



Clear Lake

NEWS

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2011

GREETINGS FROM THE CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION

At the annual meeting of the Clear Lake Association on July 16, 2011, I was elected to AGAIN serve as the president of the Association. Apparently, we do support “recycling” at Clear Lake. The Association has a dedicated Board of Directors and officers and I hope to offer leadership to the group with the help of Rick Behnfeldt, the immediate past president, who will continue to serve on the board of directors. Rick did a great job leading the Association for the past two years. Kit Tyler was elected to serve as a director.

The Association board of directors will be meeting Sunday, October 23, 1:00 p.m., at the Clear Lake Town Hall. Your Directors are: Rick Behnfeldt, Mary Jo Fitzenrider, David Harris, Alan Korte, Mike Long, George McCracken, Cathleen Nevin and Kit Tyler.

The board members encourage your input as we meet to plan projects for 2012, address issues and share information of interest to Clear Lake property owners. The board meeting is open to all Clear Lake home owners. You are welcome to bring your ideas and concerns to the meeting and if you wish to be on the agenda, please contact Alan Brown, Secretary-Treasurer, by email, azbrown2@frontier.com, or by mail to Clear Lake Association, P. O. Box 38, Fremont, Indiana 46737, by October 15.

I look forward to serving as the Association president and encourage your input as we plan for 2012.

Mary Lee Gecowets, 1040 Lake Drive
1399 Edinger Road, Urbana, OH 43078
jgexvp@aol.com, 937-653-7298 (OH)

POSTSCRIPTS.....2011

With support and contributions from our members, the Clear Lake Association sponsored and will continue to sponsor the following activities:

- The Annual 4th of July Fireworks display. Special thanks to all the volunteers that helped with the set-up and tear down for the show.
- The Boater Safety Class
- Production and distribution of the quarterly “Clear Lake News”
- Support to organizations that provide services to Clear Lake and our community, such as:
 - Fremont Fire Department
 - Steuben County Sheriff Marine Patrol
 - Steuben County Underwater Rescue & Recovery Team
 - Steuben County Humane Society
 - Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy
 - Clear Lake Lions Club
 - Project HELP
 - Steuben County Crime Stoppers
- New cottage number directional signs (project completed in 2011)

The Clear Lake Association board members would like to sincerely thank all of you for your continued 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.

FALL NOTES....from the Association

Just a couple of reminders.....

- If you have a swim buoy, please remove it before it freezes in place. Replacement of damaged buoys is quite expensive for the Town and the Association. Also, it's very important for the SAFETY of winter lake users that all swim buoys, dock posts, mooring buoys, etc., that may protrude above the ice surface be removed. The fishermen, snowmobiles, four-wheelers, ice boaters, cross country skiers, ice skaters, and others are at risk of serious injury from collision with any such obstructions.
- To be better stewards of our Clear Lake, stay informed of the effects of chemicals we use on our lawns and gardens. If you are considering fall lawn fertilization, please be aware that one pound of phosphorous in our lake can produce 10,000 pounds of wet weeds and algae.
- NO leaves or debris raked into the lake.
- If you have changed your permanent residence, moved, recently bought or sold your Clear Lake property, or have taken over family business matters, please notify the Town of Clear Lake. This assists the Town in having the proper and accurate contact information in case of emergencies. The Town Hall phone number is 260-495-9158 or email clerk@townofclearlake.org

The beautiful fall colors are beginning to appear. Many summer residents have removed their docks, winterized their boats and closed their cottages for the winter. Be a "good caretaker" of your property and your neighbors.....and especially of Clear Lake! Thanks to all for your cooperation.

COMING AGAIN.....SUMMER 2012

- With renewed interest from Clear Lake residents, the Boat Parade for the 4th of July weekend, 2012, is BEING PLANNED. If you are willing to help, contact Rick Behnfeldt, 708 Lake Drive, 260-495-9906 or email rick_figley@hotmail.com

Mary Lee Gecowets
Association President

CLEAR LAKE CALENDAR

Roadside recycling pick-up is now on the **first and third Monday** of each month.

OCTOBER 2011

- 10- Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 24- Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 7:00 pm, Town Hall
- 31-Halloween "Trick-Or-Treat", 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 2011

- 9-Plan Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 14-Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 24-25-Town Offices closed for Thanksgiving holiday

DECEMBER 2011

- 12-Town Council Meeting, 7:00 pm, Town Hall
- 19-Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 26-Town Offices closed for Christmas Holiday

TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

The third quarter was a busy one for the Town Council. Most of our efforts were spent on getting the Point Park area ready for paving this fall. We are presently in the process of removing several trees to give us the required right-of way for the road. This has been a two year project and we appreciate the help and patience

of the residents in getting this project started. Paving should begin in the next few weeks and if there is enough money available we will begin some paving in the Arcadia Beach area.

Later this fall work will begin on the Town Hall basement. We will be providing storage rooms for the following organizations on Clear Lake: Heritage Committee, Water Quality Committee, Conservancy, Lion's Club, and the Clear Lake Association.

Our annual deer hunt (bow & arrow) will begin October 1st –January 1st with the DNR, firefighters, and police personnel. They have done a good job culling the herd for the past few years. We appreciate all the residents who have allowed us to hunt on their properties. This has had a positive impact on the town as well as the herd. I will report the results in January.

The U.S. Federal Highway Administration is now requiring every City, Town, and County to upgrade their signage. Their target date for having a system in place was January 2012 and for upgrading January 2015. They are now considering eliminating the target dates and letting each community change signs when they are needed.

However, in our conversations with the Steuben County Emergency Management Department, Steuben County Sheriff's Department, Indiana State Police, EMS of Indiana and Ohio, and the Census Bureau, they have informed the Town of Clear Lake that some of our signs are confusing (i.e.: Lake Drive & Lake Drive) and could cause some delay in emergency situations. Since this could be a safety issue the town is in the process of renaming some streets to alleviate any confusion. We hope to have our system in place by January 1st 2012 and implementation by February 15th 2012.

A committee was formed to review this issue. It was their intent to have Lake Drive as the primary road around the lake where the majority of the people travel. They also wanted to keep the changes to a minimum if possible. Committee members are: Barry Worl, Bob Hull, Bonnie Brown, Bob Lewis, Marshal John Gonya, Fremont Fire Chief Eric Hufnagle, Emma Brown, and Rick Behnfeldt.

Here are the proposed changes. We begin at our corporation line near Penner Drive and go clockwise around the lake.

1. Lakeview Drive to the corporation line going east. Cottages—7955 E, 7975 E, 7985 E, 8010 E, 8065 E, 8085 E, & 259 to 293.
2. Penner Drive-OK; Joann Court-OK; John Court-OK
3. Lake Drive begins at the Spangler's Nature Preserve
4. Prospect Street Cottages—294 to 297; Maple St. Cottages—303A & 307A
5. Point Park Drive--Cottages—416 to 464 and Sandpoint Road---Cottages 507 & 509
6. Lake Drive at the beach becomes Lakeside Court 632--662
7. Outer Drive at the beach becomes Lake Drive. Cottages—100,100,105,108,109,114,116,118, &132. --- Outer Drive begins at Channel Drive.
8. Channel Drive becomes Lake Drive Cottages—110,111,112, &114.
9. Chapel Drive-OK; Terrace Drive-OK; Buck Point Drive-OK; Fountain Beach-OK; Gecowets Drive-OK
10. Peninsula at Lake Drive becomes Paradise Point--Cottages—972---984
11. At Cottage 1134--Lake Drive to County Road 700 becomes Gary Road.
12. Marina Cove—1210 & 1216
13. Sailor's Cove-OK; Quiet Harbor-OK
14. Lake Drive begins at Cottage 10
15. Sunset Bay Court-Cottages—100 to 116--- Billings Court-Cottages—116A to 130
16. Road going west from the Yacht Club becomes Rieke Road.
17. Lake Drive continues from the Yacht Club to Cottage 255

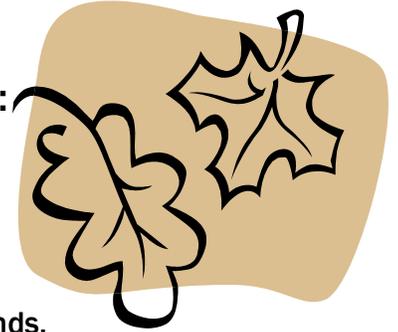
These changes will be implemented by February 15, 2012. We encourage all residents to make sure they have house numbers on their homes. Some homes may have address changes.

The Town of Clear Lake is pleased to announce the introduction of a Leaf Pick-up service for the Town of Clear Lake. We are working with the Northeast Indiana Solid Waste District and Steve Christman. It is our hope that everyone will participate in this project which will decrease the amount of burning thereby keeping more phosphorus matter out of the lake. A flyer will be distributed to all residences.

2011 CLEAR LAKE LEAF PICKUP SERVICE

Please help by following these rules:

1. If possible put leaf piles across the road.
2. Please do not put leaves on the road.
3. Please refrain from burning leaves.
4. Please refrain from putting leaves in the lake, ditches, or other wetlands.
5. If you have a lawn service that removes your leaves, please inform them of our service if they do not haul your leaves away.



The leaf vacuum will pick-up on the following dates:

October 3rd & 4th

October 17th & 18th

October 24th & 25th

November 7th & 8th

November 14th & 15th

November 30th & December 1st

If we all participate we will have a positive impact on our lake.

Thank you,

Clear Lake Town Council

I would like to thank all town employees, council members, clerk treasurer, Plan Commission members, BZA members and our Zoning Administrator for their consistent good work and participation in the Clear Lake Town government.

The Town of Clear wishes to extend its Holiday Greetings to all Clear Lakers this year.

Bob Lewis, President,
Clear Lake Town Council

MARSHAL'S REPORT

Well, the weather might not have been ideal, but the summer was a safe and successful one all around at Clear Lake. The amount of reported crimes was lower this summer than the previous 3 summers. This is a direct result of the residents of Clear Lake keeping an eye on their neighbor's properties, reporting suspicious activity, and locking vehicles at night.

As fall approaches and seasonal owners close up their properties, please remember to take extra care towards making you home look "lived in" whether you're there or not. Setting lights on timers, having someone check your exterior lighting from time to time for blown bulbs, and decorating for the seasons from

time to time are just a few ways to make that happen. Adequate exterior lighting is a low cost theft deterrent with very little cost.

We hope that by the end of the year, we can do our part to wrap up the street renaming project. Although inconvenient for some, the renaming of the streets will make the job of first responders much easier and allow those responders to render assistance quicker when needed. Fire apparatus, EMS units, and outside police agencies will be able to find the address quicker and some confusion will be eliminated with the renaming. I thank you for your patience and understanding with the process.

The Clear Lake Police will be reducing patrolling hours overall but will adjust patrol times to cover the late night hours as the population diminishes this fall and winter. We look forward to serving you as 2011 comes to a close.

John Gonya,
Town Marshal

ECONOMIC VITALITY OF STEUBEN COUNTY IS IMPORTANT TO CLEAR LAKE

There has probably not been another point in our lifetime where so much attention has been focused on economic development and job growth. It is something that every community is dealing with on a local level and we are seeing efforts to deal with a slumping economy on a national level. Everybody recognizes this as an important issue, but how to make it happen is something that requires vision and a strategic plan. Such is the case with Steuben County where the Steuben County Economic Development Corporation is working to maintain a strategic direction for economic growth that incorporates all of the communities within the County.

The Town of Clear Lake is a member of the Steuben County Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC) and maintains a seat on the Board of Directors. This allows the community to be represented in establishing the strategic direction of Steuben County as it relates to economic development. The SCEDC coordinates with local government and industry to encourage new businesses to locate in the County and also works with existing businesses that need assistance in expanding and growing their operations.

While Clear Lake does not have many businesses that operate within the Township and surveys have shown that most residents do not want to see business growth in Clear Lake, it is important to recognize the need for economic vitality in our surrounding communities. The economic growth of Towns like Fremont, Angola, and Orland allow for the development of businesses and a resulting vibrant economy. Growth and vibrancy means more grocery stores, restaurants, gas stations and other shops that provide services for our community.

The Steuben County Economic Development Corporation has recently hired a new Executive Director. One of his first initiatives will be to work with the Board to update the County's current Economic Development Plan. Copies of the current plan can be viewed at the link shown below-

<http://www.tpma-inc.com/text/steuben%20county%20economic%20development%20plan.pdf>

Residents and property owners are encouraged to review the Plan and get involved in providing input and comments that can be shared with the Board of the SCEDC. Comments may be directed to Dave Harris at dharris80950@yahoo.com. Get involved and stay involved.....the economic vitality of Steuben County is an important issue for Clear Lake.

David Harris

WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Welcome to AUTUMN, truly a season that showcases Clear Lake at her BEST. Keeping the water in Clear Lake "at its best" is an on-going stewardship activity that requires everyone on the lake to participate. Are you tired of those pesky weeds and algae blooms during the summer months? Make sure you are doing your part by insuring that your fall season leaves are not getting into the lake, wetlands or ditches that lead into

the lake.

In the past we have had few alternatives to rid our yards of leaves. Now THANKS to The Clear Lake Town Council we will begin a Leaf Pick-Up program for October to December. Please refer to the schedule given in the Town Hall portion of this newsletter plus a forthcoming flyer from Northeast Indiana Solid Waste District. KUDOS to Town Council for arranging this long awaited program. Leaves in the lake and ditches are a major source of the nutrients, phosphorus and nitrates that promote the growth of weeds and algae blooms. We ALL need to participate in the new Leaf Pick-Up Program. Whether you rake your leaves yourself or employ a lawn care service, please follow the directives of the program or have the leaves hauled away.

As a fall lawn care reminder- if you do a lawn fertilizer application, please remember to use ONLY PHOSPHORUS FREE lawn fertilizer. All retailers carry P-FREE fertilizer for those who fertilize their own lawns. The middle number on the bag (12-0-12) indicates the amount of phosphorus. Make sure that middle number is ZERO. If you have a lawn service it is most important to request they use only Phosphorus Free. According to recent information fertilizers, leaves, grass clippings, animal waste, and eroded soil are all sources of nutrients. When they are swept or washed into the street or nearest storm drain, they end up in your local lake or river where they can cause algal blooms and other water quality problems. A recent webcast program highlighted legislation passed by Minnesota, Michigan and the Chesapeake Bay states to restrict the use of lawn fertilizers. The Indiana Wildlife Federation is leading the Indiana initiative to restrict phosphorus in lawn care fertilizers.

The recent activities of your Water Quality Committee have included:

- Hoosier Riverwatch testing of the four county ditches leading into Clear Lake.
- Indiana Clean Lakes Program, another volunteer lake monitoring effort – this one sponsored by IDEM, was started on Clear Lake this summer. Lake water is tested for clarity and samples are extracted to check for Phosphorus and Chlorophyll levels. Dissolved oxygen is also monitored. These samples are sent to laboratories associated with the Indiana Clean Lakes Program for results. The goal is to identify long term water quality trends in lakes.
- At the end of August several committee members participated in a Macro- Invertebrate Study. Kate Sanders, graduate student from IPFW in water quality analysis, led us in a most interesting collection and identification of macro-invertebrates found in the substrata of our four inlets. Identification of macro- invertebrates is another indicator of water quality.
- On September 16th several committee members participated in the Water Works Day with Fremont Middle School seventh grade students and teachers. Committee members explained the Hoosier Riverwatch water quality monitoring program. Students participated in “hands on” testing of water samples for transparency/turbidity and dissolved oxygen. In addition, students learned the concept of a *Watershed*. All involved agreed this was a successful endeavor.

Enjoy the season, the color and the peace.

Annie Skinner and Your Water Quality Committee

NEW FLOOD MAP AFFECTS CLEAR LAKE PROPERTIES

As part of a National Map Modernization Program, a new digital flood insurance rate map (DFIRM) has been developed for Clear Lake and all of Steuben County. The new map is considered “preliminary,” and a ninety-day appeal and protest period has commenced (or will shortly). Any appeals filed will be resolved before a six-month adoption period begins. All in all, it will take a year or more for a new map to be officially adopted.

Special Flood Hazard Areas are areas that have a one percent (1%) or greater chance of flooding in any given year. The proposed new flood insurance rate map is delineated to include approximately seventy (70) Clear Lake cottages within Special Flood Hazard Areas. (Previously adopted maps have not shown any Special Flood Hazard Areas in the Clear Lake Town Limits.) The best place to view the preliminary digital flood insurance rate map (DFIRM) is online with the Steuben County GIS. Begin by going to the Town’s website at www.townofclearlake.org, and selecting “GIS System” in the left column. After navigating to Steuben County

and then Clear Lake, the preliminary map layer is under the “Environmental” layers. A hard copy is also available in the Town Hall (even though it’s not very detailed).

While everyone should be aware of the newly delineated Special Flood Hazard Areas around the Lake, those most impacted will be property owners with a mortgage whose houses are in (or partially in) a Special Flood Hazard Area. These folks will be required to obtain flood insurance. If a property owner is contacted by his/her mortgage company about obtaining flood insurance and a quick look at the preliminary map shows that the house is NOT within the Special Flood Hazard Area, the property owner will need to apply for a Letter of Map Amendment Out-As-Shown (LOMA-OAS). If the preliminary map shows the house is within the Special Flood Hazard Area, the property owner may obtain an Elevation Certificate from a licensed surveyor proving the first floor elevation of the house is two-feet above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) and use that information to apply for a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA). The LOMA-OAS and the LOMA applications cannot be submitted until the ninety-day appeal period ends, and the six-month adoption period begins.

This project was initiated and is being managed by FEMA and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water. The Town of Clear Lake is the “middle man” in this project. We want to provide as much awareness, information, and assistance to residents as we can, but the processes, procedures, and requirements are from the Federal government.

For more information, feel free to contact Amy Schweitzer in the Town Hall at 260-495-9158 (who will try to answer your questions or point you in right direction); log onto www.floodmaps.in.gov; or contact the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, by calling toll free at (877) 928-3755.

Amy Schweitzer
Zoning Administrator

CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP LAND CONSERVANCY SUMMER GALA

It was a HOT summer night but, the 2nd annual Clear Lake Conservancy Summer Gala was an astounding success..... and I credit you, the people who love Clear Lake! Held at the newly debuted 1907 Heritage Barn, the event enjoyed an increased participation and enthusiasm in the silent/live auction items and outstanding cuisine by Paula and Bernie Kaufman. The standard was set for future events that all attendees are devotedly looking forward to. I would like to acknowledge and thank the following persons who gave their time selflessly to the event: Jim and Annie Skinner, Don Crapo, Beth and George Mc Cracken, Betsy and John Kenas, Josie and Mark Sweeney, Julie Munson and Molly Nagel. The ever hardworking water quality committee created and manned the enlightening CLTLC displays, Thank you: Joann Stanley, Don Luepke, Pat Long, Sue Williams, Dave Davis, Rita Helmuth, Peg Zeis and Mary Jo Fitzenrider. Of course, thanks are not complete without thanking the many, many persons who donated items and cash to the silent and live auctions. I have heard many compliments on the quality of items we offered this summer. Our beautiful location was donated by Eric and Deb Hench. Thank you to everyone.

Please mark your calendars!!!! The 3rd Annual Conservancy Summer Gala will be held on Saturday, August 11, 2012. Plans are already underway to create an elegant and entertaining evening that you will not want to miss. Look for your invitations to arrive in the early summer, 2012. Please also keep in mind that CLTLC will be soliciting donations of auction items for this event. In the next months, when you come across an item that would be suitable, please kindly consider a tax deductible donation to us. The generosity of Clear Lake friends and neighbors is truly remarkable. Contact: Bonnie Brown 260-495-2771 or bonniedon1@gmail.com

Your big hearted support of CLTLC enables the continuation of fixed expenses in addition to the purchase of sensitive lands to preserve our Clear Lake for our future generations.

Clear Lake History Books (\$50) have continued to sell well all summer and are still available at the Clear Lake Town Hall, Fremont Library and from Bonnie Brown, 40 Powhattan Court, Round Lake.

Bonnie Brown

TO HELP YOU PLAN AHEAD-

✿ SUMMER OF 2012 DATES ✿

- Friday, July 6th---Clear Lake Association Fireworks display at dusk. (Saturday July 7th rain date)
- Sunday, July 29th---Ski Show at Clear Lake Yacht Club
- Saturday, August 11th---3rd Annual Conservancy Summer Gala



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
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FREMONT IN 46737

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