of Clear Lake website www.townofclearlake.org for your review. Here are the highlights of the ordinance:

- The operator must have a valid driver's license issued by the State of Indiana or any other state.
- The golf cart must be inspected by the town Marshal or his deputies AND be registered with the Town of Clear Lake.
- To pass inspection the golf cart must:
 - Have a slow moving vehicle emblem;
 - Have an amber or red flashing light;
 - If operated after sunset or before sunrise, have headlights visible 500 feet;
 - Have a rearview mirror
- To be registered the owner must provide the town Marshals inspection report, the vehicle VIN number, proof of financial responsibility and pay a \$40.00 fee. The registration sticker must be displayed at all times on the cart and is valid for one year from date of issue.
- The number of occupants is limited to the number of factory installed seats (not to exceed 6) and all passengers 10 years or younger must ride in the front seat.

Other vehicles such as Gator's, Rangers etc. will be treated as golf carts while in the town limits. Outside of town limits, they are illegal because the county cannot adopt an ordinance allowing them at this time.

All vehicle operators shall obey all of the rules of the road and traffic regulations of the State of Indiana

and the Town of Clear Lake. This includes speed limits, stop signs and safe operation.

For additional information please contact Marshal John Gonya or your Town Council representative.

CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP LAND CONSERVANCY

Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy- CLTLC proudly reports its 2009 work to the community. President Jim Skinner states, "Impacting the lake FOREVER- our wetlands, storm water projects, buffer properties, upstream watershed, conservation and good citizenship education- is an exciting and doable challenge for all of us!"

Kasota Island Committee will plant and protect appropriate trees as well as remove dead ones, saving some for the eagles, to establish a greater root system to combat erosion. Please note that the rocks placed around the edge of the island are necessary to prevent erosion so please educate your family and friends about not removing them. The successful Knee High Naturalist Program experienced over 120 children participating this year, led by Josie Kramer and Angie O'Neill. Financial support was given to the History Book project with thanks to the highly organized Bonnie Brown leading a committee of dozens. Surveys of new properties and acquisition efforts have been led by the officers under the direction of John Schenkel, CLTLC counsel. Treasurer Joe Schenkel reports we now have over 3.5 million dollars worth of land assets including the Brennan Woods and Wetlands, Franz Woods, Hoehn lots, Kasota Island, Koeneman property, Old Town Hall property, Spangler Grove, Lord Swamp with more parcels in process of being donated. At year end we completed the kind donation of a back lot parcel that is contingent to the Franz Woods. The acquisition of the Fansler property was also finalized and we look forward to making this contingent property to the Town Hall Park a means to connect the Inner Drive to the Town Hall property by means of a walking pathway.

Exciting news from the Water Quality Committee is the receipt of a Lake and River Enhancement grant for a feasibility and design study. This study is focused on the Cyrus Brouse Ditch sub-watershed. This will help determine what needs to be done to

reduce the sediment plume the lake receives during every heavy rain event.

Our late friend Paul left big shoes to fill and we are just now getting our legs back underneath us. All of these activities take time and financial resources and we need all of your help! We appeal to you to make a tax deductible contribution now to the Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy in the amount you can afford to help in our efforts to "Keep the Clear in Clear Lake". Contributions can be sent to CLTLC at 5950 Gecowets Drive Fremont, IN 46737.

As plans for the coming of spring cleanup begin we remind you to prevent organic yard waste from going into the lake as it has a serious impact on water quality! Keeping the Clear in Clear Lake is all our responsibility!

Julie R. Waterfield and Jim Skinner

CLEAR LAKE HERITAGE

Clear Lake History Book

The Clear Lake Heritage Committee is proud to announce that "Clear Lake.....a place to remember" HAS GONE TO PRESS! This beautifully illustrated, color, 200+ page coffee table book is slated to be available Memorial weekend, 2010. This draws to a close a labor of love yet mind boggling, arduous journey of two years' research, interviews and writing. We feel truly blessed for the enormous support that Clear Lake has given the Heritage Committee by submitting your many stories and pictures. Forty-seven families became family sponsors, THANK YOU.

Order Your Books Now

450 books have now been presold of the 1000 copies ordered! It is recommended that you pre-order your books now rather than waiting until they go on sale Memorial Day weekend. You may order your History Books by downloading the order form @ <http://clearlakeindiana.org/historybook/> found on the Clear Lake Fun website. The spring newsletter will contain information on where and when to pick up your book orders and loaned photos.

All Roads Lead to Clear Lake, 17 month Calendar

There are still a few Clear Lake Historical Calendars left @ \$5 ea. for anyone wanting to put them in their archives. I will be happy to mail copies or you may

purchase from me at 40 Powhattan Ct. Round Lake. Contact: Bonnie Brown @ donbon1@verizon.net

Clear Lake Historical Watercolor Map

We have completed filling the pre-orders for this beautiful 20" x 30" map and have a few copies remaining @ \$200 each. Please contact me to order yours: Bonnie Brown @ donbon1@verizon.net

WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

Our Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) grant study is progressing. The grant has four parts: feasibility study, engineering design, survey of critical areas and a natural resource assessment. Our consultant, the Davey Resource Group (Davey), is in the final stages of the feasibility study which is focused on the Cyrus Brouse Ditch Watershed. That watershed is the land south of the lake running in a line from the island extending several miles south of State Road 120. Davey is investigating why a brown, milky plume flows into the lake from the Cyrus Brouse Ditch after rain events.

Many activities are involved in this project. Davey and the LARE grant steering committee walked the Cyrus Brouse Ditch gathering information on ditch bank conditions and surrounding land and vegetation. They organized a meeting with landowners to share ideas and get input. Seventeen landowners, five conservancy members and Chad Appleman, the Davey coordinator, participated. The consultant was invited to and attended the December Steuben County Drainage Board meeting to explain the purpose of our interest in the Cyrus Brouse Ditch. Davey and the grant committee continue to hold meetings, make phone calls, write e-mails and letters in order to gather information and share updates with the community. Check out the Clear Lake Bulletin Board for more on the LARE grant and other water quality tips.

Now, an acknowledgement: Kathy Latz provided crucial help to the Water Quality Committee, last fall, by facilitating several of our meetings. The committee identified numerous projects that needed to be addressed, but volunteer resources are limited. We were losing focus. Kathy brilliantly and yet so simply walked the committee through steps which concluded with a list of short term goals, action items to achieve those goals, and a person

accountable for each action item. Thank you, Kathy!

The short term goals are to: #1 Educate the Clear Lake Township residents and stakeholders on water quality issues. #2 Obtain financial resources through grants and donations for water quality projects. #3 Research and gather legal documents on water quality issues. The Water Quality Committee will be in touch.

GOING GREEN FOR LAWNS: CLEAR FOR THE LAKE

While it may seem a bit premature to be thinking about green lawns and sparking Clear Lake water, many who apply lawn fertilizer will need to be making choices for the spring application. Please remember to choose PHOSPHORUS FREE lawn fertilizer for a green turf that does not promote algae and weed growth in the lake. As a reminder, just one pound of phosphorus from any source, including lawn fertilizer, can stimulate over 10,000 pounds of weeds in the lake. If you fertilize your own lawn please make sure you select the bag with the ZERO as the middle number. For example, phosphorus free fertilizer might read 12-0-12. If you contract with a lawn service please INSIST they use only phosphorus free fertilizer for all applications. Area retailers and lawn care services have overwhelmingly cooperated with the Town of Clear Lake's policy to reduce phosphorus run off into the lake by providing PHOSPHORUS FREE products. Please check below for a complete listing.

Other known sources of phosphorus and plant nutrients that can enter the lake water are from decomposed leaves and other decayed plant material. Make sure when you are doing yard clean up no leaves or other waste is being blown or raked into the lake or any ditch, water way or surrounding wet areas, Water from all these areas eventually enters the lake, carrying with it decayed plant material that is basically "home-made fertilizer". Phosphorus and other nutrients do not cause algae blooms and weed implantation per se but they do stimulate their growth. In more recent summers there has been an increase in algae blooms in Steuben County Lakes and other counties in the state. Some of these blooms have been quite severe and have been found to be harmful to animals and humans. While we

can't control all factors that impact the quality of our water, we need to work together to be good stewards of what we can control.

Phosphorous free materials are available from most area retailers and lawn services.

KASOTA ISLAND NEWS

As everyone should be aware the final payment for Kasota Island was paid in March of 2009 and the collections of final payments of outstanding pledges are still coming in. Listed below is an accounting for the Kasota Island project as yearend 2009. All outstanding pledges will be added to the CLTLC maintenance fund.

Pledges	\$ 1,384,766.47
Fundraisers	183,442.89
SCCF Grant	30,000.00
Memorials & Anonymous Contributions	25,987.28
Cash in hand SCCF & CLTLC	25,429.57
CLTLC maintenance fund	78,285.00
Pledges to be collect	\$ <u>94,950.60</u>
Total Kasota Island Funds Raised	\$ 1,822,861.81
Kasota Island Fund Raising Expenses	\$ <u>(71,950.81)</u>
Total funds raised after expenses	\$ 1,750,911.00

In addition your CLTLC Kasota Island maintenance crew has been hard at work on conserving and maintaining your Island investment. We have been busy removing and cleaning up some of the old dead trees and brush to make room for new trees. Twenty-five hardwood trees were planted in late October, with the help and knowledge of Chris Baker of Baker Acres.

Our plan for this winter is to continue with the clean-up and the removal of the old dead trees and brush. This will allow more plantings of new hard wood trees and various flower beds around the island in the spring. If anyone is interested in assisting with this conservation effort please feel free to contact me at bgeiger1@verizon.net and I will be happy to add you to the maintenance crew.

CLEAR LAKE COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUNDS

CLEAR LAKE FUND

CLEAR LAKE LIONS CLUB FUND

CLEAR LAKE YACHT CLUB PROGRAM FUND

CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP LAND CONSERVANCY MAINTENANCE FUND

These Clear Lake Community Endowment Funds have been established by organizations of Clear Lake to assist in providing financial support for the future needs of our Clear Lake Community. These endowments are held at the Steuben County Community Foundation, Inc., which is a 501 (C) (3) organization. The funds have an annual pay-out of 5%, which is based on the permanent endowed amount and the dollars are available for our community's use thru grant requests. These permanent endowed values are annually increasing thru community support of cash donations, memorials & matching funds at times by the Steuben County Community Foundation.

CLEAR LAKE COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUNDS

BALANCES & AVAILABLE PAY-OUTS

As of - 6/30/2009

Clear Lake Fund \$ 18,222.99 Available dollars for grant pay-out \$ 9,616.48

Clear Lake Lions Club Fund \$ 8,012.40 Available dollars for grant pay-out \$ 813.00

Clear Lake Yacht Club Program Fund \$ 7,988.65 Available dollars for grant pay-out \$ 3,363.11

CLTSL Maintenance Fund \$ 74,481.21 Available dollars for grant pay-out \$ - 0 -

Contributions to these Clear Lake Community Endowments funds can be sent to:
Steuben County Community Foundation, Inc.
1701 North Wayne Street
Angola, Indiana 46703
Phone: 260-665-6656
Fax: 260-665-8420
Email: SCCF@ locl.net

When contributing to these funds, please note the **Fund Name** on your check memo line.

More information on these funds can be sent to the Community Foundation or by contacting Bill Geiger @ Phone: 260-495-2611 – Email: bgeiger1@verizon.net

FOR YOUR INFORMATION.....and NEED YOUR HELP!

- ☺ The Clear Lake Lions Club wants to say THANK YOU for your support which enabled the distribution of over \$13,000 to various organizations.
- ☺ When bring aluminum cans for recycling to the Lions Club drop-off at 6930 N 875 E please bring aluminum cans only....no pans, foil, plastic bottles, trash or used diapers.
- ☺ Mark your calendars. Knee-High Naturalists, for children 6-12 will meet to discover and enjoy the nature around the lake each Wednesday in July, (July 7, 14, 21 and 28) from 9:30 to 11:00 each week. Sites will vary, so stay tuned!
- ☺ A lot of rocks are placed near the edge of the asphalt roads around Clear Lake. They are extremely hard to see when it is dark and snow is on the ground. If you have one please try to mark it with a reflector. A tire on the plow truck has had to be replaced due to one of these rocks.
- ☺ Have you missed receiving past issues of the "Clear Lake News"? Despite all of our efforts to keep our records up-to-date it is difficult to know exactly where you are when we make our mailings. You can avoid this by signing up to receive an email notification that the "News" is now available on the Town website. You can update your owner information on the town website-www.townofclearlake.org or send an email to the Clear Lake Association Secretary-Treasurer at azbrown2@verizon.net. Your email address will never be shared with anyone else.☺
- ☺ Clear Lake Association 2010 Events:
 - June 12—Boater safety Class
 - July 3----Fireworks Display
 - July 17---Annual Meeting
- ☺ Is your owner information up-to-date? All updates must be received by the end of February for inclusion in the 2010 Directory. Again you can use the Town website, send an email to Laura Farquhar at billing@townofclearlake.org call 260-495-9158.



DIRECT PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION
FORM: FIXED PAYMENTS

We are going to offer Auto Draw this year for payment of the 2010 **Garbage** bill. The deadline for returning the Auto Draw forms for garbage payment is June 1, 2010. The funds will be withdrawn on July 15, 2010.

The Direct Payment Plan will help you in several ways:

- *It saves time-fewer checks to write and mail.**
- *Helps pay your bills in a convenient and timely manner.**
- *Your payment is always on time-it helps maintain good credit.**
- *It saves postage-many people spend close to \$100 a year on postage.**
- *It's easy to sign up for, easy to cancel.**
- *No late charges.**

Here's how the Direct Payment Plan works:

You authorize regularly scheduled payments to be made from your checking or savings account. Then, just sit back and relax. Your payments will be made automatically on the specified day. Proof of payment will appear on your statement.

The authority you give to charge your account will remain in effect until you notify us in writing to terminate the authorization. If the amount of your payment changes, we will notify you at least 10 days before payment date. The Direct Payment Plan is dependable, flexible, convenient and easy. To take advantage of this service, complete the attached authorization form and return it to us:

All you need to do is:

1. Mark the box before type of account to indicate whether your payment will be deducted from your checking or savings account.
2. Fill in your name, financial institution name and location, and date.
3. Attach a voided check or deposit slip for verification of all financial institution information. If you are unable to attach a voided check, please fill in your account number and routing number.

If you are paying your sewer bill using Direct Payment you will need to submit a separate form for your garbage bill.

Note: Be sure to sign the form!

Please complete the information below:

I authorize the **Town of Clear Lake** to initiate electronic debit entries to my

___Checking account OR ___Savings account

For payment of my **Garbage** or **Sewer** (circle type of bill).

I acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my account must comply with the provisions of U.S. Law. This authority will remain in effect until I have cancelled it in writing.

Financial Institution Name (Please Print) _____

Account Number at Financial Institution _____

Financial Institution Routing Number _____

Financial Institution City and State _____

Lake Property Address _____

Your printed Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Return completed form to: Laura Farquhar, Clear Lake Town Hall, 5950 Gecowets Drive, Fremont IN 46737

CLEAR LAKE IMPORTANT DATES

Check the Town of Clear Lake website-www.townofclearlake.org for updates and changes to the calendar

February	2010
1	Plan Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Town Hall
8	Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
15	Town Hall Closed for Presidents' Day Holiday
15	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Town Hall
March	2010
	Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
	FOR YOUR SUMMER PLANNING
June	2010
12	Boater Safety Class, Town Hall
July	2010
3	CLA Fireworks Display

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

Return Services Requested

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE PAID
ANGOLA IN
PERMIT NO. 52