



Clear Lake

NEWS

January-March 2006

Greetings

Hi Lakers,

On behalf of the Clear lake Association, I wish you and yours a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. As President of the Association, I would like to thank you for your support of the Association and its activities. I am a "nonresident" president but one who has enjoyed Clear Lake for many years. I know the Association will continue to be guided by its mission statement and bring benefit to ALL who enjoy life at Clear Lake.

My husband and I spent New Years at Clear Lake enjoying the lights twinkling off of the lake. The light snow cover and open water of the lake made us question the time of the year. We know that winter is yet to come...with lots of snow and safe ice travel on the lake.

The board members of the Association will be meeting soon to plan projects for 2006, addressing issues of Clear Lake and to share information of interest to Clear Lake property owners. To encourage your comments, questions or concerns for our board meeting discussions, I have included my email address and my telephone number. Please send me your feedback or write to me c/o the Association at P. O. Box 38, Fremont IN 46737.

Mary Lee Gecowets, President
jgexvp@aol.com
937-653-7298



Town Council 2005 review

The Town Council would like to take the opportunity to thank the citizens of Clear Lake for their patience and support during 2005. It was a year of learning for us and also a year of progress for the Town.

In January the Town Council hired Robert Hull, former town manager of Fremont, as the Town Superintendent. Mr. Hull's expertise assisted your Town Council in many ways and his efforts have benefited us all.

The vast majority of homes and cottages were connected to the sanitary sewer system during the year. Only about six properties (out of approximately 600) remain to be connected to the system and the Town is taking steps to require full compliance with our sewer ordinance. After an initial glitch with the sewer pump station over the July 4th holiday, the town experienced minimal problems and we are happy to report that our sewage flow to the Town of Fremont has been well within our contractual allotment. The sewer moratorium for new hook-ups was lifted at the November council meeting and an application procedure is now in place. Additional information of applying for a new connection can be obtained by contacting Bob Hull at the Town Hall.

Over two miles of town streets were resurfaced in 2005 and the potholes in the town were all filled. The Town has budgeted for an additional two miles of street resurfacing in 2006. Superintendent Hull, along with Drodzik Engineering, Inc., has initiated a study of street drains and catch basins around the lake and will develop a strategy to increase water drainage in 2006.

As most residents are aware, in 2005 the Town negotiated a favorable multi-year contract with Tri-State Waste Services of Bryan, Ohio. The contract enabled the Town to keep the yearly cost to residents at the same level as 2004. Weekly collection of garbage is scheduled for pick-up on Monday and monthly collection of recyclables is the 1st Monday of each month. Spring and fall unlimited pickup for heavy items

are also in the contract. See your Town Directory for scheduled pick-up dates. Concerns or complaints regarding garbage pick-up can be directed to Tri-State at their toll-free phone number (800) 589-7852 to (419) 636-2272 or you may contact the Clear Lake Town Hall at (260) 495-9158 regarding service.

The Fremont Fire Department contract continues to provide emergency medical response, fire fighting, and rescue operations to the Town of Clear Lake. The department became a part of the Town of Fremont government in 2005 and hopes to add full-time personnel in 2006. This will result in lowering response time to emergencies as well as fund needed and necessary fire equipment.

M & C Trenching is contracted for snow removal in the Town for 2005/2006 and has done an admirable job. Town streets were cleared much more quickly than state and county roadways during our December snowstorms. A huge "thank-you" goes out to Mike Stuckey and his crews!

In 2005 the Town connected our three weather emergency sirens to the Steuben County warning system. The sirens will now be activated by the County's 9-1-1 system. In addition, a remote activation system has been installed in the Town Marshal's vehicle.

The Clear Lake Association's generous contribution to the Town to purchase swim buoys continued in 2005. To provide adequate protection to all lake users, it is the goal of the Town to provide cottage owners with buoys to be placed at 300-foot intervals around the lake. The Town Marshal completed a survey of buoy locations in 2005 and found that some areas around the lake are lacking adequate buoys while others are at intervals closer than recommended. The Marshal also reports that some buoys were located beyond the 200-foot limit from shore that state law prescribes. If you would like a swim buoy to place in front of your cottage and no neighbor has one closer than 300 feet, please contact the Town Marshal.

In 2005 Council President Jack McArdle appointed an ordinance review committee to examine existing ordinances and to make recommendations for needed changes to the Clear Lake Plan Commission. Several ordinance

revisions were recommended. The committee will continue its work in 2006.

The codified ordinances of Town of Clear Lake have not been updated since 2003 and changes in ordinances that have occurred since then have been submitted to the publisher for re-codification.

The Town Council continues to pursue construction plans for the new town hall. The town is negotiating the purchase of a suitable site and, when that is completed, plans to begin construction as soon as possible.

Several groups and individuals recommended an examination and possible update to the Town of Clear Lake's Comprehensive Master Plan that was compiled in the mid to late 1960's. On January 5, 2006 representatives from the Clear Lake Conservancy, Plan Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Clear Lake Association, a former Council President, and several interested citizens met with the Town Superintendent and representatives of Region III-A Economic Development District & Regional Planning to discuss the need for such a plan. The representatives at the meeting unanimously agreed that the Town examines alternatives for developing such a plan. Region III-A will submit the proposal to the Town Council at its February monthly meeting.

Town Attorney Donald Stuckey submitted his resignation to Town Council effective Dec. 31, 2005 citing an increasing workload from other clients. Mr. Stuckey served the Town for over five-years and has done a very credible job of representing us. The Town Council is actively searching for his replacement.

The Clear Lake Town Council wishes you a happy and prosperous New Year.



Clear Lake Association

The board members of the Association will be reviewing the "objectives" of the Clear Lake Association and welcome your input. The Association Mission Statement is:

The mission of the Clear Lake Association is to initiate and support projects that benefit the Clear Lake community and to inform and

represent the association members in regard to proposals and activities that impact them.

This mission statement guides our objectives which are:

1. To maintain projects that adds value to the Clear Lake community. These include the fireworks display, donations to the town to purchase and maintain swim buoys, Canada geese removal and control, financial aid to the Lions Club 5k/10k race, directional road signs and roadside cleanups.
2. To support and/or encourage organizations that is important to a viable Clear Lake community. These include, but are not limited to the Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy, Fremont Fire Department, Ski Club and Lions Club.
3. To inform the Association members about the deliberations and actions of the Clear Lake Town Council, its boards and employees through the Clear lake News, the Association annual meeting and other communications.
4. To represent Clear Lake on the Steuben County Lakes Council and support this organizations efforts to preserve the ecology of our lakes and waterways.
5. To initiate new activities that will provide additional benefits to the Clear Lake community.

The Clear Lake Association is actively soliciting your ideas for new ways to enhance the quality of life, and continue the traditions of the past for all Clear Lake property owners.

Please contact any of the Association board members with your ideas. The board members for 2005-2006 are:

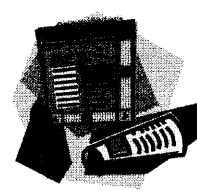
- Greg Brown 495-2278
brownny@locl.net
- Steve Foley 495-9739
Steve.Foley@Infarmbureau.com
- Jon & Mary Jo Fitzenrider 495-4180
Mjfitzenri@aol.com
- Jim Lowry 495-9111
jlowry@bsu.edu

- Bob Troll 495-5152
judybobtroll@aol.com
- Bob Bruick 495-5515
rmbuick@verizon.net
- Bill Zeller 419-633-3333
bryancitymotors@hotmail.com
- Ellen Newcomer 847-733-8738
ecnewcomer@hotmail.com

Ex-officio:

- Bob Lewis 260-490-3504
statefarmbob@comcast.net
- Larry Armstrong 495-3121
armstronglarry_kay@msn.com

Town officials are listed in the front of the directory and emails can be sent utilizing the town website www.townofclearlake.org and clicking on Contact Us to send an *Easy Message*.



Clear Lake Website

The Town of Clear Lake's official website www.townofclearlake.org contains information pertaining to the Town's governance. The website is home to items such as public statements, official forms, office hours, board minutes and legal notices.

Some of the useful content available:

- Application forms for Improvement Location Permits (IPL), Developmental Variances and New Sewer Connections under the Forms section.
- The office hours of the Clear Lake Clerk/Treasurer and the Zoning Inspector.
- The official minutes of the Town Council, Board of Zoning Appeals, and the Plan Commission under the Meeting Minutes section.
- Public Notices, Meeting Agendas, public statements, and general news.