

the Lake Breeze



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President's Letter

What a great time to live at the lake! With all the rain at the end of June, we were lucky to have such beautiful weather for the 4th of July! The annual Boat Parade to win the coveted Ranney Trophy and a \$100 bill was a big success with 12 decorated pontoons led by Lisa and John Larkin in their antique wooden boat. Congratulations to Traci and Bob Frietag for winning this year's pontoon decorating contest with their entry, Kicking Covid's Butt, and to Erik Pokarney and the Mucky Duck Marina for receiving Honorable Mention for their Tiki Hut business entry.

Dave and Laura Elkin and their family got into the spirit of being judges (after winning last year with their Tiger King themed pontoon) by sporting "judges" t-shirts. Mark Csanda assisted in organizing the procession around the lake. Pam Cather graciously took pictures of all of the entrees. These pictures can be seen on the LBA Facebook page. Thank you to the following lake families (and one business) for decorating their boats and participating: Hart's, Ekstam's, Kemp's, Wolfe's, Yerkes', Baumgart's, Strassheim's, Kinsella's, Freitag's, Erik Pokarney & Mucky Duck Marina, Lipic's, and Lawrence's. Thank you to the Larkins for leading the parade, Mark Csanda for assisting with line-up, the Elkin family for judging, and Pam Cather for taking photos.

How wonderful it was to have two firework displays at our lake this year! Thank you to the Matigian family for their patriotic presentation that included the singing of the Star Spangled Banner and music that accompanied their amazing display of fireworks. Lynette found herself getting emotional during this first display, thinking how good it felt to be doing something "normal" again after the past 16 months of Covid restrictions. The LBA's fireworks display was great, too. It was the first year the LBA had used Central States Fireworks, and we were pleased with their work. It was a magnificent day and evening at Lake Bloomington!

Thank you to everyone who came out to help with the Lake Clean-Up on April 24. It might have been the donuts that enticed so many people to come out on that Saturday. Many hands made light work. Trash pick-up was completed in quick fashion, and Neil Finlen even found a 20 dollar bill! If you wish to claim it, send Neil the serial number on the bill and he will be glad to send it to you! Thank you to Joe Darter's crew for picking up the bags of trash afterwards.



Have you noticed the new plantings at Carver's Corner? The LBA with Dave and Julia Turner's leadership contracted with Advantage Lawn & Landscaping Inc. to have this bed redone. The rock was redone with mortar and the new plantings (hopefully deer resistant) and mulch look great. The Lake Bloomington sign was falling apart, so next winter, Joe Darter will have some of his workers redo it. Right now our LBA banner is hanging there to welcome people to the lake.

Did you have a chance to experience the Style in Stereo band on July 8? This concert was provided by Bob and Traci Freitag and hosted on Dave and Julia Turner's waterfront. Many people were observed dancing on their pontoons (sorry, no videos available) and everyone enjoyed the wonderful music. It was great entertainment and another way to celebrate our beautiful lake setting! Thank you to the Freitag's and Turner's for their great effort to provide this concert for all of us!

We want to send our condolences to the families of two more deceased lake residents that were not mentioned in earlier newsletters. George P. Foeller passed away on December 8, 2020, and Pam Raymond died on January 21, 2021. Please keep us informed if you know of other that we want to remember who were a part of our lake community.

The LBA is excited to be able to hold our annual Fall Dinner on Thursday, September 9, 2021, at El Paso Golf Club! Mark your calendars for this fun event where we hold our annual meeting and have the election of new officers. The invitation is included in this newsletter.

As we get back to the "new normal," we are forever grateful to be living at Lake Bloomington with its nature, wildlife, boating opportunities, etc. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

RICK AND LYNETTE MEHALL
LBA Co-Presidents

INTERESTED IN SERVING IN THE LBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

The LBA Nominating Committee is looking for people who are interested in serving on the LBA Board of Directors starting in September.

We have several positions that will be open. If you are interested, please email one of us at:

mehallh@gmail.com

rmehallram@yahoo.com



JULY 1, 2022

EAGLE POINTE BOAT PARTY

We attended some great parties following this July 4th festivities.

So, Eagle Pointe needs to step up and do our part. Please put July 1, 2022 on your calendars. This too will be a..."Boating in to our docks" event.

6:00pm: Opening Performance
6:30pm: THE BOAT DRUNKS

Questions: Marianne@Kaisnerhomes.com
(309) 275-4655

July 14, 2021

Dear Residents,

I hope everyone was able to enjoy the 4th of July with friends and family. I truly enjoyed talking to a lot of you throughout the day. Thank you to all for ensuring a safe and trouble-free holiday weekend!

On August 24, 2021, at 8:30 AM. the City of Bloomington, along with the McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District, will host a public meeting at the Davis Lodge to present the updated watershed plans for Lake Bloomington and Evergreen Lake. The plans are currently under review with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). I would like to invite everyone to attend this meeting. If you do plan on attending, please RSVP to me (jdarter@cityblm.org) by August 17th.

The watershed plans are the first steps we take in providing quality water to every house around the lake, to our 80,000 residents in Bloomington, as well as our wholesale customers in Hudson and Towanda. We began updating these plans in 2019 with a grant from the IEPA. This grant enabled us to hire Northwater Consulting to assist with drafting the plans that we will use for the next ten years.

During the last two years, we have analyzed every farm field within both watersheds, categorized each field by

9 Elements of Watershed Planning

1. IDENTIFY CAUSES AND SOURCES OF POLLUTION THAT NEED TO BE CONTROLLED.
2. DETERMINE LOAD REDUCTIONS NEEDED.
3. DEVELOP MANAEMENT MEASURES TO ACHIEVE GOALS.
4. IDENTIFY TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT PLAN.
5. DEVELOP INFORMATION/EDUCATION COMPONENT.
6. DEVELOP IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE.
7. DEVELOP INTERIM MILESTONES TO TRACK IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT MEASURES.
8. DEVELOP CRITERIA TO MEASURE PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING WATERSHED GOALS.
9. DEVELOP MONITORING COMPONENT.

soil type, erosion capabilities, tillage type, precipitation levels and many other criteria. The Water Division has been at the cutting edge of water quality monitoring technologies for many years which has been invaluable to our success. All of the data that we have collected has been entered into a special computer program that we purchased last year that allows us the to create different best management practices (wetlands, saturated buffers, cover crops, etc.) while calculating how much reduction in nitrates, phosphorus and sediment we should expect. We are very excited about this program because it is user friendly and helps us decide how best to spend your money!

In order for the IEPA to accept our submitted plan, the plans must address the 9 elements of watershed planning. These nine elements help to ensure that the plan addresses the problems, finds the best way to correct the issue and searches for appropriate partnerships for funding. Our plan is very expensive, and we will rely heavily on federal, state and local agencies for funding.

Our plan calls for continued shoreline stabilization of both reservoirs. We recently completed stabilizing the shoreline along the Girl Scout Camp and the

Inner-Loop Road. We will be stabilizing along Starkey and Association Parks next summer. I think the contractor has done a wonderful job with these two projects this summer.



Girl Scout Camp Shoreline Stabilization

Shoreline stabilization is just one of many different projects that we will be undertaking over the next several years. Most projects will not be located on the reservoirs themselves, but rather out in the watersheds. However, we are investigating other projects within the lakes, such as in-lake sediment dams, floating wetlands and dredging. We will also be looking at rain gardens around the lake and other items.

I would like everyone that can to get involved as much as possible with our plan. “Take a course in good water and air; and in the eternal youth of Nature, you may renew your own. Go quietly, alone; no harm will befall you.”
– John Muir.

See you around the Lake!

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) 434-2915 | Email: jdarter@cityblm.org



LAKE BLOOMINGTON MARINA HAS MOVED!

Erik Pokarney welcomes new and returning customers to the new facility at

**25182 N. 1925 E Rd.
Lexington, IL
(309) 747-2900**

Located across from the Money Creek Township Building on County Highway 29.

FALL DINNER PROGRAM SPEAKERS

You might remember last spring when we dedicated space in the Lake Breeze sharing how to increase pollinators in your gardens. As part of our efforts to help us all increase and appreciate the natural surroundings around us, we are excited to offer a wonderful program at the Fall dinner to add to our interests in improving our environment. Bill Davison and Given Harper, two local experts in birds and bird habitats, will give us some background about the opportunities that exist here at the lake to attract bird species that are both beautiful to look at and amazing to hear. Listed below is the synopsis of the program they will present.

In addition to hearing from Bill and Given, we will have our usual annual meeting and, by special request, one round of Lake Bloomington trivia. Hope to see you there!

LAKE BLOOMINGTON: AN OASIS FOR BIRDS AND PEOPLE

Bill Davison, Farmer, Biologist, Wildlife Photographer, and Tree Crop Commercialization Lead for the Savanna Institute

Given Harper, Professor of Biology at Illinois Wesleyan University

Lake Bloomington serves as an oasis for both migratory and breeding birds in an area surrounded by intensive agriculture. Bill Davison and Given Harper will highlight some of the beautiful bird species that can be found at the lake, and describe ways in which the area provides important habitat for birds with declining populations. They will discuss how birds are integral parts of healthy ecosystems upon which humans depend, and new conservation initiatives with JWP Audubon and the City of Bloomington Water Division that will enhance critical bird habitat.



THE FALL DINNER IS BACK!

Please Join Your Neighbors and Friends
For The LBA Annual
Fall Dinner & Business Meeting

DATE:

Thursday, September 9, 2021
5:30 p.m. Social Hour 6:30 p.m. Dinner

LOCATION:

El Paso Golf Club
2860 County Road 600 North, El Paso, Illinois

MENU:

Filet, Salad, Potato, Rolls, Dessert and Coffee

PRICE:

\$25.00 Per Person

Please complete the form below and return it with your check to:

LBA Treasurer, PO Box 223, Hudson, Illinois 61748

RSVP by September 1, 2021

Name (s): _____

No. of persons attending: \$ _____

Dinner payment: \$ _____

Fireworks Donation (Optional): \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Make check payable to Lake Bloomington Association

CARVER ROAD GARDEN

Be sure to check out the recent upgrades to the Carver Rd garden, including all new plantings and repairs to the stonework. The LBA Beautification Committee appreciates all the ideas for deer resistant plants! Later this year, a new permanent sign will be added as well.



DEDICATION OF MORKIN'S MEADOW HONORING SHARI MORKIN

Some of you may have noticed all the changes at the corner of Ron Smith and Hiawatha. The City of Bloomington is building this area into a wildflower park with a garden at the corner and has named this area "Morkin's Meadow" in honor of Shari Morkin. On Friday, July 23, there was a dedication that included Shari and Don and all their family and friends. Shari was instrumental in beautifying the areas surrounding our lake all during the years she lived here.

Many of our garden areas around the lake exist because of Shari's commitment and imagination, and this dedication was a great way to recognize someone who has blessed us with nature's wonders! The LBA even provided ice cream bars. A good time was had by all!



Congratulations!



WINNERS!!!



BOAT PARADE 2021 BABY!!!



BOAT PARADE 2021 BABY!!!



Fireworks Donations

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 2501 E College Avenue, Suite A Bloomington, IL 61704-2484 Bus 309.661.1700 Toll Free 866.661.1700 Fax 309.663.1007 Cell 309.261.1890 jim@jimspachman.com jimspachman.com <i>24 Hour Good Neighbor Service</i> ®		 Ryan Esposito BROKER mobile - 309.275.4361 ryanesposito1981@gmail.com mcleancountyhomes.com <small>Remax Rising 501 S Towanda Barnes, Suite 2 Bloomington, IL 61705</small> 
 Gaye's TLC Kennel Dog Boarding Rural Setting - State Licensed Flexible Check-In & Check-Out Times Long-Term Boarding Available Gaye Siebert (309) 726-1644 Est. 1996 15502 E 2550 N Road Hudson, IL 61748 Driving Directions on Back 2 miles W. of Lake Bloomington	 Al Rollins & Mike O'Grady P.O. Box 173, Hudson, IL 61748 (309) 530-2394 www.prairie-storage.com ogradymike1@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.