



# ***LaGrange County Lakes Council***

*"We've got the real Great Lakes!"*

Spring, 2009



# Editorial

Welcome to spring! After the long, hard winter, we all need a breath of fresh air and some warm sunshine. Even though we seem to “slow down” in the cold months, your Lakes Council board members keep busy, acting in your interests for LaGrange County.

Many years ago, (in the 60’s in fact) I was a weekend “laker.” As I returned to the lake in the spring, I would marvel at the changes which occurred over the winter. New buildings of all types: garages, pole barns, sheds, house additions—quite often seeming to be out of compliance with building codes and regulations. I often thought that someday, there should be an organization to watch out for the interests of lake property owners and make sure that the rules are followed.

Well, SHAZAM! Here it is! Since 2002, your Lakes Council board members have stepped up to the plate for you—voluntarily providing a service that money cannot buy, representation for you in county government.

Our County Commissioners and Council have graciously appointed our board members to eight of the county’s boards and commissions. In return, our nominees for county boards have worked tirelessly and diligently for the betterment of the county and its most precious assets, the lakes.

So there you have it, the “other side of the Lakes Council coin.” Not only do we work for the lakes and waters, we also work for the people, including those who manage our local government. You will not find better protection of your interests, than with your membership in the Lakes Council.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer and enjoy your little piece of paradise on earth— on *one of the real Great Lakes!*



Jack Dold



**LaGrange County  
Lakes Council**

**Spring 2009 Newsletter**

*"To promote, protect and preserve the quality of the lakes and watersheds of LaGrange County"*

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**Newsletter Editor**

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This publication is sent by mail to more than 4,000 members and friends of the LaGrange County Lakes Council.

Membership in the Lakes Council is open to anyone with a desire to further the Council's mission: "To promote, protect and preserve the quality of the lakes and watersheds of LaGrange County."



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*Cover: Stephen Loop of Defiance, Ohio, visits his uncle Jack on Pretty Lake. Here, he teaches his son, Joshua the finer points of casting. Their faces tell the story. Photo by Tim Dold.*

LaGrange County Lakes Council, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.  
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Visit our website: [www.LaGrangeCountyLakesCouncil.org](http://www.LaGrangeCountyLakesCouncil.org)

# Westler Lake Hosts Poker Run

By Mark Dumont



Westler Lake, encompassing 88 acres, is one of LaGrange County's best kept secrets. Where the water is clear, the people are friendly and the water activities are never ending.

As a member lake of the Indian Lake Chain and situated between Dallas Lake to the north and Witmer Lake to the south, Westler lake has the best of both worlds. A quiet shimmering lake to fish and relax on, yet just moments from the fun and excitement of tubing, wakeboarding, skiing and general boating on the connected lakes.

Assisting the Westler Lake homeowners and visitors to enjoy year round activities is the Westler Lake Association's endeavor. This is a very active and participant driven group of homeowners who have taken the idea of "caring for the lakes" to the highest level. Members routinely perform activities that assist and enable all of those who enjoy the lakes to do just that. The Westler Lake Association performs monthly water quality level checks reporting into the Clean Lakes Program website



Database. They organize an annual goose removal project that reduces the goose population significantly and organize fund raising efforts to assist in helping homeowners beautify the lake.

One interesting fund raising effort during the summer of 2008 was the first annual Westler Lake Poker Run. The concept was to organize an event where everyone could participate, have fun, and enjoy friendly neighbors on the lake. Most of us had only heard about motorcycle poker runs, but what fun we had. Over 50 boats cruising the lakes, finding the drawing stops and everyone participating in a contest that not only raised funds for the lake but gave out some outstanding prizes.

Westler Lake has a wide range of individuals who enjoy boating, kayaking, wakeboarding, fishing, cruising, and overall enjoying the year round activities that living on a wonderful lake provides.

If you ever want to stop by, please do so.



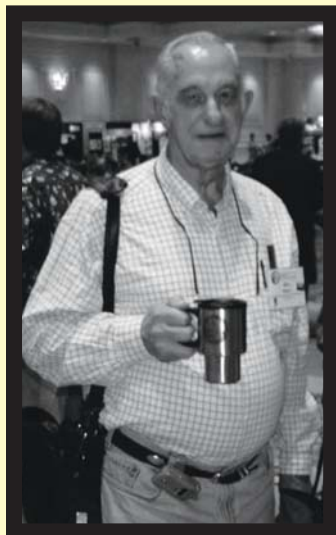
# Nature At Its Best at Little Turkey Lake

Everyone at Little Turkey Lake is looking forward to a beautiful Spring & Summer after a long, long Winter season. We have been able to reflect on the positives of last Summer and Fall, including our first attempt at Exotic Weed Control Treatment which proved to be a success. To support this endeavor, residents were able to show a healthy profit on a garage sale & bake sale, raffle of muzzleloader and fund raising raffles at a potluck/meeting.

We did conclude our 5 year walleye stocking program last Fall. The stocking program was headed up by a conscientious volunteer who donated many hours to ensure it's success. The residents have consistently donated cans and money to support this program.

Our Association is looking forward to another garage sale this Spring and two annual potluck meetings with residents during the Summer. Thanks to residents who have stepped up to keep our lake what it is, beautiful and peaceful with an abundance of nature surrounding us, we will be able to enjoy!

## Devoted member and volunteer monitor, Bob Mayer dies



Bob Mayer

Photo courtesy of the Water Column

**Bob Mayer** of Wolcottville, one of our most loyal supporters and long-time water quality monitor, died last November. Bob was also active in the Oliver/Martin Lakes Association and monitored water quality of Oliver, Olin and Martin lakes for 15 years. In that period, Bob made 554 Secchi disk measurements and collected 171 sets of total phosphorus and chlorophyll *a* samples. Bob regularly attended the Indiana Lakes Management Society and North American Lakes Management Society annual conferences as well as Lakes Council meetings and events.

## Pretty Lake Club Lists Calendar of summer Events



The spring Newsletter of the Pretty Lake Conservation Club has arrived with a packed calendar of activities for 2009.

The season begins on April 18 with the spring cleanup of the clubhouse and grounds. The first social event is the traditional pancake and sausage breakfast on May 25 (Memorial Day) from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. On Saturday, June 6 (Free Fishing Weekend\*) kids will enjoy the annual Fish-O-Rama from 8 to 10:30. The club's yearly goose roundup will take place on June 13, followed that evening with Bingo and Root Beer Floats. June activities conclude on the 27<sup>th</sup> with a Kid's Painting Project in the morning and a Spaghetti Dinner that evening.

July brings the annual Independence Day celebration featuring a boat parade, bagpipes and the evening flare lighting. Friday, July 17 the club will introduce a kid's conservation project and the club's Annual General Meeting, with a quilt raffle, is set for the following Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

*\*Free Fishing Weekend allows Indiana residents fishing without the need for a license. All other regulations apply.*

The club's largest event of the year will be held on August 1 at Noon—the annual Family Picnic and election of directors.

A new event, a cottage tour, will be held on August 8. A walking or biking tour of several wonderful cottages on Pretty Lake will raise money for the lake cleanup project. August 22 is the day for the club's single largest fundraiser, the annual Rummage Sale, from 8 to 11:00 a.m.

Wrapping up the season is the Fall Campfire on September 5 and a biscuit and gravy breakfast on Labor Day.

Pictures of club events may be viewed on the web at: [www.prettylake.org](http://www.prettylake.org).

In addition to club activities, the newly remodeled Pretty Lake clubhouse is available for receptions, birthday parties and other events. Contact the building manager, Steve Papai at 260-351-2891 for reservations or more information.

### Pretty Lake Conservation Club Diagnostic / Engineering Study

At the end of 2008 the feasibility study was completed for five sites. With improvements these sites will allow drain water to be filtered before entering our lake. An application was completed on January 12<sup>th</sup> for a Lake and River Enhancement grant.

Our engineering studies for the three other sites are almost completed. One of these sites is a Rain Garden to be constructed on the Milford Elementary school property. This would hold runoff water that currently floods over into Pretty Lake. The Rain Garden would also be a great educational tool that the teachers can use. The other two sites are in the Deal Ditch. This is our only stream inlet to Pretty Lake. We are currently working with the LaGrange County Surveyor. The proposal for Deal Ditch includes clearing brush, trees and constructing a Two-stage ditch.

The Pretty Lake Conservation Club asks for your support with these projects. Our goal is to maintain and improve our water quality. If we just sit back and ignore these things our lake and water quality will continue to deteriorate.

J.C. Mertz

# Fish & Royer Lakes Association announces reorganization

**F**ish & Royer Lakes Association represents some 240 households and works through a volunteer board of dedicated members. Last year, the group underwent a reorganization process including a number of retirements from the board. Honored for their many years of service were Doug Bowlby, Judith Bowlby, Dave Arrington, Mike Dirig and Jim Baranek.

Newly elected president, Joe Albergo will lead the organization with vice-president, Dick Krull and treasurer,

Norine Doig. Co-secretaries Carol and Helmuth Massat complete the team of officers. Board members include: Cheryl Albergo, Pam Deetz, Randy Deetz, Marshall Doig, Les Fogle, Patricia Fogle, Betty Hemlinger, T. J. Hemlinger, Eric Pearson, Robert Drach and Brian Mervau.

To assist the group with communications, they have assembled a team of "Road Captains" that will deliver the quarterly newsletters and help organize association events.

Much of the club's modest \$20.00

dues collection goes to fish stocking. The association stocked 1,000 8 in. walleye in the fall. Efforts are continuing to raise the funds needed to expand the fish stocking program.

Lake residents should watch for the announcements of two annual membership meetings, one in June and the second in August.

For more information or to join the association, contact Noreen Doig at 260-463-4123.

## Clean Lakes Program website gets new look

The new, redesigned website of the Indiana Clean Lakes Program is now online. While some pages are still being created, the updated look and improved navigation makes this site much more easy to use than before.

Look for continuing additions to the site in the coming months. Please note the new URL:

<http://www.indiana.edu/~clp/>.



## Are visitors bringing your lake a gift?

The most frequent method of transferring invasive species involves the failure of cleaning boats and trailers after leaving an infested lake.



Sea Grant, Michigan

# Friendship, that's what we do!

By Margaret Cook

An invasive species has established a presence on Stone Lake. They seem harmless, as they glide by, their movements purposeful and sure. They bob up and down in the water, in a colorful, sometimes noisy covey.

New ones appear, somewhat wobbly and much less graceful, as if uncertain whether they should be out there or not. But after a few hundred yards, they gain confidence and move steadily across the water. Others lurk on piers and seawalls, waiting for a chance to get out on the lake and play.



From left: Peg Cook, Sue Stachel, Jan Miller, Marge Ulery, Jo Stealy, Joan Ulery.

Lakes residents stop to watch the caravan, a myriad of colors, orange, red, blue, green, pink, and yellow, move across the water. Ten were seen one day, trailing each other through the channel to cluster in their special place close to the lily pads on Mud Lake.

Someone dubbed them "The Yakkers."



Jo Stealy puts her kayak into the water.

The "Yakkers" are an informal group of women who live on Stone Lake. Their age range spans 5 decades. The oldest one's life experience exceeds 80 years. When two of her neighbors paddled up to her dock, she said, "I want to do that!"



Marian Healy, age 83: "Kayaking is what I do!"

Another woman explains, "My first time in a kayak, I had such a peaceful feeling. I knew that I would find a way to buy one."

Since most of the women had never been in a kayak before, they turned to Brian McKibben, an experienced kayaker, for information and advice. Brian arranged for the owners of FLUID FUN, in Bristol, Indiana to bring assorted kayaks to Stone Lake for the women to try. They learned that kayaks handle differently, depending on the length, width and shape. The "Yakkers" practiced getting in and out of their kayaks, without getting wet, but each one developed her technique.

The "Yakkers" don't call themselves a club. There are no dues, no business meetings and no membership list. One or two will start paddling down the shoreline and become a group of 10 or more by the time they reach the channel. They wear life jackets. They remove plastic cups, bait containers, cans and other unnatural objects, sometimes found floating in the water or caught

in the rushes, and properly dispose of them.

Each woman has her own reason for buying a kayak, but no one regrets her decision. Forty pounds is light enough for one person to handle getting it in and out of the water. They are easy on the pocketbook; no gasoline required. Frustration level is low, no stalled engine in the middle of the lake. In contrast to their engine-bearing cousins, pontoons and motorboats, a kayak doesn't leave an oily smear on the water or carbon footprint on the environment. And they are quiet.

But, there is a deeper reason. These women found a treasure on the lake. When they gather by the lily pads and lay their paddles across their kayaks, they talk about things important to them. They laugh with and listen to each other. Sometimes they fall silent; each lost in her own thoughts, and immerse themselves in the serenity offered by the clear, still water that hugs the shoreline. "I love it out here," someone is always sure to whisper.



Front center: Marian Healy, Left: Sue Stachel, Right: Joan Ulery.

The "Yakkers" are just a group of ordinary women who inadvertently paddled their way into each others lives. Their motto, if they ever adopted one, could easily be, "Friendship, that's what we do."

































# KEEP A LOOK OUT

for **NEW AQUATIC INVASIVE PLANTS** in the Midwest!

These species could be spreading in your area. *Early detection and eradication* can prevent an invasion!

To report a sighting, please contact: <http://www.mipn.org/EDRRContacts.html>




|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
|   <p>FLOWERING RUSH</p>        |   <p>POND WATERSTARWORT</p>        |   <p>SWAMP STONECROP</p>    |   <p>BRAZILIAN WATERWEED</p>       |
|   <p>WATER HYACINTH</p>       |   <p>REED MANNA GRASS</p>         |   <p>HYDRILLA</p>          |   <p>EUROPEAN FROGBIT</p>         |
|   <p>INDIAN SWAMPWEED</p>  |   <p>EUROPEAN WATER CLOVER</p> |   <p>PARROT FEATHER</p> |   <p>EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL</p> |
|   <p>BRITTLE WATERLYLY</p> |   <p>YELLOW FLOATING HEART</p> |   <p>WATER LETTUCE</p>  |   <p>WATER CHESTNUT</p>        |

The maps show current reported distribution in the Midwest, including Ontario.

Not known   
  Isolated ( → = single county reports)   
  Locally abundant   
  Widespread

Last updated July 2008

 = Also sold in the aquatic plant trade

See species descriptions on facing page

# Help Stop the Spread of **AQUATIC INVASIVE PLANTS**



**FLOWERING RUSH** (*Butomus umbellatus*) Emergent, perennial herb (can be submersed in deep water). Emergent leaves 3 feet tall, stiff, narrow, and triangular in cross-section. Flowers with 3 petals and 3 sepals, white or pink, in a distinctive flat-topped spray atop a tall stalk. Spreads by rhizomes and root pieces.

**POND WATER-STARWORT** (*Callitriche stagnalis*) Perennial herb with stems from 4 - 12 inches long. Leaves opposite, floating or submersed. Floating leaves oval or spoon-shaped with 5 - 7 veins, 0.1 - 0.3 inches wide and up to 0.8 inches long. Submersed leaves linear, with 1 vein, 0.2 - 0.4 inches long (can resemble floating leaves). Flowers tiny, located in the leaf axils. Fruits nearly round, 0.06 - 0.08 inches thick with a thin winged margin. Spreads by plant fragments and seed.

**SWAMP STONE CROP** (*Crassula helmsii*) Perennial aquatic or semi-terrestrial, succulent herb with round stems 4 - 12 inches long, floating or creeping with roots forming at the nodes. Leaves opposite and succulent, 0.2 - 0.8 inches long, 0.03 - 0.06 inches wide, linear-lanceolate to ovate-lanceolate, acute. Flowers white or pinkish, with 4 petals born singly, 0.12 - 0.14 inches wide. Fruits follicles, with 2 - 5 round, tiny, smooth seeds. Spreads by fragments and buds (turions).

**BRAZILIAN WATERWEED** (*Egeria densa*) Submersed, perennial herb. Very bushy, rooted in water up to 20 feet or drifting. Lacks specialized storage organs, such as tubers. Stem single or branching. Leaves bright green, 0.8 - 1.2 inches long, up to 0.2 inches wide, usually in whorls of 4 - 6 in short intervals along stem (bushy appearance). Leaf edges minutely serrated. Flowers white, 0.7 - 1 inch across, with 3 petals. Spreads by plant fragments.

**WATER HYACINTH** (*Eichhornia crassipes*) Free-floating, perennial herb. Leaves entire, round, waxy, up to 6 inches wide, with floating, air-filled petioles, and growing in rosettes. Inflorescence a showy spike of 8 - 15 light purple, six-petaled flowers. Roots dark purple to black, feathery, and hanging beneath submersed leaves. Fruit three-celled capsule, rarely observed. Spreads vegetatively by new rosettes formed on floating stolons.

**REED MANNA GRASS** (*Glyceria maxima*) Emergent, perennial grass 1.5 - 8 feet tall. Stem unbranched. Leaves flat, 9 - 12 inches long and 0.3 - 0.8 inches wide with prominent mid-ribs. Leaf sheath closed for most of length. Leaf edges with short, stiff hairs, rough to the touch. Inflorescence open with many branches (panicle), strongly drooping at maturity with 50+ flattened, egg-shaped spikelets, each with 4 - 10 minute flowers. Spreads by rhizomes and seed.

**HYDRILLA** (*Hydrilla verticillata*) Submersed, perennial herb rooted in saturated soil, in water up to 20 feet deep. Stem slender, branching, up to 25 feet long. Leaves green, 0.6 inches long with pointed tips, in whorls of 3 - 10, 0.13 - 2 inches apart on stem. Leaf edges saw-toothed, rough to touch. Male and female flowers on separate plants. Spreads by plant fragments, buds (turions) and tubers.

**EUROPEAN FROGBIT** (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*) Free-floating herb, similar to a miniature water lily. Leaves leathery, heart-shaped, 1 - 2 inches wide, smooth-edged with spongy, purplish-red undersides. Flowers 0.5 inches across appear singly with 3 white petals and yellow centers. Roots 3 - 8 inches long, unbranched, dangle from the underside of each rosette. Spreads by fragments and buds (turions).

**INDIAN SWAMPWEED** (*Hygrophila polysperma*) Submersed (partly emersed), perennial herb. Stems creeping to 6 feet in length, brittle. Leaves opposite, round, hairy, with pointed tips, light green to brown or red, up to 3 inches long. Flowers small, white with 2 lobes on upper lip and 3 lobes on lower lip, solitary in leaf axils. Roots numerous on stem. Spreads by plant fragments.

**EUROPEAN WATERCLOVER** (*Marsilea quadrifolia*) Herbaceous, perennial fern with floating or emersed leaves when rooted underwater. Leaves composed of 2 double leaflets that give it a four-leaf clover appearance; leaves not hairy. New leaves emerge as fiddleheads. Spreads by rhizomes and spores, producing sporocarps that are thick, oval, and hairy.

**PARROT FEATHER** (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) Emergent, perennial herb with leaves trailing on water surface. Stems up to 5 feet long, become erect at the tips and can emerge up to a foot above the water surface. Leaves oblong, feathery, 0.5 - 2 inches long, in whorls of 4 - 6 around the stem. Flowers inconspicuous, white. Spreads by plant fragments.

**EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL** (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) Submersed, perennial herb. Like native milfoils, stems slender, whorled by submersed, feathery leaves and tiny flowers produced above the water surface. Stem thickens below the inflorescence and doubles its width further down. Leaves threadlike, 9 - 21 pairs of leaflets per leaf, typically uniform in diameter. Flowers four-petaled or without petals. Fruits nut-like bodies, four-jointed. Spreads by plant fragments.

**BRITTLE WATERNYMPH** (*Najas minor*) Submersed, annual herb up to 4 feet long. Stems slender with many branches. Leaves opposite, linear, toothed, stiff, curled, 1 - 2 inches long. Flowers small, inconspicuous, and born singly in the leaf axils. Spreads by seed and plant fragments.

**YELLOW FLOATING HEART** (*Nymphoides peltata*) Rooted, perennial herb up to 3 feet long with floating leaves. Leaves arise from long stalks attached to creeping rhizomes on bottom. Leaves heart-shaped to round with wavy margins, purplish underneath. Flowers bright yellow, with 5 fringed petals, arranged on stalks of 2 - 5 flowers. Fruit a small capsule. Spreads by seeds, rhizomes, stolons and plant fragments.

**WATER LETTUCE** (*Pistia stratiotes*) Floating, perennial herb. Resembles a head of lettuce. Leaves thick, dull, light green, up to 6 inches long, covered in soft hairs with ridged parallel veins. Flowers inconspicuous, clustered on small, fleshy stalk in leaf axils. Roots feathery. Spreads by producing many secondary rosettes.

**WATER CHESTNUT** (*Trapa natans*) Rooted, annual herb with a leafy rosette that floats on the surface. Stems up to 16 feet long, with 2 types of leaves. Submersed leaves feathery, whorled along the stem and up to 6 inches long. Emergent leaves triangular, 1 - 2 inches long, waxy with toothed edges. Leaf stems with bladder-like swelling. Flowers small, white with 4 petals. Fruit 1 inch wide, hard nut with 4 stout barbs. Spreads by seeds and plant fragments.

**HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF AQUATIC INVASIVE PLANTS!**  
AQUATIC INVASIVE PLANTS SPREAD AS WATER GARDEN PLANTS, AS CONTAMINANTS ON NON-INVASIVE WATER GARDEN PLANTS, AS HITCHHIKERS ON BOATS AND OTHER WATER VEHICLES, AND THROUGH DUMPING OF UNWANTED PLANTS OR PLANT PARTS FROM AQUARIUMS.

To stop the spread of aquatic invasive plants, follow these rules: 1) [Do not release](#) aquatic invasive plants into any waters; 2) [Rinse your aquatic garden plants](#) before planting; 3) [Keep aquatic plants contained](#) in your water gardens; and 4) [Clean all recreational vehicles and trailers](#) before leaving any lake or river.

**PHOTO CREDITS:** Emmet Judziewicz-UW Stevens Point; Bill Smith-WI DNR; Peter Llewellyn; Amy Richard, Vic Ramey, Ann Murray, Bill Haller and Allison Fox - University of Florida/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants; Kim Bogenschutz-IA DNR; Nancy Tessmer-WI; Debbie Maurer, Lake County Forest Preserve District, IL; Robert H. Mohlenbrock @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / USDA NRCS; Carl Farmer; Chester Mehrhoff, L. J., University of Connecticut; W.D. Bakowsky, NHIC Archives.

# Memories of Stone Lake

By Sandy Bugg

It doesn't take long for residents of a lake to start storing up memories of "their" lake and events centering around it. One of Stone Lake's former residents, Anita St.Germain, asked those living at the lake to jot down their "Memories of Stone Lake". Anita collected these and compiled a book of their letters in December 1977.

Having lived permanently at the lake for the last four years, I found it interesting to learn how long some families have had cottages at the lake and how these memories have continued through many generations.

The one going back the farthest dates to 1918 when Cottage #128 was purchased by Clara and Harry Wallace and was the second cottage on Stone Lake.

Following are two accounts of life at the lake as written by grandchildren of the original owners, Tim and Terry Roche, 11740 W 750 N (Cottage #128):



The old memories...

Clara and Harry Wallace (from Chicago) bought lots 5 and 6 from Alvin and Lizzie Frank in 1918. Cottage #128 was the second one on the lake. The first was across on the south side and was called U-Come-Back. Ours was called Ekal Enots (Stone Lake backwards).

They left Chicago, drove all day and half the night to Elkhart, stayed overnight, continuing on the next day. The roads were horse trails. In the '20's and '30's a dance hall was built where Fred's cottage and the one west of it is. I think it was torn down in the late '30's or early '40's. It was a busy place. My mother and father and gram and gramps went all the time. The road was in front in the beginning (I don't remember ever seeing it there.)

As kids we would row across to

Brown's Landing for milk and bread, etc. Later Mrs. Brown added on. After Brown's it was Nofsinger resort. Great beach, great hamburgers and such. Our children also enjoyed Nofsinger's – jukebox, pinball, etc. Howard's ice house stood for years at the foot of the hill before it became Van's store. As a kid I thought it was very spooky, dark, musty. Howard chopped ice out of the lake and covered it with straw. He came twice a day, all summer, to fill the iceboxes. (He scared us half to death.)



...and the new.

As children we would go fishing with Gram wearing big hats because of the bats (lots of them.) We wore beach shoes because of leeches (lots of them) till Gramps added loads of sand and the lake became more populated.

Across from the dance hall was Blood's farm, very dirty, garbage all over, scary people (rumors about a murder there!). Then one day it was gone! Platt's (I think) farmhouse was on the corner by the private drive. We would watch them milk the cows (tasted terrible – not homogenized.) Roderick orchard was down the road from the boat landing. Picked apples every year. I just about remember a farm behind us. Later years our kids picked berries there.

I believe Rigby's was very early on. Great fun place. Later they added trapeze and floats, great little store, etc. They built a bridge across the channel. Everyone walked around the lake in those years. For years it was great watching the goings on at the Boy Scout camp. Chuck Rigby had deer and peacocks up in the woods. Van's store came along later, at the foot of the hill. Great kids hangout for years. Jukebox, pinball's, porch for dancing. Mrs. Van was wonderful. All good things must come to



Generations of the Wallace's enjoyed Stone

an end. Too bad.

Trumps were on Mud Lake long before my family came to Stone Lake. I have pictures of my mom and grandmother by Trumps or Swartz's cottage. It still stands there. Mother called her Gramma Hoake (I don't know why). Over the years many bad storms, trees down, homes hit. Still goes on, unfortunately!

Our lake home has been around and loved for 80 years – still going strong. Our children and grandchildren love to go to Stone Lake.

## *Keepers of the Keys:*

1918 – 1954 –

Harry and Clara (Rogers) Wallace

1954 - 1980 -

Bill and Dorothy (Wallace) Raddy

1980 -

Tim and Terry (Readdy) Roche

## *Think about this:*

- Phosphorous (the middle number on the fertilizer bag) is "junk food" for algae. One pound of phosphorous can produce 10,000 pounds of wet weeds and algae.

- Pesticides that get applied to farm fields and roadsides (and homeowner's lawns) run off into local streams, lakes and rivers. It is tempting to think this is mostly a farming problem but on a square-foot basis, homeowners apply even more chemicals to their lawns than farmers do to their fields!

- Water utilities in the Midwest spend \$400 million each year to treat water for the chemical pesticide Atrazine.

*From Angola/Trine University MS4*

# Steuben County Lakes Council reaches out to teach

By Sue Myers

Providing education about water quality and environmental issues is a major goal of the Steuben County Lakes Council, Inc. How do we accomplish this? We constantly seek ways to Reach Out and Teach.

## For First and Second Grade Students:

For many years we have been partners with the Steuben County Soil & Water Conservation District in an effort to teach. In the spring of each year we provide materials for first and second grade students at

Carlin Park, Hendry Park, Pleasant Lake, and Fremont Elementary schools in observance of Soil and Water Conservation Week.

**For Fourth Grade Students:** Each September I join more than 400 fourth grade students from the county at Pokagon State Park to help with "Youth Conservation Field Day." The day is packed full of teaching about wildlife, outdoor safety, forestry, soils, fish, water quality issues, and recycling information. The Steuben County Lakes Council funds materials

regarding environmental issues which are used in the classrooms as a follow up to this field day.

## For College Age Students:

We provide scholarship help for a Tri-State University student studying Civil and Environmental Engineering.

## For Adults:

We publish and mail to 7,000 property owners the Bobber Watchin' and the Soundings in an effort to keep lake property owners informed about current local water quality and environmental issues.

## Lakes Council Opens Office In LaGrange

Early this year, your board of directors decided to establish a presence in LaGrange by opening an office for the Lakes Council. Board member Jack Dold has agreed to serve pro bono as Interim Administrator, working toward the eventual hiring of a permanent, part time administrator.

I am pleased to inform you that our office has been established at 111 W. Spring Street, Suite 8 in LaGrange. This location is just south of the Courthouse and should serve the Council well. While not equipped for board meetings, it is easily suitable for committee meetings and planning sessions.

Taking this step has naturally resulted in some additional expense, since board members have previously used their own office equipment in handling the business of the organization. We have purchased a computer, printer and other necessary office supplies that will allow us to become an efficient operation. A small copy machine has been donated by Michiana Laminated of Howe, a copier stand donated by Office Concepts and a desk and file cabinet formerly used by the United Fund has been loaned to us.

Due to an unexpected move within the building, it was necessary that we have our phone line moved. EMBARQ

has agreed to make a donation in addition to their Sponsor dues that will offset that moving cost. We appreciate all the donations!

Due to the intermittent needs of the Council, we have not established any formal operating hours. Even so, we would be glad to have you stop by for a visit. Just give us a call first at 260-499-LAKE (5253).

We need to continue reaching out to teach all ages about water quality issues in Steuben County. You make it possible for us to Reach Out and Teach through your annual membership contributions. You are involved in this work. Thank you for helping to Reach Out and Teach.

Visit [www.lakescouncil.org](http://www.lakescouncil.org)

## Fall Forum, big success

The 2008 Fall Forum, jointly sponsored by LaGrange and Steuben Lakes Councils, along with Indiana Lakes Management Society, drew a crowd of more than 60 lake residents from the area. Nine professionals in lake management offered their expertise with audio-visual presentations. This event was a resounding success and brought many expressions of appreciation from those in attendance.



Kent Tracy speaks on grant funding for dredging projects.

# North Twin Lake flotilla tradition continues...

By Floyd Yoder



The Collier-Erickson family of Anderson, IN, is shown here being presented the grand prize trophy by last year's winner of the North Twin Lake Flotilla, Austin Baum of Tucson, AZ. Lake Association President, Floyd Yoder, looks on from his pontoon. The 2008 Flotilla was the 14th year for this event, and has become a regular part of Fourth of July at North Twin. Those on the winning float in this year's flotilla automatically become the judges of next year's parade. They then proudly display the grand prize plaque with their names engraved on it until it is passed on to next year's winners.

## Wall Lake recaps 2008 activities

Wall Lake residents enjoyed four carry-ins last summer. Any excuse to eat brings a hungry group and there's no rule against mixing business with pleasure. They made plans for the ever-popular goose roundup, elected officers, held a fish-fry and a chicken barbeque.

Scott Banfield, Aquatic Enhancement and Survey, reported on the lake's condition and weed control issues.

The most anticipated program of the year, The Wall Lake Singers presented a medley of show tunes and

take-offs on goose roundups, goose calling cards and bad dairies.

Other lake activities included the Memorial Weekend membership drive, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade, a float in the Vermont Settlement Days Parade in Orland.

The annual pontoon part was rained out and unfortunately, we were unable to obtain walleye to continue our fish stocking program.

We note with sadness, the passing of Ralph Whitcomb, our long-time past president.

**Your "Personal Yellow Page"** returns in this issue. Our business sponsors provide substantial support for the Lakes Council with many giving more than the "minimum" \$50 amount. In fact, Sponsor members enabled the Lakes Council to send out its first newsletters. So, we owe our sponsors our support. Please clip the page from this issue and refer to it whenever you are in need of goods or services. And, please mention your appreciation for their support!

As most of our "Great Lakes," North Twin Lake has a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Flotilla. We are pleased to share some pictures of last year's celebration with our Lakes Council friends.

At the end of the parade of boats, all participants are invited to park in shallow water at the west end of the lake and socialize from boat to boat. It is a great way to see many neighbors all at one time.



Summer lake friendships down through the generations. Back in the 1950's their grandparents were summer friends.....now these kids look forward to seeing each other in the summer at North Twin Lake. The boys belong to Grandma Cheryl (Warner) Conley - (Chris and Gavin) and are from the Kokomo, IN area. The girls - Emily Hunt and Tara Howes- are from Vicksburg and Battle Creek, Michigan, and are granddaughters of Karen (Kitson) Yoder. The Warner and Kitson families have been friends on North Twin Lake for almost 60 years. They are seen here just relaxing at the end of the North Twin July 4th Flotilla.



Stephanie Howes of Battle Creek, MI has the pontoon all decorated and she is ready to begin the flotilla on July 4th at North Twin Lake. The annual flotilla has been a big event in Stephanie's life. She was only 5 months old and in a baby seat the first time she participated and she has never missed a flotilla.

## Your Personal Yellow Pages

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| <b>1st dibs Real Estate</b> .....                |                         | <b>260-463-7178</b>     |
| Steve McKowen                                    | 122 S. Detroit Street   | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>4 Square Construction</b> .....               |                         | <b>260-350-0842</b>     |
| Bill Berkey                                      | 770 E 465 S             | Wolcottville, IN 46795  |
| <b>Association of Romanian Catholics</b> .....   |                         | <b>248-879-6984</b>     |
| Gordan Hopman                                    | 6383 Vernmoor           | Troy, MI 48098          |
| <b>Auto Parts Co., Inc.</b> .....                |                         | <b>260-463-7219</b>     |
| Robin Todd                                       | 0990 N 00 EW            | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>Caldwell Appraisals, Inc</b> .....            |                         | <b>260-854-2762</b>     |
| Katie Caldwell                                   | 5930 S 400 E            | Wolcottville, IN 46795  |
| <b>Davey Resource Group</b> .....                |                         | <b>260-969-5990</b>     |
|  | 3846 New Vision Drive   | Fort Wayne, IN 46845    |
| <b>Dr. Jeffrey L Bassett, DDS</b> .....          |                         | <b>260-463-3652</b>     |
| Jeffrey Bassett                                  | 108 S Townline Road     | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>Dr. Rob Bollinger</b> .....                   |                         | <b>260-463-2157</b>     |
| Dr. Rob Bollinger                                | 1005 N. Detroit Street  | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>Eberhard &amp; Gastineau, Attorneys</b> ..... |                         | <b>260-463-7154</b>     |
| Bill Eberhard                                    | 115 S. Detroit Street   | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>EMBARQ</b> .....                              |                         | <b>260-463-2949</b>     |
| Jack Moore                                       | PO Box 866              | Columbia City, IN 46725 |
| <b>Farmers State Bank</b> .....                  |                         | <b>260-463-7111</b>     |
| Kerry Sprunger                                   | 220 S. Detroit St.      | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>J O Mory, Inc.</b> .....                      |                         | <b>260.351.2221</b>     |
| Tina Ball  | PO Box 128              | South Milford, IN 46786 |
| <b>Karen Frederick, RE/MAX Results</b> .....     |                         | <b>260 854-3979</b>     |
| Karen Frederick                                  | PO BOX 332              | Wolcottville, IN 46795  |
| <b>Kuntry Lumber</b> .....                       |                         | <b>260-463-3242</b>     |
| Bill Connely                                     | 2875 S 00 EW            | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>LaGrange County REMC</b> .....                |                         | <b>260-463-7165</b>     |
| Mark Leu   | 206 S. Detroit Street   | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>LaGrange Publishing Co.</b> .....             |                         | <b>260-463-2166</b>     |
| Bill Connely                                     | 0410 E 100 S            | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>Lake City Bank, LaGrange</b> .....            |                         | <b>260-463-4000</b>     |
| Cathy Hefty                                      | 901 S. Detroit Street   | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>Lake City Bank, Warsaw</b> .....              |                         | <b>260-463-4000</b>     |
| Beth Weber                                       | P.O. Box 1387           | Warsaw, IN 46581        |
| <b>Lakeland Glass, Inc.</b> .....                |                         | <b>260-463-7939</b>     |
| Chuck Miller                                     | 812 S Detroit Street    | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>Lakeland Title Co.</b> .....                  |                         | <b>260-463-5044</b>     |
| Kadish Evans                                     | 208 S. Detroit Street   | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>Larry's Canvas</b> .....                      |                         | <b>260-463-2220</b>     |
| Larry Bontrager                                  | 403 E. Central          | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>Lynn Bowen, DDS</b> .....                     |                         | <b>260-463-7006</b>     |
| Lynn Bowen                                       | 210 W South St.         | Lagrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>Masonry by Richman, Inc</b> .....             |                         | <b>260.351.9141</b>     |
| Kirk Richman                                     | 10440E 640S             | Hudson, IN 46747        |
| <b>Mastercraft, Inc.</b> .....                   |                         | <b>260-463-8702</b>     |
| Cliff Reynolds                                   | 711 South Poplar Street | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>Michael Strawser Auctions</b> .....           |                         | <b>260-854-2859</b>     |
| Michael Strawser                                 | 200 N. Main St.         | Wolcottville, IN 46795  |
| <b>Natural Health &amp; Massage</b> .....        |                         | <b>260-463-8772</b>     |
| Gary Hollowell                                   | 216 E. Factory Street   | LaGrange, IN 46761      |
| <b>Peoples Federal Savings Bank</b> .....        |                         | <b>260-463-7131</b>     |
| Matt Miller                                      | 114 S. Detroit Street   | Lagrange, IN 46761      |

*Continued on other side*

## ***Your Personal Yellow Pages***

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| <b>Plyley's Candies</b> .....                                   |                       | <b>260-463-3351</b>    |
| Jack Plyley   | 909 S. Poplar St.     | LaGrange, IN 46761     |
| <b>Poor Boys Baits, Lurecraft</b> .....                         |                       | <b>260-463-2687</b>    |
| Kim Straley   | 513 West Central      | LaGrange, IN 46761     |
| <b>R &amp; T Custom Designs</b> .....                           |                       | <b>765-378-7144</b>    |
| Terry Woodring  | 1408 Evelyn Lane      | Anderson, IN 46017     |
| <b>Schlemmer Hardware Do It Best</b> .....                      |                       | <b>260-463-3343</b>    |
| Bob Schlemmer   | 910 S. Poplar Street  | Lagrange, IN 46761     |
| <b>Shipshewana Community Lake Improvement Association</b> ..... |                       | <b>260-768-9137</b>    |
| Steve Weideman  | PO Box 915            | Shipshewana, IN 46565  |
| <b>SNRT, Inc.</b> .....   |                       | <b>574-606-8284</b>    |
| David Arrington   | 5000 E 100 S          | LaGrange, IN 46761     |
| <b>Stacy Rofkahr, RE/MAX Results</b> .....                      |                       | <b>260.336.2122</b>    |
| Stacy Rofkahr   | PO BOX 332            | Wolcottville, IN 46795 |
| <b>Stroh Farm Supply</b> .....                                  |                       | <b>260-351-3601</b>    |
| Eric Perkins  | Box 69                | Stroh, IN 46789        |
| <b>Taper Lock Credit Union, Topeka</b> .....                    |                       | <b>574-255-3193</b>    |
| Jonette Thomson   | 336 E Lake Street     | Topeka, IN 46571       |
| <b>Thomas Plumbing</b> .....                                    |                       | <b>260-854-4632</b>    |
|   | 2980 E 500 S          | Wolcottville, IN 46795 |
| <b>Topeka Pharmacy</b> .....                                    |                       | <b>260-593-2252</b>    |
| Tom Miller  | PO Box 157            | Topeka, IN 46571       |
| <b>Trowbridge Accounting, LLC</b> .....                         |                       | <b>260-463-3787</b>    |
| Amber Taylor  | 844 N. Detroit Street | Lagrange, IN 46761     |
| <b>Weaver Furniture</b> .....                                   |                       | <b>260-768-7730</b>    |
| LeRoy Weaver  | 7870 W 075 N          | Shipshewana, IN 46565  |
| <b>West Lakes Marine</b> .....                                  |                       | <b>260-854-2525</b>    |
| Bill Reynolds   | 0085 Holiday Point    | Rome City, IN 46784    |

Let us add your business to this list—call the Lakes Council office at 260-499-5253 or find the enrollment form online: [www.LaGrangeCountyLakesCouncil.org](http://www.LaGrangeCountyLakesCouncil.org)

### **In Memory**

Memorial gifts are a noteworthy tradition in Western culture. The gifts are usually intended to capture the spirit of the lost loved one and attempt to comfort grieving family members. Quite common today are published requests for gifts to be made in the form of contributions to a favorite charity of the deceased. The LaGrange County Lakes Council will gratefully receive your memorial gifts to the benefit of its Scholarship Fund, thereby creating a lasting legacy for your deceased loved ones.

LaGrange County Lakes Council,

### **Important Numbers**

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Fire-Police</b> .....   | <b>911</b>   |
| Animal Control .....       | 463-4142     |
| Conservation Officer ..... | 463-7491     |
| County Office Building ..  | 499-6300     |
| EMBARQ .....               | 800-257-3212 |
| NIPSCO .....               | 800-4-NIPSCO |
| REMC .....                 | 463-7165     |
| Sheriff (Business) .....   | 463-7491     |
| Utility District .....     | 499-6349     |

## Join Now! Keep your Lakes Council working for you!

Contact information changed? Please check here and put corrections on other side.

Please return this form with your check to:

**LaGrange County Lakes Council**  
**PO Box 86**  
**LaGrange IN 46761**



Name of lake .....

E-mail address.....

2009 Dues@(\$25.00) \$ .....

Additional donation .....

Scholarship fund .....

Total enclosed \$ .....

## Agenda for Spring Seminar

- 10:00 a.m.**                    **Qualifying for LARE grants**  
Gwen White, DNR Lake And River Enhancement Biologist explains the grant process for diagnostic/watershed and aquatic plant control projects.
- 10:45 a.m.**                    **Pier Rules and Regulations**  
Jeremy Price, DNR Lake Compliance Biologist explains the lake pier regulations for individual and group use.
- 11:30 a.m.**                    **LUNCH BREAK (Lunch provided)**
- 12:30 p.m.**                    **Weed control and safe removal of aquatic vegetation**  
Scott Banfield, Aquatic Enhancement and Survey, Inc. will offer tips for controlling aquatic vegetation.
- 1:15 p.m.**                    **Canada geese control and removal**  
Shannon Winks, DNR Urban Wildlife Management Biologist will describe approved and lawful methods for controlling geese and swans.
- 2:00 p.m.**                    **Fundraising ideas for lake projects**  
Open forum—Many btimes, the best ideas are already in practice by other lake organizations. Share what works for your group so that others may benefit from your experience.
- 2:30 p.m.**                    **Communicating with your lake residents**  
Communication is the key to effective management of your lake quality efforts.

*See other side for more information*

## ***LaGrange County Lakes Council***

111 W. Spring St., Ste. 8

PO Box 86

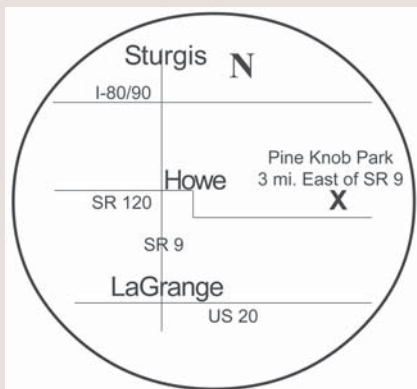
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*Announcing the LaGrange County Lakes Council 2009 Spring Seminar  
May 16 – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

# **PINE KNOB COUNTY PARK**

- Qualifying for LARE grants
- Pier Rules and Regulations
- Weed control and safe removal of aquatic vegetation
- Canada geese control options
- Fundraising ideas for lake projects
- Communicating with your lake residents



**Pine Knob Park is located three miles east of Howe on State Road 120. Join us for this informative meeting.**

*See the complete agenda on other side.*