



Clear Lake

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2012

NEWS

CLEAR LAKE TOWN COUNCIL

What a difference a year makes. 2011 gave us storms and plenty of rain. 2012 gave us heat and more heat. The water level in the lake dropped about two feet and still has not recovered fully. The town was under a burn ban with the county but we still were able to have the Clear Lake Associations firework display with the help of the Fremont Fire Department and our Clear Lake Marshals.

The Council and Clerk-Treasury Kay Kummer have been working this quarter on the refinancing our sewer bond. This will give the town substantial savings over the remaining term of the bond.

With the arrival of fall and many of our residents leaving, Bob Hull, our Superintendent wants to remind residents to fill their sewer tanks with water over the winter. Filling and then emptying a bathtub a couple of time is an easy way to accomplish this. This will help in the startup in the spring and increase the life of the pumps. Also in the fall or spring make sure you have 4 or 5 inches of clearance around the top of your tank for air circulation.

Leaf Pick-Up

This week the town received our LEAF-VAC which we purchased earlier this year. We will now have the ability to pick up leaves more frequently weather permitting. We will post a schedule on our website (www.townofclearlake.org) in the coming weeks.

Annual Deer Hunt

The annual bow and arrow deer hunt in the Town of Clear Lake will be from October 1, 2012 to January 1, 2013 in designated areas around the lake. The participants will be the same as last year with personal from the Department of Natural Resources, Fremont Fire Department, and Steuben County Marshalls. We wish to thank all the residents and institutions that allow the hunters to hunt on their properties. These hunts have helped over the years in culling the herd and limiting the damage to resident's properties.

Street Maintenance

This year's paving was completed on Lakeside Court, Channel Drive, Sandpoint Drive and Prospect Drive. The survey work for Paradise Point, Joann Court, and John Court is complete. We hope to complete some of this work yet this year.

Since 2005 we have repaired and resurfaced 5.34 miles of our streets. Some of these have been very extensive projects: such as the area north of the Yacht Club (857 feet), the curve on West Clear Lake Drive (2,227 feet), and the swamp on South Clear Lake Drive (2,397 feet) as these areas were under water most of the time. Quiet Harbor (980 feet) and Point Park Drive (1,397 feet) were complete rebuilds. The remaining areas (3.47 miles) were resurfaced.

Bob Hull will be working with DLZ Corporation of Fort Wayne in the next 60 days to put together a five year plan for street improvements. This plan will encompass the surveying and engineering costs, paving estimates, and prioritization of street work to be done.

Finally, The Town Council would like to thank all the employees and contractors for their work throughout the year. Your service continues to enhance the governance of Clear Lake.

We would also like to wish all residents a safe and happy holiday season. Thank You.

Bob Lewis, President
Clear Lake Town Council

THE CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION: MORE THAN FIREWORKS

The Clear Lake Association is an organization best known for putting on the fireworks display every Fourth of July, but it's important for all of the residents of Clear Lake to know that there is much more to this civic organization that represents the entire Clear Lake community in a number of ways.

Those of you, who have visited the website, know the mission statement of the Association is "to maintain and support projects that benefit the Clear Lake Community and to inform and represent the Association members in regard to proposals and projects that impact them". We support these activities to support this mission:

- Support projects that add value to the Clear Lake Community
- Initiate activities that will provide additional benefits to the Clear Lake Community
- Support and encourage organizations that are important to a viable Clear Lake Community
- Inform the Association members about the deliberations and actions of the Clear Lake Town Council and its boards.
- Represent Clear Lake on the Steuben County Lakes Council and support its efforts to preserve the ecology of the lakes.

One of the main focal points of the activities of the Association this past year has been seeking out the views of the residents on the Public Beach and investigating ways to make this venue a more pleasing aspect of the lake. Past President Mary Lee Gecowets is continuing to head up this project as we work through the Steuben County Council members to agree on ways to proceed to improve the beach.

Water quality is an important concern of our residents and Mary Jo Fitzenrider and Greg Brown work to represent Clear Lake on the Steuben County Lakes Council and on the county water quality council.

In addition, the Association provides financial support to a number of organizations throughout the area. Just this past year the Association has provided funds to the Clear Lake Lions Club, the Fremont Fire Department, Project Help, The Steuben County Humane Society, the Steuben County Lakes Council, the Steuben County Sheriff Department – Marine Patrol, K9 and SRT team, The Turning Point Shelter, the Alzheimer's Walk for Dad and the Clear Lake Ski Club.

Please remember that the Clear Lake Association is your voice in concerns that affect the residents of Clear Lake. Directors bring numerous issues that have been shared with them to the quarterly meetings and all matters are discussed and considered.

We are fortunate to have huge support from the residents of Clear Lake and continue to work to increase our membership every year. Our goal, of course, is 100% of the residents of Clear Lake. For more information about projects and meetings of the Association, please visit the website at www.clearlakeindiana.org/association/.

Kit Tyler, President
Clear Lake Association

MARSHAL'S REPORT

Well, the weather was definitely hot enough for lake activities this summer and that brought extra people to the lake. Even with the extra boaters and people enjoying the lake, the summer was a safe and successful one. I would like to thank the Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol for their help this summer with boat patrols.

We also saw another drop in reported crimes this summer. With the exception of the gas can thefts from boats, reported thefts were lower than the past few summers. This is a result of residents locking their vehicles and removing valuables from view. Throughout the summer, we concentrated on night patrols as a deterrent hoping to keep the thefts down.

Once again I want to remind residents as fall approaches and seasonal owners close up their properties, please remember to take extra care towards making your 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.

John Gonya, Town Marshal

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR 12-12-12!

A Christmas benefit concert for the Jim Geiger Medical Expense Fund will be held at Clear Lake Lutheran Church. David Paul Britton, Christian musician and songwriter, will present an Advent program at 7:00 pm, Wednesday, December 12. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased in advance at Billings and Dona's Buffet in Fremont and Gay's in both Fremont and Angola. Alan and Sue Korte (950 South Clear Lake Drive, phone: 260-495-3875) will also have tickets available. Tickets can also be purchased on Sunday mornings, November 25-December 9, at St. Paul Catholic Chapel (see Susie Snyder or Pam Reith) and Clear Lake Lutheran Church (see Jo Cutshall)

If you are unable to attend the December 12 event, but would like to make a donation, please send checks to the Korte's, made payable to: **Jim Geiger Medical Expense Fund**. There will also be baskets available at the concert for donations to Jimmy's medical expenses.

David Paul Britton, who resides in Saginaw, Michigan, has shared his Christian musical ministry throughout the U.S. for 34 years. The December 12 program, *The Great Mystery*, will feature fresh, original songs with creative arrangements of Christmas classics, in a heart-warming concert of music, Scripture and participatory singing by all. Funding for this performance is provided by a Lutheran Foundation Grant. Clear Lake Lutheran Church is located at 270 Outer Drive. Refreshments will be served after the concert.

Any questions about this event may also be directed to George & Beth McCracken (495-0047; cell: 419-203-1404) or Ron and Dee Walters (495-0252).

FALL YARD CLEAN-UP AT CLEAR LAKE

We can probably all agree that *preventative* medicine is the *best* medicine for personal health. The same is true for the health of our Clear Lake waters and open spaces.

Autumn is an ideal time to make sure our shore lines and lake waters are in tip-top shape for winter. Dumping leaves and any other yard waste in the lake or near ditches can result in phosphorus in Clear Lake's water. Additional phosphorus builds-up as a result of lawn fertilizer run off. All this excess phosphorus literally acts as stored junk food feeding the natural plants growing in the lake. We often see the results of this over-indulgence with spring algae blooms. If you choose to do a fall fertilizer application, make sure your product is Phosphorus Free. Choose the bag with a ZERO as the middle number. If you use a lawn care service request they apply only Phosphorus Free materials.

Just as we learned the ills of dumping leaves and yard waste in our lake waters, we also need to understand the negative impact of dumping yard waste in our surrounding open spaces.

We are fortunate to have local programs which provide ways to deal with our fall yard waste clean-up. If you are fortunate enough to have help with your yard work, arrange for them to use these programs.

- Clear Lake's Leaf Pick-Up Program was a huge success last year and we are grateful to the town for continuing the program.
- Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District (NISWMD) provides a site to dispose of all other "non-mulch able" yard materials. Acceptable materials are grass clippings, leaves and brush. NO stumps or land clearing materials.

NISWMD compost site is located at CR 175N, NW of Angola, adjacent to the Steuben County Fairgrounds. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. and Saturday from 8:00 A.M. to 3:00P.M. For additional information: 260-587-3063 or www.niswmd.org

The waters and open spaces of Clear Lake need us to be responsible for our yard waste. Take the time to talk to your neighbors and yard contractors because an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Annie Skinner
Clear Lake Conservancy Water Quality Committee

CORRECTION

In the "Reminders" article in the July – September 2012 edition of the *Clear Lake News* it was stated that an AED was available at the Clear Lake Bible Church. This is an error as they do not have an AED. We apologize for this misinformation.

REMINDERS:

- Roadside recycling pick-up at Clear Lake is the first and third Monday of each month. Contact the Town Hall if you need containers.
- Printing and mailing for each copy of the Clear Lake News costs \$1.40. Help us use your dues and contributions to support local organizations by receiving the "News" via email. Send your email address to azbrown2@frontier.com We can send an email notice to parents, grandparents or others interested in Clear Lake. The Clear Lake Association will not share your email information with any other party or firm.
- 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.
- 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

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

CLEAR LAKE CALENDAR

October 2012

- 8 Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 15 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 31 Halloween Trick-Or-Treat, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

November 2012

- 6 Town Offices Closed for Election Day
- 7 Plan Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 12 Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 22/23 Town Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2012

- 10 Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Town Hall
- 17 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 25 Town Offices Closed for Christmas Holiday

UPDATE ON THE PUBLIC BEACH..

The Clear Lake Association has been working on collecting information about the status of the Public Beach at Clear Lake. Dave Harris had taken the "lead" and shared a program of information at the Annual Association meeting in July. It is too long to be included in this Newsletter but using this link <http://clearlakeindiana.org/association/content/2012-association-public-beach-presentation.pdf> you can read the presentation. Unfortunately, we are going to lose Dave's expertise since he is leaving the lake but the Association wants to continue the dialogue.

Using the comments from the residents who responded to the Association survey and those that have been received from the Values Survey, work will continue on keeping residents informed of the Public Beach activities. After the Values Survey is completed, a committee will be formed to continue the Public Beach work. To date, resident comments vary a great deal on what "should be the future of the Beach" but conversation with the residents and the county commissioners will require continued participation to be a player in what the future outcome might be of this property.

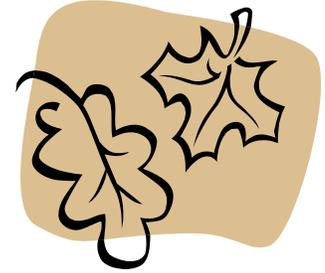
To continue the work started by Dave Harris, a committee will be formed, with Mary Lee Gecowets, Immediate Past President of the Association, serving as the new chairperson. Several residents have volunteered their time and if others are interested please email Mary Lee at jgexvp@aol.com, of your BEST time to meet and your availability. The Association is committed to continuing the work started by Dave Harris.

A BIG Thank You to David....he has spent many hours collecting information regarding the Clear Lake Public Beach. He will be missed.

Mary Lee Gecowets,
937-653-7298
jgexvp@aol.com

2012 TOWN of 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. NO tree or bush limbs. NO discarded plants. Leaves ONLY.
4. Please refrain from burning leaves.
5. Please refrain from putting leaves in the lake, ditches, or other wetlands.
6. If you have a lawn service that removes your leaves, please inform them of our service if they do not haul your leaves away.
7. The pickup schedule will be posted on the Town website (www.townofclearlake.org) in the coming weeks.

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
