

# Catch and Release

# BASS LAKE

## PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

### President's Letter

We had our first membership drive on the morning of May 18th. I would like to thank Tom Busch for getting donuts for our members and Shirley Grajewski and Mary Jesso for not only helping with the donuts and water but also making popcorn and bagging it. The evening of the 18th we had our annual Pizza Party with 12 restaurants participating. This year we also had salad with ice cream and cookies for dessert. Thank you to the board members who helped and a special thank you to Lori Chmiel and Gary Laiter for getting some pizzas donated along with the salad, ice cream and monetary donations. I would also like to thank Rick Anderson for providing the music. Reminder our next membership drive is June 8th. To all of our members have a safe and enjoyable summer at and on the lake.

.....by Terry Chmiel

### BLPOA Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting and elections will be held at 9:00 am on Saturday, July 13. If you would like to run for a Board position please submit your application no later than June 30. Detailed information is on our website ([info@inbasslake.com](mailto:info@inbasslake.com)) or please call the Secretary at (773) 251-6410 with any questions. Voting will begin once candidates have introduced themselves and appointments will be announced at the end of the meeting. Bios on incumbents and new candidates will be emailed about a week prior as well as distributed with your ballot. There will be one ballot per paid membership.

.....by Katy Laiter

### BLCD News

Rainfall for May totaled 4.84 inches with a YTD total of 20.82 inches. We had 12 "rain days" for the month. Average rain for May is 3.89 inches. The pump was shut down on April 5 as water was spilling over the weir. Pump YTD discharge total remains at 86.00 million gallons. The lake level is checked daily, and the pump will be restarted when the level falls below the height of the weir.

.....The Board of the BLCD

## Meetings and Gatherings

**Bass Lake Property Owners Association**  
Saturday, July 13, at 9:00 PM. CDT  
BLPOA building.

**Bass Lake Neighborhood Watch**  
Monday, June 10, at 6:30 PM CDT  
BLPOA Building.

**Bass Lake Festival**  
Next meeting is June 9, at 9:00 AM CDT  
BLPOA building. Hope to see you there!

**Prairie Trails Club:**  
Thursday, June 27, at 5:30 PM, CDT  
(6:30 p.m., EDT), in the NEW meeting room of the Starke County Community Foundation, 300 Keller Ave., North Judson. (northeast door of First Farmers Bank & Trust Building, near the library.) Everyone is welcome!

**Bass Lake Conservancy District:**  
**(sewers, pump & lake weeds)**  
Monday, June 10, at 6:00 PM CDT  
BLPOA building.

**Starke County Park Board:**  
**(Beach & Campground)**  
Tuesday, June 11, at 6:00 PM,  
Starke County Annex; go to the YouTube link at the bottom of the Starke County Parks page to attend virtually. The plan for the Bass Lake Beach will be discussed.

## Bass Lake Property Owners Association

### Executive Board

**President** Terry Chmiel  
**Vice President** Tom Busch  
**Treasurer** AJ Gappa  
**Secretary** Kathy Laiter

### Board Members

Aileen Collura  
Shirley Grajewski  
Mary Jesso  
Bill Slavik  
Mary Topelian  
Ron Vendl  
Cathy Wagner

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## Volunteers Needed Lake Monitoring

For the past several years, volunteers have been monitoring the water quality of the lake through the summer as part of the Indiana Clean Lakes Program. This information provides a baseline for water quality and can track changes through the years. We are looking for about 3 volunteers to take a few water clarity measurements on the lake and some water samples. All materials and training will be provided. To get more information or to volunteer, contact Phil Wollery at (574) 772-9141 or [pwollery@purdue.edu](mailto:pwollery@purdue.edu).

# Bass Lake Festival

**JULY 26th, 27th & 28th**

**Activities for all ages!!!**

**Kids Zone, Crafters, Food, Miss/Mr/Little  
Miss/Little Mister Bass Lake, Water Volleyball,  
Fishing Derby, Build a boat, Parade, Sail boat  
race, Corn Hole, 5K run/walk Beer Tent, Card-  
board boat race, Car Show, and much more!!!**

**CK OUT ALL EVENTS @**

**[Basslakefest.com](http://Basslakefest.com) for all information and forms**

## THANK YOU!

The Prairie Trails Club (PTC) wishes to thank everyone who helped make the inaugural 5K run/3K walk on the nearby Erie Trail May 25 a huge success! It was a beautiful day and everyone seemed to have fun!

## **From Bass Lake Beach and Campground**

Spring is in the air.....and a lot of rain on the ground! We have been busy preparing the beach and campground for the 2024 season. So many thanks need to go to all our volunteers who have helped us tirelessly to prepare. We wouldn't be where we are without you. Opening weekend was busy considering the inclement weather. The beach will be having food vendors almost every weekend. Follow us on Facebook, Bass Lake Beach and Campground, to see who will be there each weekend.

Our piers have been installed and are ready for all our anxious boaters. As of today, we have just one slip still available. Anyone interested please call (574) 772-9181 for more details.

Progress is being seen on the grant project for the renovations to the beach house and campground areas. If all goes as planned, we should begin securing bids in the next couple of months. We will keep you updated.

Our beach and campground are in desperate need of new picnic tables. We have launched a campaign asking anyone who would like to donate a picnic table to contact us at (574) 772-9181. The cost is \$117.00 per picnic table. A HUGE thank you goes to Gene and Terri Pugh who have donated 20 tables already. Our hope is to get a total of 100 new tables. Hopefully, we will get enough committed and have the materials delivered to the campground where we will have a volunteer day to assemble them all. For your donation you will see a plaque on a table as recognition of your kindness.



## **Mint Festival Diesel, Steam & Twilight Train Excursions**

A special Twilight Train has been added for the North Judson Mint Festival diesel excursion trains departing from the Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum depot in North Judson on Saturday, June 15th. All train excursions are round-trip from the depot and travel about five miles to the Kankakee River at English Lake, before returning to North Judson. Trains depart from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, and 8:15 PM (central time). Passengers ride in open-air sightseeing cars or vintage cars. The total length of each trip will be approximately 45 minutes. Ticket prices are \$14.00 (adult, age 16 and above), \$10.00 (child, ages 3 - 15) and children aged 2 and under are free. Purchasing tickets at [www.hoosiervalley.org](http://www.hoosiervalley.org) is recommended, as seating is limited.

Be sure to visit the museum and grounds where the admission is always free. The Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum has one of the largest museum collections of working railroad signals and a restored WWII Pullman Troop Car. Stroll around the grounds to see all types of rolling stock, engines, and memorabilia of a by-gone era.

The Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum has an exciting schedule of events planned for this season. Regular Saturday diesel and/or steam train excursions continue through the end of September and select Sundays. Our annual Civilians & Soldiers in History weekend begins Saturday, July 20th, with numerous displays, reenactments, and special train excursions. The fall brings Pumpkin, Twilight, and Halloween Trains while Santa Trains run in late November and December. Times and prices for these special events will vary from regular train excursions.

HVRM is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and education of railroading history. Special group events (including school groups) can be arranged by contacting the depot.

Visit the Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum website ([www.hoosiervalley.org](http://www.hoosiervalley.org)) for a complete schedule of events. Order tickets at [www.hoosiervalley.org](http://www.hoosiervalley.org) or call the depot (574) 896-3950 on Saturdays or days when train excursions are scheduled.

