



HOOK LINE & SINKER

CUMBERLAND LAKES NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2015

FROM THE DESK OF THE P.O.A. PRESIDENT

Robert Connors



I hope everyone is enjoying their summer which will soon be winding its way into fall. Progress on the Lazy Lake dam project is moving forward. The Tennessee Department of Environmental Control (TDEC) has given us verbal approval and will issue a State permit for the construction of the new dam. The engineering firm has given Reggie Almond the construction plans and he has them out to four contractors for bids. He is expediting the process to get construction underway and we are hopeful this project will be completed as planned. We are all looking forward to having Lazy Lake up and functioning again!

Board of Directors Election

Exactly five resumes were turned in by the deadline, therefore there will be no need for an election this year.

ACTIVITIES

Editor

We were pleased that once again Judy and Bill Babb and Bill and Betsy Hess took over the planning and decorating for our annual 4th of July picnic. As our Christmas tree has become a "seasonal tree" it can be used throughout the year and decorated accordingly. The Center looked festive with the patriotic decorations and as always the food was very tasty.

The next holiday we will hopefully celebrate is Labor Day!

FIREWISE

Tom Torbleau

As reported earlier, the military insurance company, USAA, is now giving home insurance discounts to members who live in Firewise Communities. Unfortunately, it is only in the states of California, Colorado and Texas at this time.

Many thanks to those in our community who assisted in the storm cleanup. I am happy to report the storm debris has been removed from all areas of our community and we suffered NO fire damage from the many piles of debris.

REMINDER: Burn permits will be required again beginning October 15, 2015.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Tom Torbleau

There is good news and bad news. The good news is that our community remains basically crime free except for a few stolen street signs. The bad news is that the crime rate has returned to pre- ice storm levels in Cumberland County. Before the ice storm hit, we were at 103 incidents in January and the rate has steadily risen to 118 for June. According to reports, there are virtually no incidents in our area except for some theft on Plateau Road. So far our watch group is helping greatly to keep our crime rate low. Good work!

Earlier, Charlene Brunner sent out information about the effects of E-85 fuel. Now E-85 has reached our area and residents should be wary of using the new fuel. On the surface it appears to cost less but it really will cost you more. First of all, your vehicle needs to be manufactured to use FLEX FUEL. If your car is not made to use E-85 your gas mileage will drop by 15% which means you will use more in the long run. Secondly, E-85 is a cleaner but more corrosive fuel which will break down existing engine deposits causing fuel system problems like plugged fuel filters and injectors. Thirdly, E-85 being highly corrosive will break down all rubber and plastic engine parts causing costly repairs.

LAKE MANAGEMENT

Ron Seiss

Cumberland Lake – During the month of August a lake survey will be performed to determine the need, if any, for the purchase of additional triploid (grass) carp necessary to maintain / control the growth of the underwater vegetation.

Lazy Lake – Plans for the restoration of Lazy Lake dam are proceeding under separate management. I have been working with TWRA's fish biologist to develop a restocking plan for the impoundment. A preliminary plan has been submitted to the Board for their consideration. The plan for the fishery is based on 50% of the standard stocking rates per surface acre for a 20 acre renovated lake with light fishing pressure. It is expected that the fish should reproduce naturally and be at a carrying capacity in a couple of years.

Critter Control – In the April/May timeframe a beaver sighting was reported on Cumberland Lake. Evidence of bark being stripped off several trees was photographed and an email was sent to all residents to keep a lookout for beaver and to report any sightings. Since the initial sighting, no reports have been filed and no additional damage to any trees or shrubs has been observed. It is normal for beavers to scout out new territory in the spring. For now I guess we have "dodged a beaver". They will return.



COMMUNITY RELATIONS WELCOMING

Betsy Hess

In late June our welcoming committee of Laurie Brown, Charlene Brunner and myself was very happy to welcome another family to Cumberland Lakes. Amy, Shane and Ellie Atwell moved here from Crossville in May and Shane so enjoys the peace and quiet of our community. Amy works for the post office and has the Fairfield Glade route. Shane is self employed and gets many jobs through Overman's Shed in Clarkrange. Amy has four daughters: one lives in Johnson City, two in Crossville and Ellie (aged 15) at home. Shane came from Florida in 2006; Amy came from Oregon at least 20 years ago and they have been married four years. What a beautiful decorating job they have done with their house after working so hard on it! They live at 181 North Lake Trail.

Welcome to our community, Amy, Shane and Ellie.



ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

Reggie Almond

I want to thank all the Architectural and Environmental Compliance Committee (AECC) members for their active parts towards our community this busy year. These members are Ken Welker, Tom Torbleau, Jim Hanson and John Ziminski. The committee membership has only 5 of us participating. Again I want to encourage all residents to take a part in the development of our community. **All are welcome.**

The Committee has received numerous requests for tree removal from the ice storm damage. The community has a property owner starting to fill out their requests for work for their new home on Lazy Lake, new dock and tree removal for their septic system.

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

The AECC is in the process of sending out letters to some of our residents who either do not know the process or have yet to fill out their requests for gates, architectural fences, or other structures, whether permanent or temporary, on their property. You are required to fill out a work request. I want to remind all property owners to familiarize yourselves with the AECC Requirements and Restrictions and Covenants & Restrictions, as these will help answer any questions you have. If you have any problems getting the application or understanding the application process, please let one of committee members know - we are here to help.

BEAUTIFICATION

Betsy Hess

The flower beds at the community center certainly looked beautiful as we had our July 4th picnic there. The zinnias and vincas put in earlier were thriving. Unfortunately, the beautiful red/purple clematis I planted earlier was uprooted by some animal, but we live in all this wonderful nature and not everything stays undisturbed!

I'll take living in nature and losing a few plants any day! The beds out on Rte. 62 with the annuals Janine Torbleau added also look lovely. The Jim Garrett Road entrance will have its shrubs trimmed this summer. It gets kind of wild looking there with the tall beautiful bee balm and phlox flowering, then afterward before they are trimmed back down.

Thanks go to the beautification committee: Linette Almond, Judi Connors, Bill & Betsy Hess, Elaine Jimenez, Kaye Robinson and Janine Torbleau.



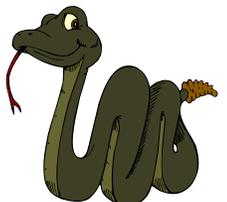
NATURE NOTES

Bill Hess

This summer has been a little bit different for us. Of course, it has to do with our winter- weather pattern and the effects of the ice storm on our woods. I've mentioned several times that where we live there is a natural wetland. It usually fills with water in late fall or early winter. Even though we can have quite a few subfreezing days, often a thaw occurs in late February or early March and the wetland becomes a "pond." The frogs awaken then and we can have a croaking cacophony (noise) emanating from this area. This "pond" also attracts the Barred Owl which is no doubt hunting the frogs. Usually we see a pair of Wood Ducks swimming around for as long as the wetland has water. All of this I've mentioned before, however this year this ephemeral wetland never really developed and our frog symphony lasted only a couple of days. We began to have a little more rain in late June or early July. Suddenly the "noise" coming from the wetland became as loud as anytime we've experienced. The frogs awakened again and their croaking lasted for about five to seven days or more. However, no Barred Owls were heard or seen. Neither did we see the Wood Ducks. Soon after the wetland developed, mosquitoes hatched out in the "millions" and became a pest. I think due to this wetter summer the woods have become fierce with mosquitoes. You venture into the woods at your own peril without mosquito repellent, and even then it's really uncomfortable!

I have made a couple other observations. For the past thirteen years that we have been here, Phoebes have been a common bird in the spring, summer and fall. They have nested under our eaves on the upper logs. Initially, I tried to discourage them but they persisted. They have two nestings. The second nesting was always in a different area but still under the eaves. The Phoebes are easily recognized when perched on our clothes line. They flick their tail as they balance there. No Phoebes this year! I've mentioned about our Carolina Wrens in past articles. We did see them occasionally this spring but have not seen them since. I've described their nestings in the past: the first is usually under the cap of our propane tank and a second nesting in one of our hanging baskets on the porch. There have been no nestings this year nor have we seen them regularly. Our Cardinals are still here but are not nearly as evident. Only recently in July have I heard the Barred Owls in our woods.

In the last two weeks in July I happened to see a snake in the middle of Cumberland Lakes Drive, less than 1/2 mile from the now entrance into our development. I stopped and quickly realized it was a Timber Rattlesnake. I shooed it off the road since I don't kill them. Then, in the first week in August, as I entered into my driveway there was another Timber Rattlesnake which took off toward the wetland. At this time, I'm hoping that it continues on! This has certainly been a different spring and summer for us and I suspect for the rest of our neighbors.



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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