LAKE GEORGE BREEZE

VOL 78 - AUG/SEPT 2021 - NO 5

EVENT CALENDAR

Directors & Beach Directors Mtg, 9/4

Luminaries 9/5

2022 BOAT PARADE

Put your thinking caps on for the upcoming 2022 Boat Parade!! The theme for next year's parade will be:

FAVORITE TV SHOW!!!

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

What a great summer 2021 has been! My only complaint is that it has gone by too fast! With the lighting of **luminaries on Sunday night** we all begin to think of preparing for fall and winter (ugh!) but the Cottagers Association already has it's focus on 2022. Here are a couple items we are working on:

Communication: Currently we utilize our website, Facebook, the Breeze, and direct mail to communicate information regarding the happenings on Lake George, with Facebook and the Breeze being the most active in communicating current or near term information. We will soon be adding an additional means to communicate through email. This will allow us to provide even more current information and perhaps reduce some printing or mailing costs. The directory contains the email addresses we will use initially. If yours is not current - please email us at lakegeorgecottagersassociation@gmail.com. Please know these will not be provided or sold to any third party and we will make every effort to limit the number of emails you receive. We will also provide the option to provide your email address for our use but not have it published in the directory. You may also unsubscribe after you receive the first email by clicking the unsubscribe button (but we hope you won't)!

We also have a new website we have been working on with the Lake George Conservancy in an effort to put "all things Lake George" in one easy to find place. Check out www.lakegeorgeinfo.net

Lake George Patrol: We want to thank **Paul Schlatter** for over 10 years of service to Lake George as an active Steuben/ Branch County Deputy Sheriff. He has given us years of safe boating and fun, while gently reminding us of those pesky boating laws we need to follow. Beginning next year, Paul has decided to reduce his activity. We have been working with RJ Robinson (Steuben County Sheriff) and John Pollack (Branch County Sheriff) to develop a plan to continue the patrol of Lake George in 2022 and beyond. Needless to say, no matter how you slice it, it will not be quite the same. If you are interested in participating in patrol activities or in the planning effort, please contact me! More information will be provided as we move forward.

Please let us know if there is anything more we can do to make your experience here at Lake George the most enjoyable ever!

Dave Sorg 765-637-8343

FOR SALE

2019 Harris pontoon, Cruiser 200 w/ trailer. 115 hp Mercury outboard. 22 ft - excellent condition!!

Call or text 260-437-4602

FOR SALE

A Sun Fish w/single sail could be yours!! Call for all the details

Craig: 260-437-0783

LAKE GEORGE HISTORY!

Have you ever wondered about the tiny green building on Lane 301B behind Dave & Sue Millers? That "tiny house" was built long before the current fad for tiny houses and has a long history on Lake George. Sheila and Dave Schimmele are the proud owners of this "tiny house", which was built in 1945 on the lake lot that is currently owned by the Bells. Sheila Schimmele's mother Gladys Sidel always wanted to have a cottage on the lake because she and her father loved to fish together and they wanted a place they could spend the day fishing from the banks of Lake George. In the spring of 1945, Wayne and Gladys Sidel (Sheila's parents) purchased the lake lot and had the day cottage built. This became their favorite place to spend their summers. Fishing from the shore and entertaining family and friends, the tiny house was bursting at its seams.

Although the family lived in Fremont and didn't need an overnight home, Sheila's father, Wayne Sidel, was manager of the Merchants Baseball Team of Fremont and this tiny house was the team's hangout. With only a small electric stove, a sofa, a lamp, and a hutch that converted into a table, the tiny home would cook up delicious meals for everyone. After a baseball game during the hot summer months, the team of 13 (!) would celebrate *in the house* and eat the chicken, beans and potato salad prepared by the wives. Of course, Gladys would always have her famous sugar cookies for dessert! Try to imagine cooking in the "tiny house" with no air conditioning and serving 13+ hungry baseball players and families. Great memories were made those years.

The lake lot and building was eventually sold to the Bells who used it as a utility building for several years. Sheila always wanted the tiny house to relocate to their new homestead just a few cottages away. When the Bells decided they no longer wanted it, Dave and Sheila bought the building and moved it to its current location, which is behind Dave and Sue Miller next to the Schimmele's pole barn. For many summers, Sheila painstakingly worked on the interior and exterior to restore it to its original glory. It has a fresh new coat of paint, upgraded electricity and the original knotty pine was refurbished to give the interior a soft warm glow reminiscent of yester years.

Wayne and Gladys eventually sold the lake lot and day cottage and in 1955 purchased two lots and built a cottage where they could spend the night and enjoy the wonderful aspects of Lake George. Dave and Sheila are the owners now and reside there year-round. Currently used to store duck decoys, Sheila hopes to eventually turn it into her well deserved "she shed." The next time you pass the "tiny house" stop by and ask for a "very tiny" home tour. It's a lovely example of Lake George history.

A notice to the family of LeRoy O. Siegel

I received an article from someone regarding the passing of LeRoy Siegel but the article was a copy that I could not use with my Publisher program. I would like to honor his memory so I am asking that you provide me with more information ie: age, where he lived on the lake, how many years here, where he worked or what ever you'd like to share. I would like a real photo individually sent as I was not able to cut, paste or manipulate in any way the one that was sent me. Please forward the information to me at:

fschlatter@frontier.com and I will post in the winter Breeze. Thank you. Faye Schlatter, Breeze Editor

LOOKING FORWARD!!

It was successful this year so the "Second Annual" Light up the Lake will happen again on Sunday May 30th to honor Memorial Day and to say hello summer!!!

WANTED – NEEDED

Kope Kon Point is looking for a new Beach Director(s)! Bill and Renate Brenneke have decided to retire from their post. The Brenneke's served many years and did a great job and service for the residents of KK. Thank you both for all the time and effort you put into this; it is very much appreciated!

KK residents please consider taking on a worth while, highly prized position to serve your neighborhood!!! Duties include: deliver Breezes, store, put-in and take out buoys and attend monthly summer meetings. If you would like to help, please let Dave Sorg or another board member know.

2021 INLAND CAT SAILING SEASON COMES TO AN END!

The final two races of the 2021 Inland Cat season took place on August 21 on a beautiful sailing day with many boats participating. The first race of the day was won by Jack Stiefel, with Jonathan Larimore coming in 2nd place and Kirsten Meyer in 3rd. The second race was won by Chris Oler, with Bill Kuebbeler in 2nd place, Jonathan Larimore in 3rd.

11 races were held over the course of the summer and the season's award ceremony took place at the home of Deb and Rick Ahaus with perfect lake weather. Awards were presented to the 2021 winner of the Gold Fleet—Stan Parrish in 1st place, with Nathan Larimore in 2nd. The Cup Fleet season's winner was Jonathan Larimore, with three 1st place and three 2nd place finishes over the season. 2nd place in the Cup fleet's award went to Bill Kuebbeler who managed a first place finish as well as four 2nd place finishes over the summer. Congratulations to all the sailors, who managed to sail through lots of wind, little wind, delays and more.

Each year the Frankhouser Sportsmanship Award is presented to a club member who "...epitomizes sportsmanship as related to the sport of sailboat racing." This year's Franhouser was awarded to Becca Mahuren. She efficiently and accurately has manned the official raft many times of the past years, starting races, monitoring wind speed, announcing changes, encouraging sailors and most importantly determining and noting the winner of each race. Great job and thank you Becca!!!

GREG DIDIER HONORED!

If you don't know Greg Didier, you are missing out. He is Mr. Positive, Helper, Friend, Hero and can't say "No" kind of guy if you need help!!

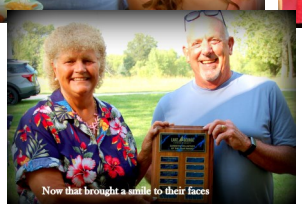
He was honored this month at a big surprise party hosted by family and friends and the community is has served for sooooo many years. Greg's been helping Lake George residents, starting when he was just a kid, mowing lawns for neighbors. After more than "50" years, he's still mowing and has been invaluable, helpful and the busiest guy on this lake!" Congrats Greg!!

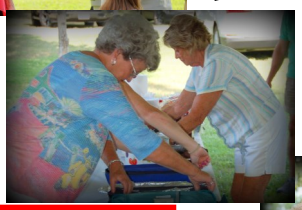
HELPING TURTLES IS CATCHING ON!!

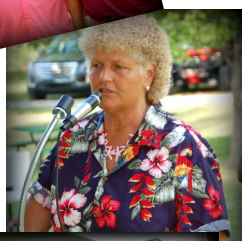
Isn't our duty to help nature, since we are the ones who took over their space? One Caroline Drive resident, Bart Putman, read the turtle article from last month's Breeze and decided he would try something a little different. He lowered his boat lift rails to a level that these little guys could climb on board to rest and dry out. The rails were in the shade but that didn't stop them, they do need to dry out and warm up—it is important for their health. Sunning is better for them but this helps too. Thanks Bart and Julie - I am sure you made these turtles very happy!!

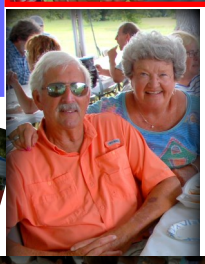
P.S. The blue floatie I cut down to make a dock for them, has turtles coming daily!! It is such a joy to watch them stretch their heads up high and spread all four legs to gather as much sun as they can!! Is it your turn to help a pooped turtle!

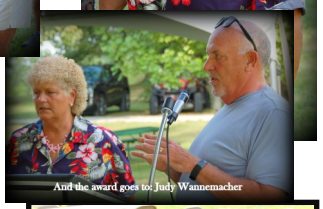
HOG ROAST HIGHLIGHTS

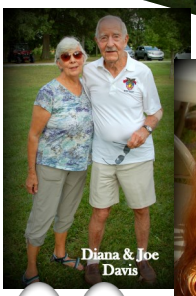


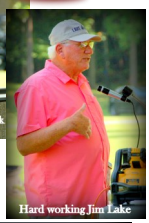


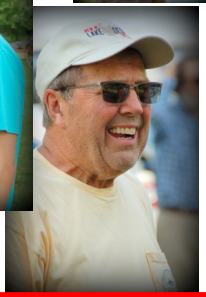


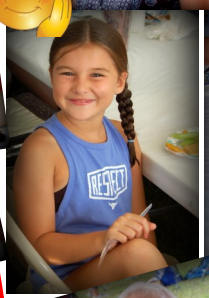


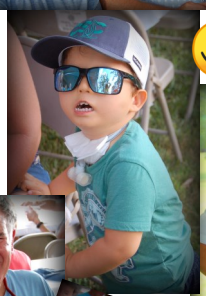


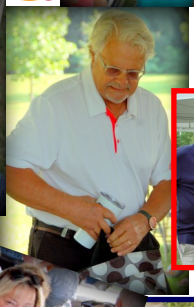












Photos By **Rick Weaver!!!**

LASER NEWS

The Laser Sailboat Fleet's 2021 summer racing season is now completed with five racing sessions held on every other weekend and a Regatta in July. The fleet's final party was held on August 28 at the home of John and Mary Albright.

Dan Andrews, the fleet's scoring guru, calculated the official results, and three trophies were awarded based on the average of each skipper's 7 (out of 12) best finishes. Competition was very close this summer, with the three trophy winners each having won races. First place went to Jack Stiefel, second to Kevin Ahaus, and third place to John Albright.

Kevin Ahaus will be next summer's Laser Fleet captain. The first racing session of two back-to-back races will be on Saturday, June 11th at 1:30 EST. The Regatta chair will be Jack Stiefel; date to be determined.

Official 2021 results:

Skipper	Races competed	12 race average	Best 7 race average
Jack Stiefel	12	1.83	1.14
Kevin Ahaus	12	2.17	1.29
John Albright	12	3.0	2.14
Kirsten Meyer	12	3.75	2.43
Mitch Ahaus	6	8.67	4.86
Dan Andrews	6	9.17	5.71
Jeff Sheridan	6	9.83	6.86
Pete Hall	3	12.25	11.0
Chris Sippel	2	12.67	11.71

DAM AND SPEED SIGN UPDATE

Dam

We continue to make progress on the upcoming improvements to the dam which is anticipated to be done in 2023. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has indicated we should hear in mid-September about the FEMA grant for final design. Our application is included with other projects the state has applied for on behalf of other organizations. We are also having meetings and conversations with Steuben County and Branch County for potential financial assistance. When we find out the status of the grant application and other financial data, we will communicate the information to the cottagers.

Speed Sign

As reported at the annual meeting and in the August Breeze, the speed sign has had a positive impact notifying motorists of their speeds on Lake George Road (Lane 201). We anticipate the speed sign to be removed in the fall by the Steuben County Sheriff's office. They will store the sign for the winter months and reinstall next spring. As part of the removal this fall, we will be provided data for the Labor Day weekend and also for the entire summer season. When more information is available, we will communicate the information to the cottagers.

Respectfully Submitted - Rick Weaver - LGCA Secretary

LGCA and LGCD Special Projects Coordinator

LAKE GEORGE REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT UPDA

1. We have 282 grinder pumps in the system. The average life is 16-18 years. 275 are over 18 years. We are replacing them as they fail at a cost of $2500 per pump.
2. We need to replace the guide rails on 9 lift stations - this will cost $40,000 - $45,000.

We have completed maintenance on station #9 ($28,000) and repair on station #10 ($32,000)

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm at the sewer building. These meetings are open to the public.

Bob Shirey - President 260-385-2542 – Cory Armstrong - Supervisor 260-667-4143 -

Invoice questions: Siegel Group/ Jana Bork 260-665-3166 ext 303

Please "**LEAVE THE POWER ON**" to the grinder stations year round! Thank you!

SHERIFF'S THOUGHTS ON A SAFE LAKE

When we take our children, grandchildren or guests out on the lake to tube, wakeboard, ski or surf, they invariably fall. Barely visible little heads bobbing in the water are very difficult to see from a speeding boat. To make this situation more tenuous, each year there are more boats going faster. A number of lakes have adopted what I believe is a simple and effective safety precaution. Safety yellow or safety orange flags!

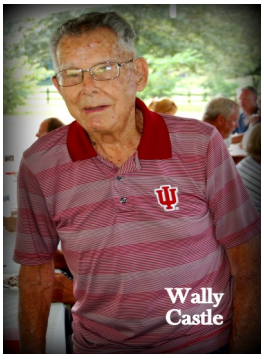
When the person behind the boat falls, the bright colored flag is held up by the observer in the boat. The flag signals to other boats in the area that there is a person in the water and to look out for them. For the wellbeing of our lake community, please consider using the flags as a potential lifesaving effort. Also be aware of a boat turning around to pick up their fallen tuber, skier etc.

LAKE GEORGE HAS BLACK SWANS AND HERE IS WHY!

In case you haven't noticed, our LG swans had black babies!! The short answer is that its due to a recessive gene going back to a time when our swans ancestors were bred from black swans. There is DNA evidence that shows that different white swan species, the hooper, Tundra and Mute are closely related with the Australian Black swans as their first cousins.

Origins of the Mute Swans, *Cygnus Olor*, are from the UK. They were referred to as Mute Royal Swans. Upon hatching they were of a greyish color and maintained different tones of grey after the first molt, much like our current two cygnets have. In the 17th century swans from the Eurasian, Baltic area were imported into the UK. These Mute Swans were heavier and more desirable for eating. The most unusual characteristic was that upon hatching they were white and maintained their white coloring after molting. They were beautiful! To separate the two variations, the imported Baltic Swans were referred to as Polish Mute Swans. The Polish Swans were bred with the Royal Swans which produced a beautiful all white Mute Swan after the first molt. Today, when the cygnets first hatch you can still determine a Royal or Polish dominance by the different colors. The Queen of England LOVED these all-white, elegant birds and now, to this day, all untagged Mute Swans in the UK are said to be owned by the Queen of England.

So, why are they reverting to the Royal or possibly Black Swan origins? Its due to a condition called **Autosomal Recessive Inheritance** or simply put a Recessive Gene anomaly. When both pairs carry this recessive gene, it becomes stronger in the offspring who inherit it. The more often like pairs mate, the greater the specific color variation becomes. Much like what has happened with our cygnets who are dark grey, Royal dominate. This coloring probably won't last until next year, but they're one step closer. When though, depends on many factors involved in the evolution back to the original Black Swan lineage. **Submitted by Julie Putnam**



HAPPY 97th BIRTHDAY WALLY!!!

Wally came to the Hog Roast this last weekend! You ask why is that special? Well Wally and his wife Phyllis built their home and moved to the lake way back when, around the 60's. They both lived here all those years until this spring. After he lost Phyllis this year, he decided he needed to move and be closer to his children in Ft. Wayne. Wally is still spry and drove to the lake for the Hog Roast to see and visit old friends and neighbors. The Hog Roast and Wally's birthday almost coincided!!

I plan to send him a copy of this Breeze to show him that he has not been forgotten and that we all wish him a very Happy Birthday Day!!

A FEW SUMMER MEMORIES