



# Clear Lake Association

## Summer 2021 Newsletter

### A SUMMER TO CELEBRATE!

As I looked back at the President's Message published in the Summer, 2020, CLA Newsletter, I realized how far we've come in the past year. We remain cautiously optimistic thanks to vaccines and diminishing covid cases, which have eased Indiana restrictions for gathering again with family and friends. This is a summer to celebrate what's ahead. And we have some wonderful things to celebrate at Clear Lake!

The highlight of summer for many of us is the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend and timing this year couldn't be better. Since the 4th falls on Sunday, the annual **Clear Lake Association Fireworks Display** will be held, **Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>** with a rain date the next night, July 4. We have asked Hollister Pyrotechnics to push the "start button" right at 10:00 pm so everyone can be in place on their boats or docks or lawns for this spectacular show. You told us last year that the show was great but the ground-level display couldn't be seen. Brian Hollister assures us he will avoid that issue in the future. Our volunteers are in place for set up and clean up. John Wilhelm will coordinate the barricades and make sure Fremont Fire Department is on stand-by. (Thank you, Fremont Firefighters!) Bruce Moody and Don Crapo will get the trailer ready to haul away debris. The morning-after crew (Bob Webster, Kit Tyler, John and Margaret) will "walk the grid" with our rakes and trash bags to collect any remaining debris the fireworks company could not see in the dark or missed. Please help us keep the launch area safe by finding an alternate route for your walk or ride Saturday. Barricades will be erected to close the road between 230 and 256 West Clear Lake Drive to all traffic – motorized vehicles, bicycles AND pedestrians – from 9:00 Saturday morning until Sunday morning. We appreciate your cooperation for the safety of everyone.



Unfortunately, the Boater Safety Class that was to be held in June was cancelled by the DNR, which presents the day-long session. The DNR is short of staff currently and there were not enough who registered online to meet their minimum number of participants. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused. However, anyone can take the class online by visiting their website: [www.in.gov/dnr/education](http://www.in.gov/dnr/education)



Thanks to all of you who have sent in your checks to support the Clear Lake Association for 2021. Our treasurer George McCracken tells us membership is up significantly from last year and that is wonderful news! Your donations, in addition to membership dues, are also appreciated, because the Association could not fund Clear Lake activities such as the fireworks, buoy project and outreach to the community without these extra contributions. If you have not yet sent in your check, it is not too late. A **Membership Form** is available for printing on **page 9** of this newsletter. All who join CLA will receive the 2021 red CLA sticker. (Please allow a couple weeks for mailing and processing after you send your check.)



As you cruise around the lake, you'll notice that most of the shore is now defined by a consistent line of highly-visible, round yellow buoys. This project to help make the lake safer for both swimmers and boaters has been a huge effort and is still a "work-in-progress." As Todd Rumsey, Buoy Project Manager, has stated "there's been a real learning curve." Please be patient as they continue to work through this process with the DNR. (Check out the **Buoy Project update on page 4.**) Thank you, Todd, and all the other volunteers for all your hard work, time and effort.

Finally, please mark your calendar to attend the Clear Lake Association Annual Meeting, scheduled for **Saturday, July 10, 10:00 am** at Town Hall. There will be coffee and donuts! Remember this is your Association and we welcome you to come hear about what the board has been doing to protect and enhance the Clear Lake community, as well as offer your input.

Margaret Carlson, Clear Lake Association President  
[president@clearlakeassociation.org](mailto:president@clearlakeassociation.org)

CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION 2021 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS		
Margaret Carlson, President	George McCracken, Sec./Treas.	Beth McCracken, Recording Sec.
Rita Brown	Mandy Gleave	Scott Lazur
Bruce Moody	Barbara Rumsey	Kit Tyler
Bob Webster	John Wilhelm	Bridget Harrison, Ex-officio Director



CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL  
**FIREWORKS!**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 3, 10:00 PM**

(Rain date: Sunday, July 4)

Please note: For the safety of all, 230-256 West Clear Lake Drive  
**will be closed to ALL traffic Saturday, July 3, after 9:00 am!**



Cars, golf carts, bicycles, AND pedestrians: please use an alternate route, such as Penner Drive, that day.  
Thank you for your cooperation.

We also just received word that local radio station WLKI (100.3 FM) will be broadcasting a **patriotic music** medley from **9:30 – 10:00 pm, July 3.** We can tune in and listen while awaiting our fireworks. WLKI will be including Clear Lake in their announcement of the medley.

**THIS & THAT AROUND CLEAR LAKE**

**Clear Lake Lions Club** will again be offering barbecue chicken for the holiday weekend. Place your order by **Friday, July 2, 9:00 pm**, by contacting Sheila Bradley ([sheilaebadley@gmail.com](mailto:sheilaebadley@gmail.com) or 260-495-9458) The cost of a chicken half this year is \$7.00. Orders are cooked on site and will be available for pick up at the Pavilion at Clear Lake Lutheran Church, 270 Outer Drive, Saturday July 3, between 8:30 – 11:00 am.





**Yackey Yak** meets the second Thursday of each month in the Pavilion at 270 Outer Drive. It's a gathering of ladies who like to visit with old friends, make new friends and catch up on lake happenings. The next meeting will be **Thursday, July 8, 9:30 am**. All women of Clear/Round Lake are invited. Please bring your own beverage; donuts will be provided. If you have questions, please contact Kris Gartner. [kriessgartner@gmail.com](mailto:kriessgartner@gmail.com)

**Clear Lake Lutheran Church** has announced **guest musicians for summer outdoor worship**. All services will be held at **9:00 am in the Pavilion**, next to the playground, at 270 Outer Drive. Golf carts are welcome or seating is available on benches under roof or chairs in the grass. In case of inclement weather, services will be held indoors at the church. Pastor Jeff Corder welcomes everyone in the community and visiting guests.

- **July 4** will feature soprano soloist Stephanie Carlson, who has sung with Ft. Wayne Philharmonic on numerous occasions. She will lead the singing of patriotic songs as well as provide inspiring solos.
- **August 1** Michigan bagpiper Donald Ross will return with his vintage pipes and family tartan. His entrance from the woods, while playing *Amazing Grace*, will be memorable.
- **Kasota Island** will be the setting for **August 15** service. (Note: **10:00 am** for this Sunday only.) Chere'Pepper, local soloist and guitarist, will provide special music for the island setting. Bring your chairs or blanket onto the island or stay on your boat, but come welcome back this summer tradition.
- **September 5 (Labor Day week end)** End the summer season with worship that will include lovely music provided by recent Indiana University Music School graduate Katharine Burris.



## Clear Lake Provides Setting for Author

Jackie Keiser tells us that **a recently-published book** was written last year in their cottage at 934 South Clear Lake Drive. Christian author Jodie Ballenger from Ft. Wayne found the peaceful environment of fall and winter at the lake to be the perfect setting to pen her life story *Beautifully Unbroken: The Prostitute's Daughter*. The book may be purchased through Amazon or contact Jackie, who has a few copies available at CLYC on Saturday mornings.

## Free Little Library Refreshed



Thanks to an anonymous "Book Fairy", the outdoor library next to Town Hall has been cleaned, books sorted and is ready for another season of readers. Clear Lake Association was granted a charter from the Little Free Library Project in 2013 and then proceeded to build the structure, which holds twelve shelves of books. Adult fiction and non-fiction, as well as children's books, are available for all lake residents and visitors to borrow at their convenience. Notice this year we've provided a wooden stick to prop open the glass doors.

At this time, we are not taking additional book donations since the Little Library is currently full. If you have any questions, please contact CLA Board Member, Rita Brown. ([gogosglass@gmail.com](mailto:gogosglass@gmail.com))

## **GALS & GUYS, PLEASE BE PATIENT WITH OUR BUOYS**

The buoys have been in place for nearly two months and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. There are obviously a few areas of the lake where the buoys do not meet all of our needs. A petition with the Indiana Natural Resource Commission has been submitted requesting specific Indiana Administrative Code waivers to address our needs that are unique to Clear Lake. Your patience through this very deliberate and important process is necessary for a successful ruling by the Commission. Please remember that the buoys, old and new, are property of the Clear Lake Association. **Please do not move, remove or deface the YELLOW buoys.** Proper and lawful placement of the new buoys helps to demonstrate to the Commission the areas that are most in need of the aforementioned waiver.

Please also remember that operating boats above idle speed and those persons being towed should remain greater than 200 feet from shore. Appropriately placed buoys mark 150 feet for your reference. We are very well aware of all the buoy issues. Please let the process work to the favor of Clear Lake. The Clear Lake Association thanks you for your helpful comments and commitment to safety on "our" lake.

## **JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> HOLIDAY FAMILY TRADITIONS**

A couple weeks ago we posted on the CL Bulletin Board a request to tell us about your 4<sup>th</sup> of July family traditions. Thanks to those of you who shared some little things that make holidays at the lake special.



Tom and Susie Snyder (pictured at left), 740 S. Clear Lake Drive, make Root Beer Floats every holiday. Notice even the red, white and blue straws are patriotic!

Bob and Beth Martin said their grandkids love to come up to their cottage at 796 S. Clear Lake Drive for the holiday. Every year they look forward to decorating their golf cart to drive in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade.

Rumseys, 432 Point Park Drive, always have a Low Boil for the holiday celebration. Barbara said it's their tradition, complete with newspaper, butter and all the fixin's!!!

Sometimes the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday "boils" down to just *survival* says Cathy Johnston. The kids, grandkids and ALL THE DOGS come to their 958 S. CL Dr. home and that's great. However...several days of fireworks wake the babies (because there's always one sleeping) and the dogs panic, bark and run. She and Rick laugh and cope and love 'em all.

When the McCrackens moved from S. Clear Lake Drive to Round Lake four years ago, little did they realize how much their Clan would enjoy fireworks from their lawn. After steaks on the grill and games of Corn Hole, The 'Bama Fam, The Jersey Macs, The Florida Sunshine, The Georgia Peaches and The Lone Buckeye settle in with front-row seats for the holiday tradition. If you count George and Beth as the Happy Hoosiers, they represent six states that still love to celebrate 4<sup>th</sup> of July at the lake.

## **HAVE YOU RECENTLY....**

~ Moved from your permanent postal address? *OR*

~ Changed your email address?

In order to receive updates from the Town of Clear Lake and the CLA, we need your current contact information. If you send updates to Brenda Eby, Town Clerk ([billing@townofclearlake.org](mailto:billing@townofclearlake.org)), she will make sure the Association gets the necessary information for communication. You may also email CLA Membership Chairperson Rita Brown with updates. ([gogosglass@gmail.com](mailto:gogosglass@gmail.com)) Thank you.





## News from the Town of Clear Lake

### THINGS TO KNOW...

- Clear Lake Town Hall is open **Monday thru Friday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm.** (260-495-9158)
- The Town of Clear Lake posts news on the [clearlakefun.org](http://clearlakefun.org) Bulletin Board.
- Be sure to visit the town website on a regular basis to get the latest updates. [townofclearlake.org](http://townofclearlake.org)  
On the town website you will also find:
  - ~ Golf cart registration and rules (must be renewed every other year)
  - ~ Heavy trash and recycle pick-up guidelines
  - ~ Parking regulations
  - ~ Proposed changes of the UDO.
- **FREE 2021 Clear Lake Directories** are available for pick up at the Town Hall, both inside, during office hours, and anytime outside in the Little Library.
- Please note that forms and non-objection letters generated by all TOCL departments **need a 48-hour** notice. We do our best to be prompt, but some days are busier than others.



*If you or your guests have dog(s),  
please remember...*

- **Always keep your dogs on a leash or confined.**
- **Clean up after them.**

*Thank you for being a Good Neighbor!*



### Some “Trash Talk”

1. **Heavy Trash Pick Up is scheduled for Monday July 5.** Please have your items curbside by Sunday evening. **Regular trash and Recycle pickup also be July 5.**
2. **Please pull your trash cans 3-5' away** from the surface of the road. If you cannot be here to do this, please make arrangements with someone who can. Trash cans sitting at the edge of the road create a hazard for all using the street.

### From the Plan Commission

**It only takes a few minutes** to share a new project you are considering with the Zoning Administrator avoiding post-construction fees. Generally, the town requires an Improvement Location Permit (ILP) for decks, fences, sheds, generators, concrete work, pergolas, new structures, and other projects involving modifications to

existing structures or driveways. The TOCL Zoning Administrator is available by appointment only. Please call Bonnie (260-243-6701) or email [zoning@townofclearlake.org](mailto:zoning@townofclearlake.org). to schedule a meeting.

The Plan Commission (PC) has worked steadily this past year in preparing the needed proposed changes to our Unified Development Ordinances (UDO). On May 3, 2021, PC voted to approve these proposed changes for public viewing. This document is on our website @ [townofclearlake.org](http://townofclearlake.org). The public will have the opportunity to view these proposed changes online until PC meets on **August 2, 2021**, for public comments. PC welcomes your input. Please read through the proposed changes and plan to attend the August meeting.

## From the Street and Sewer Department



Please note that our streets must be always kept clear to facilitate emergency vehicles and for the safety of all pedestrians, bikers, and vehicles. **PLEASE make sure lawn crews, construction crews, deliveries, etc. park off the street.** No one likes their lawn driven on to get around a standing vehicle. If we take care of each other, we have a safe and friendly place to live.

### If you have a generator...

Do you know that when your generator kicks on during a power outage your sewer grinder is not “live”? Dumping our wastewater into an inactive grinder will result in a grinder failure (and backs up into your home!) that will require a grinder replacement. Additionally, this NIPSCO live-electric-feed makes repairing your grinder extremely dangerous. There are nearly 400 grinders around Clear Lake that need this electric feed rerouted.

**What can you do?** Convert the live wire from the NIPSCO pole to a live wire running from your home with an exterior shut-off. This process can be performed by a TOCL-recommended electrician. TOCL strongly urges you to consider this step so you may have full use of your home when the generator kicks on. Going forward, all new generator installations will require this step. Details can be found on the TOCL website Zoning Administrator page: Grinder Application.

**Please do not plant near your grinder.** Although it is tempting, planting within 5 feet of your grinder is not allowed. Perennials and annuals are tolerated but please know they will be damaged should a repair be required. The town must have a 10-foot diameter clear area around and 7-foot above to replace your grinder. Several grinders are replaced every month, so every site that the work crew has to struggle with these plantings, extra time and effort is required.



## MARSHAL'S REPORT

Summer is upon us again and there are a few things I would like to address. First of which is the ordinance pertaining to fireworks at the Town of Clear Lake. The ordinance is as follows:

### **94.02 CONSUMER USE OF FIREWORKS.**

No person within the corporate boundaries of the town shall use or display or permit **to be used** or displayed any type of consumer fireworks on any other day or time **other than the following**:

(*Dates/times in red are when fireworks are allowed to celebrate 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday.*)

- (A) **June 29, June 30, July 1, July 2, July 3, July 5, July 6, July 7, July 8, July 9:**  
**between the hours of 1:00 p.m. to two hours after sunset.**
- (B) **July 4 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight.**

- (C) Memorial Day between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
- (D) Labor Day between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
- (E) Between the hours of 10:00 a.m. on December 31 and 1:00 a.m. on January 1; and
- (F) No other date or time is permitted for consumer use of fireworks.



#### CONSUMER FIREWORKS include:

- (1) Aerial devices, which include, but are not limited to, skyrockets, missile type rockets, helicopter or aerial spinners, roman candles, mines, and shells.
- (2) Ground audible devices, which include, but are not limited to, firecrackers, salutes, and chasers; and
- (3) Firework devices containing combinations of the effects described in divisions (1) and (2) of this definition.

For the most part, there have been very few violations of the ordinance reported to the police department. However, as we live near each other, please consider your neighbors when lighting off fireworks.

As our community fills with the warmer weather, increased traffic will come right along with it. The posted 25 mph speed limit is just that, a limit. There are many places throughout our community where **25 mph may be too fast** when pedestrian and bicycle traffic is heavy. Please be aware of these areas and allow the lake life to slow you down and relax. If you are walking around the lake, **walk facing oncoming traffic**. Bicyclists should ride with traffic and obey traffic laws.

**Please Stay Safe on the Water!** Life jackets are at the core of safe boating, whether using a motorized or non-motorized vessel. Good swimmers still need life jackets. When people fall off a boat, they may become disoriented, injured, or unconscious. Life jackets can keep victims' heads above water so they can breathe and be rescued more easily. Every child should always wear a life jacket when boating.



As we get further in to summer, we would like to remind everyone to watch for suspicious activity and report it immediately. It does make a difference and keeps Clear Lake a safe place to live.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy summer.

Chris Emerick  
Clear Lake Town Marshal

#### **FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP LAND CONSERVANCY**

Summer is typically the most active time of the year for the Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy. 2021 is holding true to the norm as you'll read in the highlights below! I am delighted to announce that **Elizabeth Strick** has joined us on a part time basis as Land Steward to support our land and water quality protection work. Say hello as you see her on our preserves.

Join us for a different sort of event this summer! **Clear and Healthy** is a virtual event to engage us in wellness activities and fun! Join your favorite team and participate to win weekly prizes. The month-long event kicks off on **Monday, June 28**. More details here: <https://www.kilterrewards.com/events/clear-and-healthy>



The final phase of the **Kasota Island Landscape Project** was completed. You'll notice more trees and plants! Many thanks to the 17 community members who chipped in for the annual cleanup earlier this month. This property is by far the most frequently visited Nature Preserve owned by the Conservancy. We invite you to help us keep it beautiful for all to enjoy!

Photo at left: Volunteers are shown cleaning up Kasota Island. Make plans to join us next June for our annual clean-up day.

Members of the FIST (Forever Improving Steuben County Together) youth group and Conservancy friends came together to complete the **trail in Brennan Woods**! We invite you to enjoy a hike in the preserve on the fully-finished trail loop. Mark your calendars for a grand opening celebration on **Sunday, July 25 at 11:00 am**. Join us to celebrate the many volunteers and supporters who made this project possible!

Photo at right: Bruce Matasick, Bob Webster, Bob Martin, and Dave Drogos are beaming at the completion of the trail in Brennan Woods.



A full line up of **Knee-high Naturalist** programs are planned **every Friday in July**. Join us to learn about cicadas, mushrooms, mason bees and enjoy a family yoga session and a fishing outing! We know it is mission critical to introduce our youngest generation to the joys and wonders of nature. We hope to see you there! RSVP through our website.

The Conservancy's mission is to preserve and protect the natural beauty we all enjoy in and around the Clear Lake Township and Watershed. We all benefit, including generations to come. We need and value your support and appreciate the many partnerships we have throughout the community as we work together to achieve this mission.

Happy Summer!



Bridget Harrison  
Executive Director  
[Clearlakeconservancy.org](http://Clearlakeconservancy.org)



**Clear Lake Association**  
**Annual Membership Registration**  
**2021**

Please complete the Registration Form below and send it with your check to:

**Clear Lake Association**  
**P.O. Box 38**  
**Fremont, IN 46737**

*(Sorry, but checks cannot be dropped off at Town Hall.)*

Thank you for your investment in our community!



**2021 CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION**

(Please PRINT clearly.)

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

LAKE ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**CLA Annual Membership Dues**                            \$ 30.00

**Optional Donations:**

Fireworks Display    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Buoy Project    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Community Activities                                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Annual membership contributions to The Clear Lake Association provide funding for the publication and distribution of this Newsletter. The purpose of this publication is to communicate activities of the Clear Lake Association, the Town of Clear Lake, and other Clear Lake organizations to all property owners. If you would like to receive CLA Newsletter, please send your email address to Rita Brown ([gogosglass@gmail.com](mailto:gogosglass@gmail.com)). Thank you.

Beth McCracken, Editor ([bmccracken404@gmail.com](mailto:bmccracken404@gmail.com))