

President Rick Anderson's Thoughts

August lost 3 inches of lake level dropping it to -7 inches by September 1, as compared to -11 on September 1 last year. Lake clarity is around 2.1 feet. The August BLPOA meeting: the Republican and Democratic candidates for Starke County Sheriff, Jack Rosa and Kelly Fisher addressed the membership and answered questions. I appreciated both candidates telling us about themselves. It is good to know our sheriff. Along with other candidates, they will probably both be speaking at the Starke County Candidates' Night on October 4. It will be held at the Knox Community Center. Minutes, the Treasurer's Report, committee reports and 2022/2023 assignments were reviewed. Stefanie Neal will head the **October 15 Soup Social** with help from Shirley Grajewski. Mary Topelian will share insight's from previous events. During the maintenance reports, Aileen Collura pointed out the aging Green Room ceiling tiles which will be addressed. Ron Vendl and Russ Blais will head up the 2023 Directory Committee. Tom Busch gave a Park Board beach update: Tracy Williams is the new Park Superintendent. There will be a "Welcome to Bass Lake" sign kick-off meeting on September 17 at 9:00 a.m. at the BLPOA. I will meet with Solar Farm personnel and will have a progress report for our year-end October 15 BLPOA meeting.

More on the "Welcome to Bass Lake" signs. When we purchased the Toto Road/625 E. sign and the sign near the Bass Lake Pub, discussion took place on a new sign at the new three-way stop. This location previously had a BLPOA welcome sign. The committee will decide if and what signage would be appropriate for this location. A "Welcome to Bass Lake" sign would be welcoming when pulling up to the stop from the west (600 South.) When you pull up from the east, it is different. You are already at the lake. Turn right and you will continue around the lake on S. CR 210. Go straight and you are on your way to Nick and Linda's Fruit Stand, Bailey's, North Judson, Knox or Winamac. You probably would not be headed to Culver. The Pub sign is really the "Welcome to Bass Lake" sign when arriving from the Culver direction. It should probably be double-sided. Perhaps, "Come Back Soon" on it's west side makes sense. Maybe there should be a new welcome sign on SR 10 where it meets the lake. I have heard several opinions on this; you may have one too. Any property



The planet signs along the Erie Trail have been re-installed and repaired!

owner who would like to participate at the meeting is welcome. Put October 15 at 9:00 a.m. at the BLPOA Building on your calendar. More on the second pump: I did meet with Ed Baptista from the Solar Farm and indeed there will be a progress report at the October BLPOA meeting. The VFW jackpot hit \$56,000. Hitting \$1 million seems like a long shot. *Stay Safe and Healthy, Rick*

Meet Stefanie Neal, new BLPOA Board Member—She was born and raised at Bass Lake! She worked at the Bass Lake Marina for several summers and attended Valparaiso University. She and her husband Justin have two young children. Most of her family is from Knox. She bought her first home at Bass Lake 6 years ago. She is a realtor through Berkshire Hathaway and proudly serves the Bass Lake market. She lives in Chesterton where she and her husband own several Biggby Coffees. She feels she can be a valuable, energetic member of the board to continue to promote membership and encourage growth of a community atmosphere. Welcome Stefanie!



Michele Albon reports that her dog Bailey is busy cleaning up our lake. Check out this vintage beer can!

Property Owners Association: Saturday, October 15 at 9:00 a.m., BLPOA Building

Bass Lake Neighborhood Watch: Monday, October 3 at 6:30 p.m. BLPOA Building

Bass Lake Festival: Sunday, October 2nd at 9:00 a.m. at the BLPOA. Board and officer elections!

Prairie Trails Club: The next Membership meeting is Wednesday, September 21 at 5:30 p.m., CDT (6:30 p.m., EDT) at the BLPOA building

Bass Lake Conservancy District: (sewers, pump & lake weeds) October 10, 6:00 p.m. CDT, BLPOA Building

Starke County Park Board (our Beach & Campground): October 11 at 6:00 p.m., Starke County Annex



Student Mural Project on Erie Trail—Get on your bike or hike the nearby Erie Trail to see a new student art project! Jordan Lozzi and Emma Whitcraft, students at Knox Community High School, recently completed the mural on the signal bungalow. Unmanned and automated, the signal bungalow was previously used to direct trains going at speeds up to 70 mph east of North Judson. The young women utilized a projector to transfer their design to the structure wall. The mural is located on the bike trail near the 200 East intersection. The artists received permission from various local groups for the project and now have a completed community project on their resume!

Meet Shirley Grajewski—Our BLPOA has two new board members, Shirley Grajewski and Stefanie Neal. Shirley lives full time at Bass Lake. She has three married children and four wonderful grandchildren. She is a semi-retired licensed Illinois realtor with Charles Rutenberg Realty. Her hobbies include quilting, cards and board games. As a new board member, she is willing to step in and help wherever she is needed. She feels there is a need for more monthly social events, including card night, crazy bunco, movie night. These social events will help us get to know our Bass Lake neighbors. Welcome Shirley!

Bass Lake Property Owners Association

President Rick Anderson
 Vice President Rich Linkus
 Treasurer A. J. Gappa
 Secretary Kathy Laiter

Board Members

- Tom Busch
- Terry Chmiel
- Shirley Grajewski
- Mary Jesso
- Stefanie Neal
- Ron Vendl
- Val Williams

Board member contact information is on our website:
www.inbasslake.com



Do you know what the orange square is called in this photo? If yes, enter our newsletter contest: kcarrier@briljent.com. Photo submitted by Katie Cass.

Bass Lake Yacht Club—The September 10 weekend included some great racing and the best sailing weather the sailing club has seen all year. Congratulations to Terry Lavery - 1st, Lauren Zibble—2nd, and Tom Archer—3rd. Also, thanks to Zoriana Olshansky for her help on the Committee Boat! www.blinyc.org.

Steam, Pumpkin and Halloween Trains



The Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum announces the return of steam-powered excursions. After an extensive multi-year renovation and crew training, a steam locomotive built in 1908 returns!

Time: 10:40 a.m. 12:40 and 2:40 p.m. CDT (Excursion is 35 minutes long.)
 Dates: Sept. 17, October 8, 15 & 22

Also, the popular Pumpkin Train excursions are each Saturday in October. The Not-So-Scary Animal Show is on October 29. Advance ticket purchase is recommended as seating is limited. www.hoosiervalley.org



On August 29 there was a storm that flipped boats and damaged trees, piers and homes on the north end of the lake. There was also a widespread power outage.

Bass Lake Conservancy District - August rainfall totaled **3.18** inches for a YTD total of **24.06** inches. The lake pump added **34** million gallons for a YTD total of **195.40** million gallons. The recent storm and microburst caused a large power outage. In addition to our diesel generator that serves the main lift station (CR 210 & 450), our three new Generac generators saw duty as well. Each automatically ran until service was restored (approximately 9 hours). The BLCD is looking into budgeting for additional generators in 2023. *Submitted by Larry Collura—BLCD Vice-Chair*

Christmas Marketplace—The Bass Lake Festival volunteers are again sponsoring the Christmas Marketplace which will be on December 3. Calling all artisans and craftspeople! If you would like to have a booth, contact Mary Topelian, mjtopelian@att.net or Jenny Rocha, rocha32790@gmail.com.

Bass Lake Festival—The next meeting is on Sunday, October 2nd at 9:00 a.m. at the BLPOA. New Board members and officer elections will be held. The Board is considering new event ideas for 2023! If you are interested in submitting a design for next year's Bass Lake Festival t-shirt, contact Mary Topelian for the details, mjtopelian@att.net. www.basslakefest.com

Bass Lake Beach and Campground Update—August proved to be another exciting month for the Bass Lake Beach and Campground. The August 29 storm did extensive limb damage throughout the parks. Four boats washed ashore, a shed was turned over and trash was scattered. Thank you to the many people who came together to help with the clean-up. It took a few days but by Labor Day the damage was cleaned up and we were grateful no serious damage was done.

Labor Day weekend we had a packed beach! Notice to pier slip customers—the piers will start coming out on September 30. The people who leased boat slips can store their shore stations on the beach this winter at a \$200 cost. Call (574) 772-9181 for information. The exciting news is that we have a new Starke County Park Superintendent! We welcome Tracy Williams. Tracy has lived on Bass Lake for over 30 years and has a great love for all things outdoors. This winter she will focus on securing grants to fund the improvements in the 5-Year Starke County Park Department Plan. If you see Tracy out and about, please feel free to offer her ideas and assistance and welcome her! *Submitted by Angelina Giuliani, Starke County Parks Department*

Need Space for a Family Party? Rent the large, renovated BLPOA building. Members pay \$125. Contact Rich Linkus for details, linkusr1@hotmail.com. Not-for-profits use the building at no cost.

Bass Lake Coloring Book - Bass Lake organizations are contributing photos and educational content to a new Bass Lake coloring book. If you have Bass Lake photos or educational content to contribute to the coloring book, contact Kathy Carrier, kcarrier@briljent.com. The 200-page book will include lake-related pictures to color and games to play for children. The goal is to build community spirit and educate the next generation! The book will be available in time for Christmas giving on Amazon. Also 100 copies will be given away next year as part of our healthy shoreline work.

Clear Choices, Clean Water - Interested in learning or teaching your grandkids about environmental issues including native plants, water conservation, waterfowl management, how to grow a butterfly garden, trash-free lakes, goose poo, how to build a bee motel, guide to bird feeding and water conservation? To learn more about hundreds of environmental topic and articles, an excellent resource is Indiana.clearchoicescleanwater.org.

Exercise Class—At the BLPOA Building each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00 a.m. CDT

Pumpkin Time! Many lakesters enjoy the grand selection of pumpkins at Yellow River Farms. There are activities for kids of all ages, apples and pumpkins of all sizes. Located 4 miles east of Knox, on SR 8. Open 8:30—5:30 CST, daily. www.yellowriverfarms.com

Klopot Photo Studio—A photo taken in the 1910's shows two ladies with their children in a horse drawn buggy. They have stopped in front of Klopot's Photo Studio at Bass Lake. In those days, Sigmund Klopot and his wife, Clara, had a studio at North Judson, Bass Lake and Knox. The studio at Bass Lake was usually only open on weekends in the summer. It was located at the north end of the lake in Winona.

The road only went around part of the lake then and was not yet paved. This particular picture was a photo postcard. Postcards were very popular at that time and only cost one cent to mail. Photographers used heavy weight photo paper to make personalized post cards like this one.



As a side note, this Photo Studio was located on the property where the Woodshed Tap is currently. *Submitted by Ron Vendl, photo from Starke County Historical Society*