

the Lake Breeze

photo by Jeff Jackson

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President's Letter

"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower." -Albert Camus

As I write this letter, the sun is dancing off the crimson leaves and the yellow maples are smiling at their reflection in the water. It's just a beautiful time to live at the lake!



We had a wonderful fall dinner and annual meeting in September and elected a new slate of officers and directors in for the 2020 LBA Board year. Thanks to all who planned and attended this event.

Welcome to new directors Dave and Julia Turner and Todd Bowlin and Kathy Roberts. We send our appreciation and thanks out to Tim and Cathy Strader and John and Elizabeth Binning for their years of service as they complete their terms.

As we did last year, we have included a chart in this newsletter that has all the LBA Board Members' names, addresses and phone numbers. Don't hesitate to give any of us a call to share an idea or discuss a concern. Our Board meets the second Thursday of most months (except for May, September and December). Any of our members are welcome to attend any meeting – just give one of us a call so we can share the location as our meetings move to different board members' homes each month. Another great way to share your input with us is to participate in the member survey that by now, we hope you've received. We'll use your input to help shape our agenda for next year.

As the days grow shorter and we leave the business of summer behind, fall is also a great time to reflect on all our friends and blessings. A few notes of thankfulness we'd like to share:

· Thank you to the City of Bloomington, our property manager, Joe Darter, and all his staff for beautifying the lake, maintaining our parks, and plowing our city streets. (Special thanks for the roped fence posts that have been showing up around the lake. They really look nice!) We look forward to continuing our collaboration in the year ahead.

· Thank you to McLean County, for repairing the Ron Smith Bridge and for your plans to resurface our roads with a wider shoulder for safety.



· Thank you to the Friends of Everbloom for your focus on water quality, sustainability and fisheries. We value our partnership in this important work.

· Thank you to the Lake Bloomington Camps for providing a place for children and adults to enjoy the beauty of nature in unspoiled surroundings. Thanks to the LBA "Yacht Club" for your Wednesday evening boat rides. The kids love it!

· Thank you to all current and past LBA Board Members. It's great to live in a community where people are so generous with their time and talents and work together with a common vision.

· Thank YOU, LBA Members! For all your support, your participation, collaboration and input. We are so happy you are our neighbors and friends.

Happy Fall to each one of you. We hope you enjoy these remaining vibrant days. We wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and a safe and joyful winter holiday season!

CAROL AND MARK CSANDA
LBA Presidents

LAKE BLOOMINGTON ASSOCIATION MEMBER SURVEY

The link below will take you to a short survey that solicits your opinion on various attributes and issues for the Lake Community. The information you provide influences the programs and initiatives of the LBA.

Please take a couple of minutes to complete and submit the survey. You will also be receiving a printed version of the survey. Use that version if it is more convenient, but we encourage you to use this electronic form as it will make the summary and tabulation of the anonymous responses much easier to compile.

<https://bit.ly/2C8I3st>

2020 LBA Board Members

Office	Name	Phone	Address
<i>Immediate Past President</i>	Joel and Connie Bankes	309-530-4143 309-533-9828	25130 Arrowhead Ln.
<i>President</i>	Mark and Carol Csanda	309-530-1685 309-826-6950	25227 White Owl Ln.
<i>Vice-President</i>	Rick and Lynette Mehall	309-726-2611 309-826-6024	24655 Iroquois Ln.
<i>Treasurer</i>	John and Lisa Larkin	309-530-8309 309-208-3585	17391 E 2475 North Rd.
<i>Secretary</i>	Craig and Tria Bouas	309-261-1839 309-825-5634	24831 Nighthawk Rd.
<i>City Liaison</i>	Dale Strassheim	309-726-2468 309-532-1756	24843 Nighthawk Ln.
<i>Membership Coordinator</i>	Lezlee and Jeff Dillon	309-747-4450 309-453-6325	18340 Kickapoo Ln.
<i>Third Year Director</i>	Neil and Lynn Finlen	309-452-1470 309-310-2174	24602 Ron Smith Mem. Hwy.
<i>Third Year Director</i>	Helen Ogar and Paul Lawrence	309-826-2404 309-824-8551	25147 White Owl Ln.
<i>Second Year Director</i>	Ryan and Lisa Esposito	309-275-4361 309-846-1236	17302 Walden Rd.
<i>Second Year Director</i>	Bob and Traci Freitag	309-531-7787 309-825-1002	24444 Ron Smith Mem Hwy.
<i>First Year Director</i>	Dave and Julia Turner	309-826-4730 309-825-1894	24877 Cherokee Ct.
<i>First Year Director</i>	Todd Bowlin and Kathy Roberts	309-846-3523 309-275-0330	17366 Air Strip Rd.
<i>Lake Breeze Editor</i>	Michael Randitsas	309-868-2628	

LBA MEMBERSHIP APPROVES CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

At the recent Annual Meeting of the Lake Bloomington Association, held in conjunction with the association's Fall Dinner at the El Paso Country Club on September 12, 2019, over 100 members in attendance approved several minor changes to the organization's constitution. The last time this document had been amended was 1989. The changes include:

- Timing of the Annual Meeting shall be held "no later than October 15th."
- Constitutional requirements for the number of monthly board meetings shall be reduced from 10 to at least 8.
- The Area Captain Coordinator title shall be changed to "Membership Coordinator."
- Term limits for Directors shall be increased so they "may serve two full successive three year terms."
- Term limits for Officers shall be increased so they "may serve two full successive two year terms."

At the following October Board Meeting, the newly elected officers and directors then amended the association's By-Laws in order to bring them in line with the constitutional changes.

If you have any questions about the LBA Constitution, By-Laws, the amendment process, or if you would like a copy of these documents, please feel free to contact Mark Csanda at mark.csanda@gmail.com or call (309) 530-1685.



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Bloomington, IL 61702-3157
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Phone: (309) 434-2225
Fax: (309) 434-2201

October 14, 2019

Dear Lake Bloomington Community,

I hope this letter finds all of you well and in good spirits! I would like to take this opportunity to discuss several exciting developments with the Public Works Department – Water Division.

A decade ago, the City of Bloomington presented a watershed management plan to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) that was ultimately approved. The approved management plan has served us extremely well over the last ten years, but the time has come for us to submit an updated management plan. In planning for this update, the City of Bloomington, in partnership with the McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District, applied for grant funding through the IEPA that would provide financial assistance to update our management plans. The grant application was approved and along with an additional grant from the Farm Bureau of Illinois, the Public Works Department and the McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District will begin updating our watershed management plans for Lake Bloomington and Evergreen Lake. This is an ongoing process that must be completed and submitted within the next 48 months.

Our Watershed Management Plan has been incredibly successful over the last decade. The cooperation that the McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District and the City of Bloomington has been able to achieve between producers and stakeholders has enabled the McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District to receive over \$400,000 in grants from various agencies that was spent on improvements and wetland construction within our watershed boundaries.

It is precisely due to the success of our partners and stakeholders, of which the Lake Bloomington community is a vital member, that the Lake Bloomington Watershed was chosen to be included in the National Water Quality Initiative Pilot Project. This pilot project selected only five (5) watersheds within the United States to be included in the project. The National Water Quality Initiative is a partnership among National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), state water quality agencies and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to identify and address impaired water bodies through voluntary conservation. NRCS provides targeted funding for financial and technical assistance in small watersheds most in need and where farmers can use conservation practices to make a difference.

Conservation systems include practices that promote soil health, reduce erosion and lessen nutrient runoff, such as filter strips, cover crops, reduced tillage and manure management. These practices not only benefit natural resources but enhance agricultural productivity and profitability by improving soil health and optimizing the use of agricultural inputs.

State water quality agencies and other partners contribute additional resources for watershed planning, implementation and outreach. They also provide resources for monitoring efforts that help track water quality improvements over time.

"Providing excellence in stewardship and service."

I would personally like to thank all our stakeholders for their dedication and determination in making the watershed management plans successful. To me, what makes this such a worthwhile endeavor to be a part of, is that I get to work with some of the most intelligent and passionate people throughout our large watershed area. The dedication from the City of Bloomington (both financially and through strong leadership), the McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District, other agencies, and the producers that live and farm within the watershed is simply unparalleled.

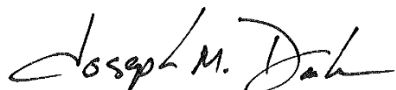
In other news, the City continues to work with our insurance providers to complete and finalize the reimbursement from the fire at the Lake Parks Maintenance building. The City will be presenting our plans for a new building in the upcoming months to the City Council. I would like to thank everyone for their patience during this difficult summer as we try to adjust to not having a "home." I would appreciate your continued patience. I think the Lake Parks staff has done a phenomenal job with upkeep despite this setback to our operations.

The Lake Parks Maintenance staff recently completed repairs to the boat ramp. This entailed repairs to the drainage gutters along the ramp and pouring new concrete in the section below that was completed last year. I do not anticipate any more repairs for the ramp for the foreseeable future.

I have mailed the 2020 Boat Dock Application and waiver of liability to each address that we have on record. Please complete and return to me by December 1, 2019. I will mail a new 2020 sticker that is to be placed over the 2019 sticker. I also included the 2020 boat registration application that can be completed and returned to me along with the 2020 Boat Dock Application. Since many of you have multiple boats, please clearly indicate the engine size and number of stickers you will need. Once we receive the new stickers in early spring, we will mail those out as usual.

As always, please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,



Joseph M. Darter
City of Bloomington | Property Manager
Public Works Department | Water Division
25515 Waterside Way | Hudson, IL 61748
Office: (309) 434-2431 | Cell: (309) 275-8087
Fax: (309) 434-2159 | Email: jdarter@cityblm.org



Guests at this year's Fall Dinner said Goodbye to Summer in Hawaiian style. The event was held on September 12, 2019 at the El Paso Golf Club with over 100 plus attendees in their finest luau attire. One lucky winner at each table took home a Hawaiian Centerpiece, and everyone enjoyed Lake Bloomington Trivia.



FIRST PLACE TEAM

L's Benders

Lawrence, Larkin and Ludy!

SECOND PLACE TEAM

The Carmichael Table

THIRD PLACE TEAM

The Eagle Pointers

The Lawrence-Larkin-Ludy table turned in the highest score and everyone received prizes from our area sponsors... the El Paso Golf Club, The Lake Road Inn, Green Gables, and The Mucky Duck Marina!





Fireworks Donations

The City of Bloomington is no longer contributing to the cost of our fireworks show. Please help our annual fireworks display tradition continue by donating.

Please complete the form below to help support and continue this great tradition at the Lake live on!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please send this form & checks payable to:
LBA
P.O. Box 223
Hudson, IL 61748



JIM SPACHMAN
Agent
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\$25 for a 3.5x2in size. Proceeds go toward the fireworks fund.
lakebloomingtonassociation@gmail.com



The Lake Bloomington Association is made up of residents and anyone else who enjoys the Lake and works to improve the lake and surrounding community. Anyone can join the LBA; you don't have to live at the Lake. It's a great way to meet new people who also enjoy Lake Bloomington. If you are interested in joining the LBA, or have questions or comments, please email us at lakebloomingtonassociation@gmail.com.