Lake George Breeze

Vol 82 - July 2022 - No 3

AMERICA

Calendar of Events

JULY

2nd - Boat Parade and Fireworks

2nd - **CHICKEN BBQ**

16th - Annual LGCA Mtg.

16 th - Annual LGCD Mtg.

AUGUST

28 th - LG Conservancy **HOG ROAST**

SEPTEMBER

3 rd - LGCA Beach Director's Mtg.

4th - Luminarie

Lake George Cottagers Association & Lake George Conservancy District

Annual Meeting - July 16, 2022 - 8:30am

At the Boutique

Come and hear all the updates on the fireworks show, boat parade, weed treatments, dam repair, patrol, and much more... We will be discussing the **budget** and **assessments** for weed treatment and dam repair for 2023.

ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO COME!!!!

KIDS, WHO IS THIS LADY AND WHY IS SHE IMPORTANT???

Answer: this is Betsy Ross and she was instrumental in designing our very first American flag.

Betsy was acquainted with the great General Washington as she was an upholsterer and did all kinds of sewing projects. General Washington had her embroidered ruffles for his shirt bosoms and cuffs. That was the beginning of how our flag came about! She was chosen by Washington and the Continental Congress to design a flag with 13 alternating red and white horizontal stripes and 13 stars on a blue background.

Please research on-line for this amazing story.

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!

OLD GLORY

"Old Glory"" is not just a nickname there is a whole story behind this name!

THIS IS LAW!!

READ CAREFULLY AND UNDERSTAND!!

As we have communicated in past issues of The Breeze, the lake is now being patrolled by the Steuben County and Branch County Sheriff's office. So far, everything seems to be going smoothly; however, we have been notified that the requirement to have a Boaters Safety Course Certificate (card) in the situations outlined below is the law and will be enforced. **(FINES CAN BE SUBSTANTIAL)**

There are different regulations for who can operate a watercraft in Indiana and in Michigan which we have summarized selectively at a high level. The full requirements (including those for younger boaters) are in the Boater Safety Handbooks for Indiana and Michigan.

NOTE: The Law follows the STATE location of watercraft operation NOT your residency.

If you are boating in Michigan - Michigan law is applicable.

If you are boating in Indiana - Indiana law is applicable.

To operate in MICHIGAN - PWC OPRATION (PERSONAL WATER CRAFT IE: JET SKI)

- No one under the age of 14 may operate a PWC
- If you were born on or after 12/31/1978 **you must have a** boater safety certificate (card) to operate a PWC
- If you are 14 or 15 years old **you must have a boating safety certificate** and operate the PWC with a parent or legal guardian over 21 with you or be within 100 ft of you.

Boat Operation

- If you were born on or after 7/1/1996 **you must have a** boater safety certificate (card) to operate a boat

To operate in INDIANA - PWC & BOAT OPERATION (PERSONAL WATER CRAFT IE: JET SKI)

- No one under 15 years old may operate a PWC
- You must have a valid driver's license to operate a PWC or boat
- If you are 15 **you must have a** boater's safety course certificate (card) to operate a PWC
- If you have no driver's license (even if you are over 15) - **you must have a** boater's safety course certificate (card)

Note: You must have the card in your possession while operating the watercraft!

You can obtain a certificate (card) by taking a NASBLA approved on-line course. Just search for Indiana or Michigan Boaters Safety Course (e.g. Boatsmart (29.95), boat-ed (34.95), boatus.org for an Indiana certificate (donation)). We will notify you if we become aware of any other (in-person) classes becoming available.

The Sheriff's office has notified the LGCA that they will delay enforcement of the Boaters Safety Card requirement in Michigan **for Indiana property owners of Lake George and their families** until Memorial day of 2023 in order to allow time for compliance. Michigan property owners, however, are expected to know Michigan law and enforcement will not be delayed. Our patrols will not make stops solely to check these requirements.

In addition, please ensure that boat registrations, required boat numbers and registration certificates are current.

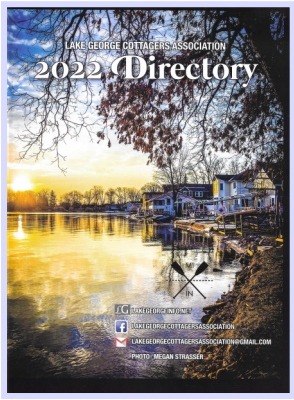
Questions? Please email: lakegeorgecottagersassociation@gmail.com

TEENY, TINY HUMMING-BIRD EGGS!

How do these little guys fly to Central and South America then back again! What a little miracle they are!

LOST & FOUND

The recent storms have caused a number of items to be blown into the lake and found in new places. The best way to get your "stuff" back is to put your name and address on all items that could potentially blow away in a storm or otherwise be lost. There are a number of items posted on the Lake George Facebook page - check the "COMMUNITY" section to see them.



DIRECTORY PHOTO

THE 2022 LAKE GEORGE DIRECTORY PHOTO WAS SUBMITTED BY JIM FENNIG.

We try very hard to ensure the accuracy of the directory but this year we goofed! We failed to change the picture attribution from the 2021's directory cover, We apologize Jim!

The picture was taken with a Nikon D800 with a Sigma 24-70 2.8 lens. Jim was shooting into the sun so he purposely shot it underexposed. This gave him room to make adjustments in the development process. He utilized Adobe LightRoom to do the post editing. This consisted of a slight adjustment to the lighting to bring out the shoreline details. He then used a custom filter in LightRoom that brought the color balance he wanted.

Thank you Jim, great photo!

We will be requesting pictures for the 2023 Directory later this year. Generally - should be portrait oriented and not contain recognizable individuals.

You may submit your picture to: lakegeorgecottagersassociation@gmail.com

SAFETY REMINDERS

By Land and by Lake - If it "CAN" happen - It "WILL" happen

Sometimes it seems like in order to have more FUN you have to take more risk. Though it may seem counter-intuitive it's just the opposite. Particularly if you want to keep having fun for a long time. My dad used to tell me - "Dave, If it CAN happen - It WILL happen". Of course, I knew that I was smarter than that and "it" wouldn't happen to me. Luckily, I only received 10 stitches in my chin from trying to walk "up" the dam and 25 stitches in my knee from riding a minibike on the road behind our house. The result, however, was that I lost several weeks of FUN in the lake while the stitches healed.

GOLF CARTS

I've seen some beautiful golf carts and they sure are fun to take a trip around the lake though illegal (one component being unlicensed drivers) on county roads in both Branch and Steuben County. But, fun can turn into pain very quickly - let's take the SAFE approach! Please drive responsibly. Parents - please consider riding and coaching from the front seat if you choose to allow an unlicensed driver to operate the vehicle on a private road. (The LGCA is not "approving" or "disapproving" the use of golf carts and has no authority to do so. Know the law for your state of operation.)

BOATING

Boaters - it's simple! - Just keep 100 feet from any other watercraft and make sure your "watcher" is vigilant in letting the driver know when your skier/tuber/wakeboarder falls. Have you seen the orange flags? When a watcher holds up an orange flag this indicates a skier/tuber/wakeboarder has fallen. Other boaters should look for a person in the water and stay clear. Flags are available at the Boutique!

Let's have a safe, respectful and FUN summer!!

Dave Sorg - President - LGCA

NO PHOSPHORUS FERTILIZERS ON YOUR LAWNS NEAR ANY WATER!

PHORSPHOUS IS GOOD FOR US TO HAVE STRONG BONES AND TEETH BUT NOT SO MUCH FOR OUR LAKES!
Phosphorus can lead to a variety of water-quality problems, including low dissolved oxygen concentrations, which can cause fish kills and harm other aquatic life. We all would like our lawns to be green and weed free but Phosphorus is a major contributor to algae blooms on the lake. It is also cumulative - meaning it does not go away. Please remember, when fertilizing your yard,

ONLY use a "No Phosphorus" product (i.e. a zero as the middle number). If you use a landscaper or other contractor to fertilize your lawn please make sure they are following this approach as well. Lake George thanks you!!

LAKE GEORGE CONSERVANCY

The Lake George Conservancy has been informed by the Steuben Soil and Water Conservation District that they have selected the Preserve Property for one of ten Steuben County significant conservation properties, and it will be included as one of their self-guided tour stops. The NRCS-USDA works through the Steuben SWCD and is a primary source of grants for our various property enhancement projects. This is huge honor for the LGC but also a real tip of the hat to Jim Lake for all the hard work he puts in working to improve the LGC and Lake George.

I had a Lake George resident contact me about the huge volume of leaves that wash up on the shore every spring, at least 30 tractor front bucket loads. While we are blessed to have quite a few heavily treed areas round the lake, I have also witnessed several lawn contractors blowing their clients lawn debris into the lake in the fall and spring. Not only does this biomass migrate across the lake, but a large portion of it also sinks to the bottom and creates a mucky bottom. Please review this with your lawn care providers and insist they haul away the debris and **don't simply blow it into the lake**.

Lastly, the LGC will conduct the July Holiday chicken BBQ, our cost has soared to near $6 per chicken. We have decided to hold our ticket prices at $8, and unfortunately this will greatly impact our fund raising. We feel the chicken BBQ has become an important part of the July 4th celebration, and we don't want to pass along the cost increase.

6 Decades on Lake George

Long before jet skis, 100 hp motors, Tri-toons and wakeboards, boats on Lake George were built of wood. The oldest ski-boat on Lake George is *Sylvia*, a 1953 Dunphy molded plywood runabout formerly owned by Sylvia Ehrman who lived on Spring Bank, then Norm Bell and finally Bill & Renate Brenneke.

The Dunphy Boat Company started building wooden row boats in 1853 and is one of few wooden boat companies to build wooden boats for over a century, from 1854 until 1963. An evolutionary link between carved planked and cedar strip-built boats of the pre and post WWII era and the fiberglass classics of the early 1960's, molded plywood boats gained a huge following. The light weight afforded by the molded plywood construction made for a fast ride. One common feature of Dunphy runabouts was their unique "sea foam" green bottom paint.

In its day, *Sylvia* was the "hot boat" on the lake and generations of young lakers in the 50's and 60's learned to water ski behind her and her 35 hp outboard motor. After Sylvia Ehrman's death, Norm Bell purchased the boat in hopes of restoring her to her original beauty. Eventually Norm sold *Sylvia* to Bill, who spent a year repairing some damage, getting her seats upholstered, painting the bottom (green), and installing a newer, but still 35 hp. engine on the back. He and Sylvia's husband Dave Hart, believed she deserved to be named after her original owner. She remains a zippy and classy speedboat, and part of Lake George's boating history.

The Brenneke's are looking for a **"new caregiver"** for **Sylvia**, who will keep her on cruising the waters of Lake George. Call if interested, we are in the directory! Thank you!

THIS CLASSIC BEAUTY IS 'SYLVIA'

IT'S TIME TO WATCH OUR BOAT PARADE

IT STARTS AT 6:30 JULY 2nd, FROM BROWNS POINT! THEME: "FAVORITE TV SHOW"!

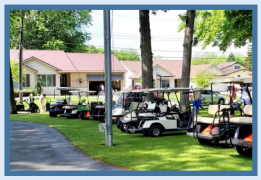
We certainly enjoy all the effort you put into this parade and we all love seeing your creativity shine!

THANK YOU!!!

DONUTS BY THE BRIDGE!!

For 25 years, **Don and Jinny Wallis and family** hosted a Memorial Day Weekend gathering for their Forest Park neighbors, friends, and family. They called their annual get together "Donuts on the Hill" and provided coffee, juice, and (of course) Tom's Donuts. Their Memorial weekend Sunday morning donut party became the official start of summer for many Forest Park cottagers. After Don's passing and Jinny's health began to fail, it became too difficult to continue the tradition.

After a few years of no donut party, Rex and Lisa Melchi and family (long-time guests of Donuts on the Hill) decided to revive the tradition by hosting "Donuts by the Bridge." This year over 130 friends, family, and Forest Park neighbors gathered for the 3rd annual revival of the Forest Park traditional kick-off of summer. With Jinny's passing this last winter, this was the first time in nearly 30 years that neither Don nor Jinny was present... but their Lake George spirit lives on in Forest Park.



TURTLE TIDBIT!

I have heard some Lake George residents are not sure what a "leatherback or softshell" turtle is. The picture on the left is a baby softshell; the other photos are a "momma" leatherback! They have a flat body, long pointy nose and short legs! Lake George had many more of these turtles years ago and are in decline do to loss of habitat! Seawalls have taken up access along with their nesting and sun bathing areas. Because of their flat bodies and short legs, it is next to impossible to climb up seawalls. The momma turtle came up out of the channel on Kope Kon to find a nesting place. She crossed the road heading for the tennis courts to dig a hole, but was unsuccessful as the soil was quite compacted. I left her there in private but also put a sign up saying nesting turtle here! Many turtles are run over! I came back later and saw she moved across the road to the stone driveway and she tried so hard to lay her eggs. I again left and returned to find her gone and NO EGGS BURIED!! It is up to **us** to protect nature!

PLEASE AVOID THIS!!

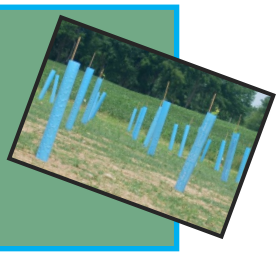
This is **Eurasian Milfoil!** Several years ago we had a breakout of this water weed which was pretty much irradicated from Lake George. But we have it again!! It was sprayed but if you do come across this floating menace, PLEASE as a responsible boater, **DO NOT DRIVE THROUGH IT**! It spreads faster when it is chopped up by motors! The particles sink to the bottom and start a new batch of this obnoxious and very invasive weed. IF NOT HELD IN CHECK, it can totally cover a lake in a few short years making the lake non-navigable and causes many other issues!

I am calling this "Hotel Turtle Terrace! I had 7 the other day! Now the water is warmer, not as many come.

SOMETHING NEW IS IN THE MAKING!

On Old 27, close to Kope Kon Rd., we have a new business that is just in the beginning stage(s). The owner, Dennis Feastermaker, (a German name of course) originally from Edon, OH, has now moved close to our lake!

Mr. Feastermaker had a dream and is now making it come true. Dennis did not want to share all the details just yet, but promises he will in the near future! Can you guess what it might turn into??



KOPE KON RACQUET CLUB ANNOUNCES..

We have "two newly resurfaced" tennis courts plus they are lined for Four Pickle-ball Courts!! Tennis ball machine available too!
This year ONLY, offering a life-time membership for a one-time cost of $1500 (A $2500 value). Yearly dues are $200.
OPEN HOUSE with free play for all interested parties on Sat, July 9, 9-11am. Bring racquets and meet your fellow pickle-ball players!.
You may sign up for membership on this day!
RAIN DATE - Sun July 10 , 9am-11am
For any questions, please call Judy Kuebbeler at 419 377-0918
Sorry, No Restrooms!

INLAND CAT SAILORS BACK ON THE WATER FOR 2022

They're back-----it's another sailing season on Lake George for the Inland Cat Class Sailing Association. The winner of race # 1 was Jack Stiefel, with Alec Barile coming in 2nd and Bill Kuebbeler 3rd. Race #2 was won by Alec Barile (his first "first" place finish - as part of the new Silver Fleet), with Jack Stiefel coming in 2nd and Rick Ahaus in 3rd.

The second session took place on Saturday, June 18. The first race was won by Rick Ahaus, Chris Oler took 2nd , and Jack Stiefel took 3rd. The 2nd race of the day was won by Jack Stiefel, followed by Chandler Larimore in 2nd and 3rd place went to Bill Kuebbeler.

UPCOMING EVENTS

65th Annual Regatta – Saturday July 23rd - has a "Wild West" theme and country/line dancing planned for Saturday night. Contact Jonathan Larimore (734)-892-7131 to sign-up.

Also, there are still many regular season and "Beer Can" racing sessions along with after sailing party sessions during July and August.

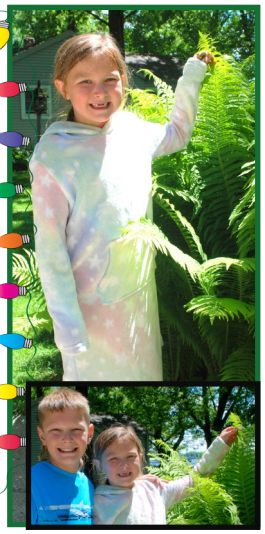
Regular Races (1:30pm unless noted)	Casual "Beer Can" Races
JULY	**AUGUST**
July 9, 17 (9:30 am)	Aug 6, 20
July 13 (5 pm)	Aug, 10 (5 pm)

Want to try sailing/learn to sail? Want to crew a race?

Contact Nathan Larimore (734-755-5241) - this year's commodore – or any fleet member.

Light up the Lake

A big **THANK YOU** to all who participated in **Light up the Lake** on Memorial day weekend! The lights were beautiful and were a great way to honor Memorial Day and start the 2022 season!



OSTRICH FERNS

Need a filler for a bare area in your yard?? All you have to do is buy "one" and before ya know it, you have a whole yard full!! They are invasive, but for me a good thing!!

Most Ferns like shade but this variety thrives in the sun! This one reached a whopping 63" or 5 ft 3 inches tall! That is taller than me at 5' 2"!! My other ferns are in shade aren't nearly as tall as these.

Back in May, Addy and Alex, helped to measure them by standing next to them; they are about 47 to 55 inches tall. In just a few short weeks the ferns were even taller and measured 63 inches. Will share some!

Thank you! Faye Schlatter