

HOOK, LINE & SINKER

CUMBERLAND
LAKES NEWSLETTER

June 2015

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Robert Connors



This has been an uneventful spring, however the cleanup from the ice storm still continues and will for some time. We anticipate help from TEMA and FEMA, hopefully to be completed in the next 60 days. We encourage owners to look in on their properties as many lots have damage and there might be ways for you to assist in the cleanup efforts. Plans for the Lazy Lake dam repair are also nearing completion and then the actual repair work can begin. Have a great summer!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

If you would like to run for the **Board of Directors for the Cumberland Lakes Property Owners Association** please contact Cindy Carty (Cumberland Lakes BOD Secretary) at 931-839-6640 or email at ccseawolf@gmail.com. You must submit a resume to the nominating committee, **through the BOD Secretary by July 31, 2015**. Ballots will be mailed out in August and the results will be announced at the Annual Meeting in October 2015.

FIREWISE

Tom Torbleau

After the recent "Ice Storm of 2015" we all are in the process of cleaning up the fallen trees and branches from our property and there are some things to keep in mind. First, a request for tree and brush removal should be submitted to the AECC. This is primarily used for security purposes and generally readily approved. Secondly, be careful when selecting a contractor and make sure the contractor is "licensed and bonded". Also, make sure disposal is what you wish i.e. removal of all trees and branches, save tree logs for firewood, or mulch and save branches, etc. **IF TREES AND BRANCHES ARE TO BE BURNED MAKE SURE TO BURN RESPONSIBLY.** Even though we are leaving the season for "burn permits" the downed trees and branches are extremely dry and we are tending towards "Drought Conditions". If in doubt, residents should CALL the local office for current conditions. Remember, the person who initiates the fire is **LIABLE** for all damages if the fire goes out of control. The fire **MUST BE MONITORED UNTIL THE FLAMES BURN OUT.** "It is unlawful for any person who originates or uses open fire to leave such fire unattended without totally extinguishing the same within one hundred fifty feet (150) of forest or woodlands." (*Tennessee Wildfire Law 39-14-305*)

REMINDER!

Maintenance Assessment Fees (Dues)

The invoices for 2015 went out on January 31st. The dues remain at \$120.00 per lot and are due by June 30, 2015. After that date late charges will be assessed.

Your prompt payment is always appreciated.

Tip: Use Stabil brand fuel stabilizer to prevent water and ethanol damage to all lawn equipment. This will extend fuel shelf life to 2 years.

For Dept. of Forestry Burn Permits call 788-5538 or 484-4548 ONLY.

NO ONLINE PERMITS ARE BEING ISSUED.

REMINDER: Burn permits are not required again until October 15, 2015.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

Reggie Almond

With the ice storm behind us and all the projects on our plates I want to thank all the AECC Committee Members for their active part towards our community this busy year. These members are Ken Welker, Tom Torbleau, Jim Hanson and John Ziminski.

The AECC committee has only received several questions for building construction in our community.

1. Removal of trees and underbrush on a property owner's lot.
2. Tree removal on a home owner's property. (NOT CLEAR CUTTING).

The committee membership has only five of us participating. Again I want to encourage all residents in our community to take a part in the development of our community. **All are welcome.**

I also want to remind residents who are planning construction to fill out a request form from the web site (cumberlandlakes.net) and turn it in for approval.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Tom Torbleau

After the "Ice Storm of 2015" we need to evaluate some of our emergency procedures and supplies. Some necessary supplies are: several empty milk jugs filled with water for use in your bathroom, a case of bottled water for daily consumption and cooking, an AM/FM radio with extra batteries, a "D Cell" flashlight with extra batteries, a kerosene lantern or supply of large candles for light, a cheap butane lighter for lighting candles or lamps, and a portable heat source like a kerosene space heater and spare containers of kerosene. If you have a portable "Gasoline Generator", always use this generator OUTSIDE your home. These generators give off carbon monoxide as the gas burns.

During the last ice storm we all found out that "land line" service along with "cell service" was lost for quite a while. Even a major radio station went off the air for a while. A desired feature of phone service is the ability to send "text messages". Texting was the only form of communication for an extended period during and after the storm. Of course, along with this, an auxiliary cell phone charging cell which will charge your phone when the battery runs low.

Law enforcement found radio stations to be a great method to inform the public of conditions. Our local stations are as follows:

Crossville		Cookeville	
WLSV	1490 AM	WKXD	106.9 FM
WAEW	1330 AM	News/Talk	100.9 FM
WOW	102.5 FM	WLQK	95.9FM
MIX	99.3FM	WBXE	93.7FM

If you wish to receive weather text alerts, you can subscribe to PEG Broadcasting by sending the text "WOWWEATHER" to 68683. When you receive a return message you need to reply "YES" to complete the registration



NATURE NOTES

Bill Hess

Many of us have been attracted to this community because of our woods. I'm pretty sure that most of you were quite aware of the ice storm we experienced in February, but you had to be here to feel it. From my perspective as a botanist and having worked professionally for most of my career with woody plants, that morning was eye opening to see the broken woody plants all around us. At some time during the following few days, I began to realize that the forest would recover as would we.

The storm has given me an opportunity to speculate upon some of the tree features that I've observed prior to the storm. It was not uncommon to have upper parts of our trees break off during some of our high winds that occur normally during some of the wind and thunder storms. With some of the high branches breaking off the oak trees, it would seem to me that as these trees continue to grow there is a certain amount of healing over that scar. After so many years the scar is hidden except that under that scar rotten wood exists. That area is weakened and over time more susceptible to breakage. Another common tree in our woods is Sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboreum*). It can grow 50—60 feet tall, but many of the younger trees often appear arching in the woods. The inner part of the tree (let's call it the wood) has quite a difference in structure and the wood seems to be quite irregular when you split it. This is not so of the wood in the oaks and maples. It doesn't split as easily. I think that because the wood doesn't split as easily, and branches from taller trees fall on these younger Sourwood trees in the understory, they just bend over forming the arching appearance.

So far this spring the trees are blossoming as spectacularly as always, only later than our previous springs here. The flowering dogwoods have been spectacular in our woods, as have the Redbud, Black Cherry, Southern Crabapple, Canadian Serviceberry and others. I expect that our flowering shrubs will be just as beautiful

FROM THE EDITOR

Judi Connors

If at any time you prefer to receive a mailed copy of the Newsletter, or you no longer need a mailed copy, please call me at 931-839-7252. The Community Center office is not open but the phone is monitored and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

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