



# **CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION**

## **Spring 2019 Newsletter**

### **THE CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION: MORE THAN FIREWORKS**

Spring has finally sprung at Clear Lake (maybe.) The grass is green; the lake is open and docks are going in. I even saw a wakeboarder this past Sunday. So it's time for our spring newsletter for the Clear Lake Association. The Clear Lake Association is an organization best known for putting on the fireworks display to honor the Fourth of July Holiday (fireworks this year are Friday, July 5), but it's important for all of the residents of Clear Lake to know that there is much more to this civic organization that represents the entire Clear Lake community in a number of ways.

Those of you who have visited the **new CLA website** at [clearlakeindiana.org/association](http://clearlakeindiana.org/association) will see the list of directors who serve to support the residents of Clear Lake. You will see our mission statement: "to maintain and support projects that benefit the Clear Lake Community and to inform and represent the Association members in regard to proposals and projects that impact them." We support these activities to assist this mission:



- Sponsor projects that add value to the Clear Lake Community
- Initiate activities that will provide additional benefits to the Clear Lake Community
- Support and encourage organizations that are important to a viable Clear Lake Community
- Inform the Association members about the deliberations and actions of the Clear Lake Town Council and its boards
- Represent Clear Lake on the Steuben County Lakes Council and support its efforts to preserve the ecology of the lakes

One of our first projects for the summer of 2019 will be the **Boater Safety Class** on June 8. (Information about this program can be found on pages 2-3 in this newsletter.) **Water quality** is an extremely important concern of our residents and we represent Clear Lake on the Steuben County Lakes Council and on the county water quality council. In addition, the Association provides **financial support** to a number of organizations throughout the area. These include the Fremont Fire Department, the Clear Lake Ski Club, the Conservancy and others.

We are fortunate to have huge support from the residents of Clear Lake and continue to work to increase our membership every year. Our goal, of course, is to have 100% of the residents of Clear Lake become CLA members. You will be receiving your **Membership Letter** in the mail shortly with information about how you may submit your membership application to the Clear Lake Association. We look forward to hearing from you. For more information about projects and meetings of the Association, please visit the website at [clearlakeindiana.org/association](http://clearlakeindiana.org/association). You may also contact us by email at [president@clearlakeassociation.org](mailto:president@clearlakeassociation.org).

We welcome you to Clear Lake Summer, 2019!

Kit Tyler, Clear Lake Association, President

## **YOUR CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION**



Next time you visit [clearlakefun.org](http://clearlakefun.org) website, be sure to check out the “new and improved” **ASSOCIATION** link. (also available at [clearlakeindiana.org/association](http://clearlakeindiana.org/association)) It explains what the Clear Lake Association is, who makes up the Board, and details for Association-supported community activities like the **July 5 Holiday Fireworks** and **June 8 Boater Safety Class**. Thanks to Bob Webster and Rick Eckert for their time and effort to update the Association website.

## **FIREWORKS SET FOR FRIDAY, JULY 5**

The impressive fireworks display we all enjoyed last summer will return bigger and better! Mark your calendars and tell your family and friends the scheduled date is **Friday, July 5**, at dusk, with rain date Saturday, July 6. This annual lake tradition is financed through your Clear Lake Association membership dues and donations. Please watch the mail for your Membership Letter or you can print, clip and mail the member registration form on the last page of this newsletter. Our appreciation goes to Fremont Fire Chief Eric Hufnagle and his firefighters for “stand-by” safety, the CLA Board members who help with “morning-after” clean up, and Bonnie & Don’s Property Management Solutions who haul away the debris.



## **BOATER SAFETY CLASS JUNE 8**

When was the last time you reviewed Indiana Boating Laws/Regulations? If you’re like many of us, it’s probably been awhile. The Clear Lake Association hosts a boating class geared for kids each June, which is hugely popular and a convenient way for young boaters to become certified safe boating operators. There is also an easy and convenient way for more seasoned boat operators to review boating safety rules and responsibilities online at [www.boat-ed.com/in](http://www.boat-ed.com/in). Try it – you’ll like it.



Even if you know the more general “rules of the road,” rules about some areas (for example, navigation lights, after-sunset boat operation, visual distress signals, or requirements for towing skiers) may not be as familiar. Plus, rules change. You can check out new boating laws at [www.in.gov/dnr](http://www.in.gov/dnr). It is also helpful to keep a copy of *The Handbook of Indiana Boating Laws and Responsibilities* at your cottage for easy reference, not only for yourself, but also for your guests and/or renters. Check out [www.boat-ed.com/in](http://www.boat-ed.com/in) website to order a copy.

Whether you have been a boater for years and just want to refresh your water safety knowledge or you have a future boater among your family and friends, here is a chance for a **FREE** Boater Safety Class Saturday, **June 8, 8:00 am-3:00 pm**. The session will be conducted by Jim Kidd of the Indiana Department of Natural

Resources. Snacks, beverages and a pizza lunch will be also be provided free of charge by The Clear Lake Association. Attendees who successfully complete the course will receive Boater Safety Certificates.

To register, go to: [www.register-ed.com/programs/indiana/104-indiana.../agency:25](http://www.register-ed.com/programs/indiana/104-indiana.../agency:25)

Boating is one of the best summer activities on Clear Lake, but it can remain one of the best activities **only** if it is done safely and respectfully. Do your part – know the rules.

### **IT'S BUOY TIME!**

It's buoy time! That means it's time to, once again, enjoy all that Clear Lake has to offer. The placement of buoys to alert boaters to swimming areas/ no wake zones around the lake is an important part of keeping Clear Lakers safe.



Through your Clear Lake Association dues/donations, and in cooperation with the Town of Clear Lake, Clear Lake residents are provided with buoys and lengths of chain at no cost. All you have to do is call the friendly folks at the Town Hall (260-495-9158) to request a buoy and give them your lake address. They will arrange for a buoy with your house number on it and an appropriate length chain to be delivered right to your door. Residents should **place the buoy 200 feet from the shore**. (It used to be 300 feet, but that has changed.) It is each resident's responsibility to also remove their buoy from the lake at the end of summer. If you have a buoy that is damaged and needs to be replaced, contact Town Hall. If you no longer need your buoy, please return it to Town Hall or request that it be picked up.

### ***News From Around the Town of Clear Lake...***

- The Clear Lake Town Council meetings are on the second Monday of each month.
- The Clear Lake Plan Commission meetings are on the first Monday of February, May, August, November.
- The Clear Lake Board of Zoning Appeals meetings are on the third Monday of February, April, June, August, October and December.
- Trash Pickup is on Mondays unless otherwise noted. Go to [clearlakefun.org](http://clearlakefun.org) and click on TOWN, then CALENDAR for recycling pick up and leaf collection dates.

⇒ **Please note:** If you have made any changes in your postal or email addresses or phone number(s), contact Brenda Eby, Utility Clerk ([billing@townofclearlake.org](mailto:billing@townofclearlake.org)) or complete the form available on town website.

⇒ Town Council Member Bonnie Brown encourages everyone to visit the new town website. It is still “under construction” but parts of it are up and running. Stay tuned!

Clear Lake Town Hall  
111 Gecowets Drive

Walk-in Hours: Noon-4:00 pm, Monday thru Friday  
or by appointment. Call 260-495-9158 or  
visit [www.townofclearlake.org](http://www.townofclearlake.org)

## MARSHAL'S REPORT

Welcome home! The Clear Lake Police Department is glad to see everyone back and we are looking forward to safe and fun summer.



We at the Clear Lake Police Department want to remind all of our residents of an easy phrase: *If you see something, say something*. If you see suspicious activity or something that just doesn't look right, we encourage you to contact us immediately at our dispatch number (**260-665-3131**) or 911 in the event of an emergency. We need the help of all our residents to keep a safe and secure community. Property crimes in our community have been very low over the winter months but we still encourage our residents to be vigilant and diligent in locking doors and windows, both in your residence and in your vehicles.

We also wish to extend a friendly reminder to check your **golf cart registrations** for the expiration date. Renewal is quick, easy, and can be completed at the Town Hall. If you have a new cart for registration, simply stop by the Town Hall and we will schedule a time to have an officer come out and complete your registration and inspection.

Lastly, 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. You will notice something new recently added to assist in maintaining safe traffic speeds. The Town of Clear Lake and the Marshal's Office reviewed options to reduce vehicular speed around the lake, and the Town decided to purchase two, speed-radar signs. The LED signs show motorists their speed as they come toward the sign. If they are going over the speed limit posted below the sign, it lights up **red** with the vehicle's speed. If the motorist is under the limit, it lights up **green** and there is a "thank you," below the vehicle's speed. The goal of the program is all about community safety and that people really need to keep their speed in mind. *Allow the Lake Life to slow you down and relax!*



Chris Emerick, Clear Lake Town Marshal

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

Happy spring! We are eager to be outside with the onset of warmer weather and sunshine. The Conservancy stayed busy through the winter. The Board of Directors updated the Strategic Plan, which can be found on our website ([clearlakeconservancy.org](http://clearlakeconservancy.org)), and planning has begun for **SummerFest 2019 on June 22** at the Clear Lake Yacht Club. Please join us for a fun community gathering on June 22<sup>nd</sup> benefitting the Conservancy!



Mark your calendars for **each Friday in July**, 10:00 am - 11:30am, for our **Knee-high Naturalists** program this year. The first session will be at Memorial Woods with our feathered friends from Soarin' Hawk! (Memorial Park is the grassy, wooded preserve between Point Park Drive and East Clear Lake Drive.) The following sessions will be at the Clear Lake Yacht Club, 188 West Clear Lake Drive, and will include "Build a Bat House", "Pollinator Playtime", and "Drawing on the Edge of Clear Lake." Details can be found on our website.



The Conservancy is planning at least **three educational events** for the Clear Lake Township Community this summer. The first is a presentation co-sponsored with the Town of Clear Lake by Professor Jeremy Rentz of Trine about proposals impacting the Michindoh Aquifer. Join us Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm, at the Clear Lake Yacht Club. Other educational events will be on Solar Power on July 17<sup>th</sup> and on Light Pollution / Dark Skies on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. We hope you can join us! More details to follow.

The **Kasota Island Restoration Project** will continue as the warm weather sets in. Work will begin this spring on the plant installation along the glacial stone seawall and encapsulated soil lifts installed last fall on the east shore. Temporary fencing will be placed around the shoreline to help protect the plants from wave energy and waterfowl. The temporary fencing will remain in place through the summer season. The temporary fencing along the north, west, and south shore will be removed as weather permits. Project updates can be found at <https://clearlakeconservancy.org/news/kasota-island-restoration-project-updates>.

As a reminder, if you are planning a special event or overnight stay on Kasota Island please call our office (260-316-1397). **Help us keep Kasota Island Nature Preserve clean and safe** for all to enjoy this summer! While on the island, please observe these important guidelines and remind guests and visitors to help keep our island clean.



- Keep dogs leashed and clean up after your pet.
- Leave the plants and rocks at the island.
- Do not have fires outside of the designated locations.
- Refrain from bringing glass ashore.
- Take your trash with you after visiting the island.

Our annual Board of Directors meeting will be on **Friday, July 26 at 4:00 pm** at Town Hall. We look forward to this opportunity to hear from you.



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

## **Spring INTO ACTION!**

Welcome Spring! Each year we at the Conservancy share ways to prepare for the summer season in our beautiful community. We will continue our “clear” legacy only if we become a total “Community of Stewards” as we all do our individual part to contribute to the health of our waters.

If you choose to fertilize your lawn and do an early spring application, please remember:

- **Use only phosphorus-free materials.** The middle number on the bag indicates the amount of phosphorus. This number should be zero.
- If you use a lawn service, please remember to request a phosphorus-free fertilizer application.
- Be sure to leave an unfertilized strip of lawn along the lake edge as a buffer.
- Consider testing your lawn before applying fertilizer to determine what chemicals are needed.



**Of all the minerals and elements that feed into our waterways, phosphorus is the factor most responsible for accelerating algae and weed growth.**

**Other Tips for Early Spring Clean Up:**

1. Clean up your pet’s waste. Dog poop does not serve as a free fertilizer and it can affect our waterways.
2. Keep leaves, grass, and other yard waste out of the lake and the wetlands/swamps/channels around the lake. They are the “kidneys” of our lakes and help filter incoming water.
3. The Clear Lake Marina will dispose of old motor oil. Call for more details (260-495-4915).
4. Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District (NISWMD) can take care of almost any disposal need including the many sticks and branches down from the windy weather. See [www.niswmd.org](http://www.niswmd.org) for locations and hours.
5. Consider installing natural glacial rock at your water's edge to break up wave action and capture suspended sediments.

Let's make it our goal this year to become a “Community of Stewards.” It is time once again to.....

***Spring Into Action.***

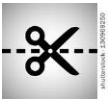
*Annual membership contributions to The Clear Lake Association provide funding for the publication and distribution of this Newsletter. The purpose of this publication is to communicate activities of Clear Lake Association, the Town government and other Clear Lake organizations to all property owners. If you would like to receive CLA Newsletter, please send your email address to: [bonniedon1@gmail.com](mailto:bonniedon1@gmail.com). Thank you. Beth McCracken, Editor*



***Clear Lake Association***  
***Annual Membership Registration***  
***2019-2020***

Please complete this Registration Form, detach and send it with your check to the address listed below. Thank you for your investment in our Clear Lake community.

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



**2019-2020 CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION (Due June 1)**

*(Please **print clearly** so we have your correct email to send the CLA Newsletter. Thank you.)*

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

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

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

CLA Annual Membership Dues	\$ <u>      30.00</u>
Fireworks Display Donation	\$ _____
Additional Donation for Community Activities	\$ _____
Total	\$ <u>                    </u>