

The Lake Breeze

Spring 2011

President's Letter

James Spachman

Spring is here! Spring is here! Old man winter has retreated and the Lake and it's animals have returned to sight. The Lake is spilling over after being down at least 10 feet. Rumors that the Lake was filled by the tears of Chicago Bear fans watching the Packers win the Super Bowl are still under investigation!

The annual spring dinner is scheduled for May 5th at the El Paso Country Club. Happy Hour is from 5:30 to 6:30 with dinner and a short informational meeting to follow. Inside this edition you will find a Spring Dinner flyer with reservation and payment information. Last year over 95 of our members attended and this year we anticipate a large attendance. Come on out and see some old friends and meet some new ones.

Thank you to everyone that sent in your 2011 annual dues of \$25. If you have not paid to date you can go to our association website, www.lakebloomington.com, and print off a LBA Application and send in with your dues or we can accept your dues at the spring dinner. Thank you again for your support!

Can you believe it is less than 100 days until the 4th of July! As in the past, your Association is planning on putting on the greatest fireworks display in McLean county! We signed a 3-year contract with the same fireworks vendor that guarantees the show will continue to be on July 4th for the next 3 years. While we can receive a substantial discount for having the fireworks on another date besides the 4th, we could not as a board imagine not celebrating our country's birthday on any other day but the 4th of July! To continue the great fireworks show we ask that you our members continue to support the cause through fireworks donations. Enclosed in this edition is a Fireworks Donation Form for your convenience. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Our lake arborist Craig Hanson has planned April 30 as flower bed clean up morning starting at 9 am. Join us for LBA sponsored coffee at Green Gables. Last year we were done by noon thanks to 20 plus volunteers. The rain date is May 1 at noon. Spring planting is planned for May 21 at 9 am again meeting at Green Gables.

We have decided to make some changes in the timing of the Breeze. Because of technology and the valiant work of many board members collecting e-mail addresses, contact by internet is available for most. In addition, the time to put together 4 issues in a year has taxed even the most vigilant volunteer. After this April issue the following issues will be sent out in March and August with a flyer being sent by mail and electronically in June regarding the 4th of July festivities. We anticipate sending electronic reminders for such events as planned socials and dinners.

We are all so fortunate to live in such a wonderful part of the world. Remember to thank those members of the military and their families for their sacrifice in protecting our great country. Wishing you a great summer!

Jim

Mark Your Calendars!

Spring Dinner

May 5

El Paso Country Club

Flower Bed Clean-up

April 30 at 9 am

Lake Run

May 7

Flower Bed Planting

May 21 at 9 am

4th of July Festivities

3 pm Boat Regatta

Dusk: Fireworks Display

Hudson 175th Anniversary

July 9

Lake Breeze Editor:

Teri Hanson

Co-Editor:

Keith Ranney

Winter Socials

We had a great time at our Winter Socials this year! The first one was held January 30 at Green Gables. The second one was March 20 at the Lake Road Inn. Here are some pictures of the events.



Condolences

The LBA was saddened to learn of the deaths of three of our residents. We would like to express our condolences to the families of:

Rog Donovan on December 1, 2010

Dr. Leonard Rich on February 5, 2011

Elizabeth "Betty" McMahan on February 6, 2011

They all loved Lake Bloomington and will be missed.

Go To Trails

Keith Ranney

Did you know that one of our members has developed a web site for the nature lover?

Marsh Kaisner has developed a site called Go To Trails, where he has personal input and links to many different locations for the hiker, biker, kayaker and even skateboarder.

One visit to www.gototrails.com will get you to whatever outdoor activity you wish. Take the time to visit and see what a wonderful job he has done providing all interested with a location to find your favorite outdoors activity.

Lake Lines

courtesy of Keith Ranney

- The Breeze will begin a new production schedule. Look for your issue to arrive in April and August for the 2011 year, and then in March and August after that.
- We want to begin a section to report Births, Deaths and New Owners. If you have information for us, please share it with our editor or co-editor. Thanks!
- The Spring Dinner will be held on May 5, 2011 at the El Paso Country Club. Look for more information to come.
- The Lake Run will be held on May 7, 2011, beginning at 9:00 AM. Plan your travel needs accordingly and watch for the runners on the roads around the lake.
- A new history book about Hudson, including a chapter on Lake Bloomington, will soon be available for sale in limited quantities at the Hudson Library.

Welcome to our New Neighbors!

Please welcome Joe and Patty Solberg to the Lake. They purchased the home next door to Keith and Dianne Thompson on Arrowhead Lane. Joe is a professor at ISU and Patty is a nurse at OSF St. Joseph Hospital. They are parents and grandparents, with children in college and high school, and looking forward to their first summer at the Lake.

We also received this note from the Ocheltree's, who purchased the Shouse home on Iroquois Lane.

Hello,
We are Tom and Sharry Ocheltree. We both grew up in Bloomington/Normal and after many years of school, Navy service, and residency training, we returned home to family. We are very excited to have a cabin at Lake Bloomington. Our children Natalie and Michael, ages 3 and 2, love it here as well. We celebrated our first Christmas at the cabin with the snow storm and are looking forward to making more wonderful memories. As a family, we enjoy stroller walks, pontoon boat rides, fishing, and anything that involves chasing our kids! We look forward to meeting more Lake Bloomington families this summer.

Spring Clean-Up and Planting of Flowerbeds Scheduled

It's that time of the year again to start bringing the flowerbeds around the Lake back to life! This takes a lot of work to clean up all the beds and get them planted and any help would be appreciated. The dates are:

Saturday, April 30 at 9 am-- Clean-up of the beds

Saturday, May 21 at 9 am -- Planting of the beds

NOTE: If it is raining on either of those days, it will be rescheduled for the following day at 1pm.

If you are interested in helping out, please email Craig Hanson at chanson@beneplanning.com. This way he will know how many volunteers he has and can plan accordingly.



Reminders

Arnie Sepke

Spring has finally sprung (at least we hope so.....until we receive the next surprise snow storm).

It's time to once again remind homeowners and visitors that pets must be kept on a leash at all times when not confined to your leased property.

Also, there have been several ATV's buzzing through the park areas of the marginal lands surrounding the Lake. Vehicles and ATV's are not permitted off of roadways. And those that are using the roadways must be licensed.

Spring Migration Has Begun

Cheryl Jackson

The white pelicans, who spent a week on the Lake last year, are back as well as loons and coots. The land birds are also starting to come through on their annual migration routes. Occasionally, Lake residents will come across a non-resident bird who seems dazed and unable to fly. Most of these birds are simply exhausted by the miles they have migrated.

The kind folk at Wild Birds Unlimited advise just leaving the birds alone, and keeping all domestic animals away. If you really can't leave them alone, it is OK to set a shallow pan of water near the bird. Most times the bird will be gone the next morning.



LBA Fishing Club

Keith Ranney

What do we do around the Lake other than swim, boat, hike, throw parties and tend to our homes? We fish!

I would like to propose we start the LBA Fishing Club, made up of any adult members of the LBA that would be interested. This would be an informal, social group, independent of the LBA that can meet to discuss fishing on the lake.

This could include what's biting and where. Maybe a little bragging can be done. I would like to see this group include the serious angler to the newby and the bank fisherman. It could be a great sharing experience for all and good way to meet neighbors.

Other than just getting together, there are some issues we may want to pursue in light of a limited funding for resource management on the part of the City and DOC. While I don't see this group as a political action group, there may be some issues that will surface.

If this sounds like something you would like to consider, E-mail me at kranney5bugles@aol.com. Let me know how you would like to see the club formed. Such items would be meeting times and places, any topics for discussion, events, etc. I look forward to hearing from everybody.

Keith Ranney, 25049 Wood Thrush Circle

Our Neigh'birds'

Chuck Albritton

You have all seen the beautiful American White Pelicans that have been visiting us the last few weeks. They are not White Pelicans because 'White Pelicans' live in Africa and the Far East. Ours are denoted by the gray and black on the trailing edge of their wings. Our pelicans spend their winters in Mississippi and the gulf coast and their summers in places North of here.

The last several weeks some of us have been seeing a pair of Golden Eagles in the area of the Inner Loop Road. These birds winter in the upper midwest but move farther North during the summer. This picture of the Eagles was taken just southeast of Association Park on April 1st. It was an overcast morning and the light wasn't very good for pictures.

The Golden Eagle's wingspan can reach 7 1/2 feet on an adult female, which is usually the larger of the two. The male is usually the larger of the pelicans and his wingspan averages 7 to 10 feet. It is common to see American Eagles on our Lake during the summer but this is my first time to see the Golden Eagles. Hopefully it will not be the last.



Think Green For Spring

This is the time of year we all look forward to—the return of green around the Lake. The beautiful surroundings we are fortunate to live in should make us even more aware of our responsibility to the environment. Living “green” is a beneficial choice that can easily fit into your lifestyle. Here are just a few suggestions you might incorporate into your routine:

- Recycle as much as possible: glass bottles, cans, plastic containers, newspapers, cardboard boxes, metal materials, electronics, etc. These should be taken to the nearest recycling depot to divert them from the landfill.
- Reduce all waste or as much as is reasonable by consuming only what you really need instead of accumulating a lot of stuff you have no real use for.
- Offer unused items to your children, grandchildren, friends and charities. There are always people who are in need of what you are not using.
- Earth friendly means conserving water too. While 70 percent of the Earth is covered with water, only 2.5 percent is fresh water, and only .0007 percent is readily accessible for human use. Check shower nozzles that conserve water; don't ignore leaks. Have dripping pipes and hoses repaired or replaced.

- Reuse things whenever you are able; such as bringing your own bags to the grocery store.
- Prevent pharmaceuticals from getting into our rivers and lakes by properly disposing of prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Don't put them in the garbage or flush them down the toilet. Instead, leave them in the original containers, cross off your name and drop them off at:
 - Eastland Pharmacy 1505 Eastland Drive, Bloomington, IL (9 am-5 pm M-F) or
 - Atrium Pharmacy 1304 Franklin, Normal, IL (8:30 am-5 pm M-F).(Certain narcotics may have to be dropped off at the Sheriff's office; the pharmacy can advise you.)

For more tips on living “green”, visit www.ecologyactioncenter.org or stop by The Ecology Action Center 202 W. College Ave Normal, IL 61761

The Ecology Action Center is the primary resource for environmental education, information, and outreach for McLean County. They educate for environmental action at their walk-in information center and through their educational programs on a variety of environmental topics.

2011 Lake Run

Keith Ranney

Come out and cheer on our local runners at the 30th annual Lake Run on Saturday, May 7, 2011 at 9 am.

The Lake Run is billed as “the best darn race by a dam site”. The Lake Run consists of three different events: a 12K and a 4.37 mile competitive run, and a 3 mile non-competitive walk. All participants are treated to the friendliest post-race party around with plenty of food, pop, and beer. A DJ provides music for the runners, and many stay around for hours after the race to socialize.

Both Lake Run courses are certified by USATF standards. The 12K now stands as the only active certified 12K in the state of Illinois.

The Lake Run was first organized as a 7.5 mile race around Lake Bloomington in 1982 by Larry Nelson of Bloomington. In 1985, a shorter distance of 4.37 miles was formed, covering Lake Bloomington's Inner Loop.

Also, 1985 was the first year that the race started at its current place near Green Gables. The actual “Lake Run” was not held for a couple of years in the late 1980s. Now it is the biggest race in Central Illinois that does not offer prize money. Since 1982 there have been over 15,500 finishers combined.

In 1991, a 1.5 mile walk was added. Two years later, the non-competitive walk was changed to a 3 mile walk.

Each year, proceeds from the Lake Run go to benefit a charity. For more information and to register go to www.lakerunclub.org



Save the Date for Hudson 175 – Saturday, July 9

Hudson will celebrate its 175th anniversary with an all day celebration Saturday, July 9th beginning at 8:30 a.m. with the flagpole dedication at the library in memory of Ruth Hamm, long time resident, benefactor, historian, and author of “The Hudson Colony”.

The ever popular parade begins at 10 am, ending at Veterans’ Park with a ceremony honoring Hudson Township veterans.

Throughout the day, you can enjoy:

- many displays
- children’s games
- activities
- Hudson Cemetery Walk
- church meals
- entertainment

So come celebrate with us!!

Book Signing for “Images of America: HUDSON”

On Saturday, April 30th from 9- 11 :30 am, Judith Lampert & Sue Keeran will be available to sign copies of their book, “Images of America: Hudson” in the Community Room at the Hudson Area Library.

They’ll also have a few short remarks on the book and the community.

The chapter, “Providing Water and Recreation” details interesting information about Lake Bloomington and includes several pictures of early cabins, camps, and the public beach.

Stop by to chat with these local authors and get your book signed on Saturday, April 30th!

All proceeds will benefit the Hudson Area Public Library’s Hudson History Room. The cost is \$21.99 – no need to pay until the book arrives. Call the library at 726-1103 to reserve your copy of the book.

HAPLD Literary Guild

The next meeting of the Hudson Area Library’s Literary Guild will be Thursday, May 19th at 7:00 pm.

The group will discuss Tara Road by Maeve Binchy.

Please call the library for a copy of the book. New members welcome!

Support the Boy Scouts

On Sunday, July 10 come support the boy scouts by attending a breakfast at the Hudson Fire Department from 8 – 11:30 am.

Contact Jim and Joanna Weirman 309-726-2622 with questions, or for opportunities to volunteer.

Garage Sale Days Library Book Sale

On Saturday, May 7, the Hudson Area Public Library District will hold a book sale from 8 am – 1 pm inside the library in conjunction with Hudson Garage Sale Day.

Prices are:

- hardcovers for \$1
- paperbacks for 50 cents
- children’s books for 25 cents
- VHS tapes for 10 cents.

Bag Full sale at 11:30 am. Parking is free. Proceeds will go toward the library’s Summer Reading Program.

Pick up some fabulous reads at unbeatable prices!

Summer Reading Program

Celebrate summer with the Hudson Area Public Libraries Summer Reading Program. This year’s theme is A Mid Summer Knights Read.

Mark your calendars with these important dates and watch the library website www.hudsonarealibrary.com for more information!

- May 31 – Registration begins
- June 9 – July 30 – 8 week reading program
- August 6 – Last day to turn in reading logs

Weekly prizes for children, and weekly drawings held for teens and adults completing required reading.

Fun and exciting weekly programs for all ages!

**The Hudson Area Public Library
will be closed on Monday, May
30th for Memorial Day.**

Boating Reminders

As boating season approaches, please keep in mind some important rules:

- Obey all NO WAKE ZONES. A wake is only allowed in the main channel. When you go past the buoys outside of the main channel you MUST reduce your speed. Look behind your boat...if you are making waves big enough to rock a boat at rest, you are going too fast. There are more swimmers and personal watercraft users in these areas...you are putting them in danger by speeding in these areas.
- Make sure your boat is properly licensed with state and city stickers. These can be obtained at the Lake Patrol office located near the Davis Lodge, or go to the Lake Rules page at www.lakebloomington.com for links to the online registration forms.

- Check your boats for the proper flotation devices. All children under the age of 13 MUST wear an approved Personal Flotation Device at all times on a boat.
- All boats are limited to 40 hp. No jet skis or jet propelled devices are allowed on the Lake.
- Skiing and tubing hours are noon to 7pm. During these hours, be alert for skiers/tubers in the water and give them plenty of room.
- Boating while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs is prohibited.

For a complete list of Lake rules, please visit the Lake Rules page at www.lakebloomington.com.

Please use common sense and make good choices for a safe summer of boating for you and all Lake residents.

First Spring, Then July 4th

Keith Ranney

After a long winter, spring is finally just around the corner, and then my favorite day at the Lake, July 4th! This year the 4th will be on a Monday, so the potential exists for a long weekend of fun and friends, and then literally finishing up with a bang.

We will have another great fireworks display thanks to our friends at Melrose Pyrotechnics at dark around 9 pm. Prior to that, we will have our annual boat regatta, complete with the decorating talents of our Lake members. This parade will kick off at 3 pm in front of Davis Lodge. A parade marshal will lead the way, and will continue around the lake. We would like all to complete the course so all of those on the shore may see the fruits of your labor.

While we are expecting great weather, should it rain, myself and President Spachman will make any decision as to canceling the fireworks display. This will be done no later than 8 pm, and will be announced on WJBC. You may also call either myself or Jim if you have any questions. If the parade is canceled, it will not be rescheduled. The fireworks will be on July 5th if rained out on July 4th.

We will once again ask and thank you for your generosity with donations to pay for the fireworks display. The show costs \$10,000 and without your donations, the show cannot happen. Please complete the form below to help support and continue this great tradition at the Lake!

Have a festive and safe July 4th celebration.

To donate, please complete the following form and mail it to:

Paul Kinsella, LBA Treasurer
24894 Nighthawk Rd
Hudson, IL 61748

Fireworks Donation Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Donation Amount: _____

Don't Forget to Renew your 2011 LBA Dues

Your LBA Dues for 2011 are now due. If you have not paid these yet, please go to the website at www.lakebloomington.com and go to the LBA Info page and click on the the LBA application form.

New Lake Breeze Co-Editor

Please welcome Keith Ranney as our new Co-Editor. Keith has stepped up to help me gather articles for the Lake Breeze and has done a great job with this edition. Thank you Keith!

If you have articles for the Breeze, you can contact Keith at kranney5bugles@aol.com.

You can also contact me at thanson169@gmail.com.

New LBA Email

To make it easier for our members, we have created a general email address for all LBA questions and concerns.

Please direct all your inquiries to lakebloomingtonassociation@gmail.com.

Coming Soon: Lake Bloomington Clothing

The Lake Bloomington Association is making available t-shirts and sweatshirts with a logo outline of our lake. The logo will also identify the lake with the words "Lake Bloomington, Hudson, Illinois".

All shirts will be in both adult and children's sizes. There will be t-shirts, hooded sweatshirts, and zip-up sweatshirts. Samples of items will be at the Spring Dinner, and will be available for order at that time.

We are also going to have that fall necessity: the blaze orange knit stocking cap.

Show your pride in the Lake by ordering clothing. Or, keep the grandkids thinking about you and the fun they have visiting the lake by ordering Lake clothing in children's sizes!

Call Cheryl Jackson @ 726-1418 with any questions.

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