

JULY 2007

# LaPorte Area Lake Association Newsletter



## **FROM THE PRES**

### **Live and Love the Lakes...**

Hopefully this newsletter finds you in good health & happiness while enjoying another perfect summer on Pine Lake.

Thank you to everyone who attended the May meeting of LALA. It was one of the most productive, fun and vocal meetings this year. Family Express of La Porte sweetened us up by donating 6-dozen donuts for the meeting.

Greg Carlson of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and a Green Bay Packers fan, enlightened us on some jurisdictional issues on Pine Lake. Members then broke into volunteer committees to organize projects such as Venetian Night, Lake Clean-up and Membership Directory. A new committee was founded! The Legislation Committee will be looking to make improvements on the lake through the help of our elected officials.

If you missed the meeting, you REALLY MISSED the meeting.

We will have several more LALA opportunities for fun this summer. The Venetian Night Committee has

been working hard to initiate a lighted boat parade and festival. We hope that this event will grow to be as big as Cruise Night or the Independence Day parade in La Porte. Everything starts with an idea followed by action. We invite you to get on board and be a part of the action.

Lake Clean-up is also on deck. It is an opportunity to make a big difference in a small amount of time. It is just a few hours on a Saturday morning. You never know what you will find in the lake!

Set sail with LALA.  
Summer fun starts here!

Theresa

CLEAR LAKE

FISHTRAP LAKE

LILY LAKE

LOWER LAKE

PINE LAKE

STONE LAKE

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

See us at:

[www.laportelakes.com](http://www.laportelakes.com)



**LAPORTE AREA  
LAKE ASSOCIATION  
2007 OFFICERS**

- President:** Theresa McKinney  
219-898-0410
- Vice Pres:** Julie Berry  
312-375-0756
- Secretary:** Cheri Thomas  
219-789-2786
- Treasurer:** Sue Heikes  
219-324-2058

**Committee Coordinators**

- Engineering Committee \_\_ Jay Pouzar
- Holiday Party \_\_\_\_\_ Sue Heikes  
\_\_\_\_\_ Donna Pouzar
- LARE Grant \_\_\_\_\_ Sue Heikes  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jay Pouzar
- Lake Clean Up \_\_\_\_\_ Paul Thode
- Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Stephanie Skwait
- Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_ Donna Pouzar
- Venetian Night \_\_\_\_\_ Julie Berry
- Weed Control \_\_\_\_\_ Sue Heikes
- Website \_\_\_\_\_ Julie Berry

**Support Your  
Association**

The Association is made up of mostly of lake residents and local businesses.

As a volunteer organization, we are always looking for people to volunteer to work on our committees.

We also depend on our membership to alert the board of things going on around the lake.

If you see something going on in your neighborhood that you feel warrants investigation, contact a board member.

If you have an interesting story to share with the membership, please contact a board member, a committee chairperson if it pertains to a particular event, or our Newsletter Editor.

If you would like to help on a committee, please contact either a board member or the Committee Chairperson for that particular event.

**Next General Meeting**

**Thursday  
July 19  
6:00 p.m.**

**Venetian  
Night Update**

**LaPorte  
Yacht Club**



## Minutes from the May Meeting

The meeting, held at the La Porte Yacht Club on Saturday, May 19, was called to order by President Theresa McKinney at 10:00 a.m.

This was the first meeting held on a weekend, giving non-area residents an opportunity to attend. Over 30 members were present. Since there were many new members, Theresa introduced Officers and Board members who were present.

### Introduction of guest speaker, Greg Carlson of the US EPA.

Mr. Carlson discussed his role with the EPA. He is a Biologist for wetlands and watersheds and has over 20 years of experience with the EPA.

The EPA has worked with Outlook Cove to repair environmental damage that occurred when docks were put in place following new construction of the condominiums. Damage occurred when soil was displaced into the lake. As a secondary effect, natural vegetation, fish and fowl were also displaced.

Mr. Carlson defined wetlands as area containing wetlands soil, plants and wild life. One of the goals of the EPA is to enforce a federal law "The Clean Water Act." The EPA can have jurisdiction over Pine Lake by establishing Interstate Commerce. Meaning out of state residents utilizes Pine Lake.

Mr. Carlson had voluntarily requested a list of names and addresses of members whom own both lake vacation property and maintain permanent residence outside of the State of Indiana. He was asking for this information voluntarily to substantiate that his office (located in Chicago) would have jurisdiction to continue the penalty phase against Outlook Cove.

Several residents voiced concerns about maintaining their privacy. Several members spoke with Mr. Carlson to advise him of other potential environmental damage.

He can be reached at 312-886-0124. His office address is US EPA, WW-16J, 77 West Jackson Blvd, Chicago, IL 60604-3590.

A coffee break was then called prior to the general meeting.

### General Business Meeting

#### Treasurer's Report – Sue Heikes

Anyone who has not paid their dues yet can pay them today. Dues are \$25.00 per year. Also she is taking payments for weed spraying.

#### Membership Directory-Donna Pouzar

Information is only to be used to communication between members. Directory is not to be shared with outside sales representatives. Members can pick up a form if they have not already completed one.

#### Business Membership - Theresa McKinney.

Anyone can join as a business member. The fee is \$100.00 per year. Business members will receive a link to the LALA website. Residential members can pay an upgrade fee of \$75.00 to become a business member.

#### Venetian Night - Julie Berry.

Julie updated the membership on the plans for this event. She is anticipating that the permit will get approved. The date has been set for July 21st. The theme is "Live and Love your Sport". Awards will be given for the best theme, best lights, etc. Volunteers are needed to assist with event planning. Participants will fill out a registration form and pay a nominal fee.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

## **WELCOME ABOARD! NEW MEMBERS**

Don Ferrell  
Mark and Linda Kaup  
Brian Sandy Kempke  
David Rotter

Lake Clean-up Project - Paul Thode.

The date has been set for July 28th, 2007. Members will meet at the Yacht Club. Paul has a sign up sheet for volunteers.

Publicity – Sandra Provan

New member Sandra Provan volunteered to head up a new Publicity committee by helping submit articles and meeting notes to the Herald Argus.

**New members** were given the opportunity to introduce themselves and be welcomed to the association.

The first concern addressed was a Motion made by new member, Tom Rondinelli. His motion was to prevent the Lake Association from disclosing member's names and addresses that fit the profile of the information requested by the EPA. Motion was voted on and PASSED. The Lake Association will not voluntarily provide names and addresses to the EPA. President Theresa McKinney explained to the membership that the EPA has Subpoena power and can still subpoena those records. A subpoena is a court order to take action and failure to comply with a Subpoena will result in contempt of court. Further, the EPA can also conduct its own research by going door-to-door or taking photos of out of state license plates.

Members were reminded that one of the main goals of the Lake Association is to "watchdog" the lake. Protecting the quality of the Lake and the wildlife is our purpose. We also need to recognize and accept that there are other governmental agencies that will help us with this such as the Army Corp of Engineers and the Department of Natural Resources. However this agencies also have the power to impose fines for violations.

**2nd Motion.** A second Motion was made by President Theresa McKinney for a Legislation Committee. This committee will address improvements that can be made on Pine Lake, but that may require the assistance of state and local legislatures to enact laws. or ordinances. Motion was voted on and PASSED.

The Legislative Committee Volunteers are:

Tom Rondinelli  
Daniel Balich  
Cathy Balich  
Lou Panozzo  
Donna Panozzo  
Jim Kypuros

Meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Notes submitted by Theresa McKinney for Secretary Cheri Thomas who could not attend.

## Lake Clean Up

Paul Thode once again is heading up the Lake Cleanup Committee. If you are interested in participating, contact Paul at: 326-8294.

## Newsletter

If you have a story you would like to share; if there is a problem in your area that needs to be addressed; if you have fun tidbits of information, please send it along. You can e-mail Donna Pouzar at [donnapouzar@comcast.net](mailto:donnapouzar@comcast.net) or mail it to:

The LaPorte Area Lake Association  
P.O. Box 352  
LaPorte, IN 46352

If you wish to help with the newsletter, please contact Donna via e-mail at the address above.

## Weed control update

The second application of weed spraying was conducted on Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. If you are not satisfied after a couple of weeks, please contact Sue Heikes at 324-2058.

# Happy Birthday

## July

- 2 Nancy Bugel  
Jim Kypuros
- 3 Genny Wilkins
- 7 Jane Rondinelli
- 9 Jim Conroy
- 10 Lou Panozzo  
Norman Beles
- 16 Mike Renkawitz
- 20 Gene Jonas  
Thomas Kulaski
- 28 Lorraine Beles

## August

- 1 Jim Morrival  
Jay McDermott
- 4 Dawn Caddo
- 7 Laura Bolda
- 8 Elaine Niegos  
Seth Philbrook
- 9 Gail Johnson
- 11 Donna Smith  
Deb Staska
- 18 Jim Folgersong
- 23 Janet Schoof
- 26 Bill O'Connor
- 27 Rick Brown



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Thursday, July 19th

#### General Meeting

6:00 PM - Meet at the Yacht Club

*Last Minute Details on Venetian Night*

### Saturday, July 21st

1st Annual Venetian Night Lighted Boat Parade

7 PM - 11 PM - Meet at the Yacht Club Docks

*Music Provided by Elwood Splinters Blues Band*

### Saturday, July 28th

Volunteer Lake Clean Up

9:00 AM - Meet at Yacht Club

*Lunch to Follow*

### Thursday, September 20th

#### General Meeting

6:00 PM - Meet at the Yacht Club

### November 10<sup>th</sup> - Holiday Party at the Yacht Club

6:00 PM - General Meeting

6:30 - 8 PM Holiday Party Benefiting

La Porte's Food Pantry

*\*Admission - Bring a non-perishable food items*

*\*\*Cash Bar - 5:00 PM - 11:00 PM*

*\*\*\*RSVP - Sue Heikes - 324-2058*

*by November 3rd, 2007*

LaPorte Area Lake Association
2007 Dues Renewal Membership Form

YEARLY DUES: \$25.00



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday (no year, please, just month and day ☺)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_

Out of state address (if applicable)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL

I would like to volunteer to work on:

Membership

Lake Clean Up

Weed Control

Holiday Party

Newsletter

Website

Return this form with your check payable to:

LaPorte Area Lake Assn., Inc.
P.O. Box 324
LaPorte, Indiana 46352

MAILING AND E-MAILING ADDRESSES WILL NEVER BE SHARED OR SOLD BEYOND OUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY. WE WILL PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF OUR MEMBERS.

About Our Organization...

The LaPorte Area Lake Association was formed in 1965 and is a volunteer organization, comprised of businesses and residents, both on the lakes and surrounding neighborhoods, who are concerned about the quality and health of our lakes.

To ensure continued enjoyment of these lakes, the LaPorte Area Lake Association monitors issues and problems that could affect everything and everyone that uses these lakes from recreational activity to native wildlife. The Association supports; Clear Lake, Fishtrap Lake, Lily Lake, Lower Lake, Pine Lake and Stone Lake. For more information or membership visit; www.LaPorteLakes.com