

Catch and Release BASS LAKE

PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

President's Letter

In this first message as President, I would like to thank our membership for giving me the opportunity to lead the BLPOA. I would also like to thank Rick Anderson for his many years of service. Either my parents or I have been Bass Lake property owners since the mid 1950's, so I have grown up and have always enjoyed the lake. I look forward to the opportunity along with the Board of Directors to continue to make Bass Lake an asset for all to enjoy. *BLPOA President Terry Chmiel*

Meetings and Gatherings

Bass Lake Property Owners Association

Saturday, August 19 at 9:00 a.m.
CDT at the BLPOA Building.

Bass Lake Neighborhood Watch:
Monday, August 7 at 6:30 p.m., BLPOA Building

Bass Lake Festival:
The next meeting follows the festival, date to be determined

Prairie Trails Club
(our nearby bike trail):
Thursday, July 25 at 5:30 p.m., CDT (6:30 p.m., EDT), BLPOA building

Bass Lake Conservancy District: (sewers, pump & lake weeds)
Monday, August 14 at 6:00 p.m. CDT,
BLPOA Building.

Starke County Park Board:
(our Beach & Campground)
Tuesday, August 8 at 6:00 p.m., Starke County Annex; go to the YouTube link at the bottom of the Starke County Parks page to attend virtually.

Grand Marshall:
Fred Heise

Bass Lake Festival
JULY 28, 29 & 30
WWW.BASSLAKEFEST.COM

Saturday, JULY 22

Babies & Toddlers of Bass Lake: Across From The Brunch Pub: 5:00pm

Little Miss & Mister Bass Lake: Across From The Brunch Pub: 5:00pm

Jr Miss & Mister Bass Lake: Across From The Brunch Pub: 5:00pm

Miss Bass Lake: Across From The Brunch Pub : 5:00pm

FRIDAY, JULY 28

Fishing Derby: 3612 S. CR 210: 6am -Sun 11:00 am

Sunset Kayak: Marina Boat Launch. Registration 7:00pm Launch 7:30pm-8pm

Entertainment: Look to the local establishments

SATURDAY, JULY 29

5K Run/Walk: Lions Club: Reg. 6:15am / Start: 7:30am

Lakeside Market: BLPOA Building: 9am-3pm

Car Show: Bass Lake Beach Campground: 9am-3pm

Kid Zone/Bouncy Houses/ Touch a Truck/ Face painting with Marley: The Brunch Pub: 9am

Photography Contest: BLPOA Building: 9am-5pm

Cover Your Bass Contest: BLPOA Building: 9am-5pm

Kids Fun Run: The Brunch Pub 9:30am

Magic by KALITA: The Brunch Pub 10:30am

Watermelon Eating Contest: The Brunch Pub 11:30am (following magic show)

Water Volleyball: Bass Lake Beach: 10am

Sailboat Races: Irish Shores/5946 S. CR 210: 11am

Corn hole Tournament: Bass Lake Pub: 10-3pm

Beer Gardens-Games & Music:

Bass Lake Beach.... Free Beach entry 10am-5pm

Goat Drop: Lost Pines Campground: 4:00pm

SATUDAY, JULY 29

Entertainment: Texas Thunder Band
10am-2pm Bass Lake Beach Campground

Fireworks: Over the lake: Dusk-approx. 9:00pm

Rain date TBD

Food: Food Truck at Bass Lake Beach & BLPOA Building

SUNDAY, JULY 30

Lions Club Pancake Breakfast: Bass Lake Firehouse: 8-11am

Bike Race: Bass Lake Pub: Reg. 7am / Start 8am

Kids Bike Race: Bass Lake Pub: Reg 8am/ start 9am

Photography Contest: BLPOA Building: 9am-11am

Cover Your Bass Contest: BLPOA Building: 9am-11am

Cardboard Boat Race: Beach: Reg. 9:30am/Starts 10:30

End of Fishing Derby: Bass Lake Bait & Tackle 11am-final weigh-in

Car Cruise Parade Start Off: Near 210 & 600 S. Starts 12:30pm

Parade: Line up at Western & CR 210 Noon-1pm**Starts:** 1pm & Ends at The Pub

Parade Reviewing Stand:

Boa Shores - 1pm

Food: Bass Lake Beach

A BIG Thank you to our Donors!

Bass Lake Beach
Ace Pyro
Scoops & Smiles
Smith Farm Store
Jeff's PWC
Max
Beach Bar
Civvies
Grow Your Own Organics
WKVI Radio
Ireland Alexis Boutique

Lions Club
Stark Co Sheriff
Liz Duffy
Bass Lake Fire Department
Republic
Silver Leaf Florist
Blythes
Melody Drive In
Walgreens (Knox)
Tight Meyer Ace

Remax 1st Choice
Marc Vendel
Kathy Carrier
Knox Liquor
Collins Insurance
Salon Allure
Joe Gesky State Farm
The Pub Restaurant
Phill & Jenny White
Nick & Nancy Tarulis

Larry's Marina
Knox McDonalds
MJM Mark Miller
The Brunch pub
Lost Pines Campground
Bass Lake Gear
Finger Hut
Culver Marina
Portside Marina
Tasty Treats & Eats

AL Olson Real Estate
Baileys
Bass Lake Bait & Tackle
Double D Fireworks
Honey Hole
Bass Lake Pub
BLPOA
McGrath- Refrigeration
First Farmers Bank
Woodshed Tap
Marshall's Bowling
Zingo Express



Bass Lake

Property Owners Association

President	Terry Chmiel
Vice President	Rich Linkus
Treasurer	A. J. Gappa
Secretary	Kathy Laiter

Board Members

- Tom Busch
- Aileen Collura
- Shirley Grajewski
- Mary Jesso
- Stefanie Neal
- Ron Vendl
- Kathy Wagner

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

Bass Lake Yacht Club

The BLIYC sailing season is in full swing! We've completed 7 races this season and are looking forward to our upcoming partnership races with the Maxinkuckee Yacht Club. On Saturday, July 22nd the BLIYC sailing season will temporarily move over to Lake Max for the 2023 Sunfish Regatta. Details at <https://www.sunfishclass.org/calendar/event/28293827>.

Then, the Lake Max fleet will make their way over to Bass Lake for our Festival Race – The Bill Lavery Memorial Regatta on Saturday July 29th. Will be a great two weeks on the water!

Message about the Sanitary Sewers

The Bass Lake Conservancy District (District) has experienced inappropriate items being flushed into our sanitary sewer system. Recently there has been medical catheter tubes found in the lift stations that have caused issues. These cannot be flushed. Also included - but not limited to - diapers, depends, feminine products, Kleenex type tissues, cleansing & disinfecting wipes (including all wipes marked "flushable"), and paper towels. **FLUSH ONLY TOILET PAPER AND HUMAN WASTE.** *The Board of the Bass Lake Conservancy District*



This patriotic photo was provided by Grace Hehemann, our newsletter photographer!

Bass Lake Beach and Campground

The month of June was a very busy one for the beach and campground. Our group of amazing volunteers and staff worked diligently to beautify the grounds. We have fun new red trash cans and have installed nine new grills for everyone to enjoy. We held our first Golf Cart Parade on June 24th. Fourteen people went above and beyond decorating their golf carts and made a parade loop around the lake. We hope to make this an annual event and see it grow to 50+ carts.

Papa Farms Pizza will be serving up their delicious wood-fired pizzas nearly every Sunday throughout the end of the season. Watch our Facebook page, Bass Lake Beach and Campground, for specific dates and times. The DNR has approved our long-awaited pier permits. Pending no appeals and perfect weather we hope to have them installed by July 17 or 18. It is our goal to get our boaters on the water for at least 9 weeks of boating enjoyment. There are still a few pier spots available. No words can express our gratitude for everyone's understanding during these difficult months.

There are still a few weekends open if anyone is interested in renting our pavilion for your family reunions and parties. The cost is \$100.00 for the day and allows your guests to enter without paying a gate fee. If interested please call 574-772-9181 to reserve your date. Don't forget, Wednesday is FREE DAY. If you have questions contact Tracy Williams, (574) 772-9181. Park Board meetings are recorded and available on the Starke County website!

Bass Lake Conservancy District

For June, 2.65 inches of rainfall was recorded for a YTD total of 17.79 inches. Average rainfall for June is 3.80 inches. The BLCD pump discharged 32.00 million gallons into the lake. YTD total is 170.00 million gallons. As of July 1st, the lake level is 7.5 inches below the top of the weir.

On Wednesday June 14, 2023 – with permit approval of the IDNR – Aquatic Control treated approximately 164.91 acres of Eurasian watermilfoil with liquid 2,4-D. Eurasian watermilfoil is an invasive plant that spreads easily and quickly. It also crowds out native plants, reducing biodiversity, and diminishes fish habitats. Follow-up inspection by Aquatic Control (and BLCD Directors) indicates the treatment was very successful. To view the 2023 treatment map, go to: www.basslakecd.IN.GOV. On the Home Page click on LAKE MAPS; scroll down to 2023 DNR Approved Treatment Map for treatment location.

Please visit the BLCD website at basslakecd.in.gov or contact our office if you have any questions. Email is info@basslakecd.in.gov, 574-772-2974. The hours are Monday through Friday 9 - 2. *The Board of the BLCD*

Race Time - Dust Off Those Shoes!

The Prairie Trails Club (PTC) will be hosting the Bass Lake Fest 5K Run/3K Walk again this year. The event is on Saturday, July 29, rain or shine. We are hoping for shine!

Start time 7:30 a.m. CDT

Day of race registration starts at 6:15 a.m. CDT. To pre-register at reduced rates, please go to RunSignUp website, click on "Find a Race" and type in "Bass Lake Festival 5K Run." This site also provides directions to the race start.

On July 29, the 5K run is \$40 and the 3K walk is \$30. T-shirts will be available to same day registrants only while supplies last. Looking forward to seeing all of you on July 29! *Submitted by Russ Blais, PTC Board Member*

Bass Lake Festival Parade Grand Marshal - Fred Heise

Fredrick Heise, born on January 22, 1948, is the fourth of six children born to Edward and Marguerite Heise, and he grew up on a family farm near Ora. The farm is still owned by the Heise family today. Entrepreneurship runs in Fred's family, as his parents operated the Crystal Ball Room and Roller Rink at Bass Lake during the 1950s. In 1961, they purchased the Melody Drive-in Theatre, which Fred later acquired from them in 1970.

After completing high school, Fred joined the U.S. Marine Corps and served his country, including a deployment to Vietnam. Upon returning from service, he married his high school sweetheart, Louise Combs, in March of 1970. Together, Fred and Louise purchased the Melody Drive-in Theatre from his parents and successfully operated it together until Louise's untimely passing in 2019. They had two children together, Tricia and Fred Jr., and seven grandchildren. Currently, Fred and his son continue to run the theater as a family business.

Fred has always been an active member of the community. In March 1973, he joined the Bass Lake Lions Club and has held most if not every office within the club, including district positions. In 1995, Fred was approached by local Lutheran churches to hold services on the theatre grounds, leading to the formation of the Bass Lake Ministries. Since then, church services have been held every Sunday at the Drive-in throughout the summer. Additionally, Fred has been an active member of Victory Christian Church for over 30 years.

Fred's contributions to the movie industry led to his induction into the National Association of Theatre Owners Midwest Hall of Fame, a prestigious recognition of his dedication and service to the motion picture exhibition industry. Throughout the years, the success of the Melody Drive-in Theatre has been attributed to all the family and friends that have worked there, and of course the loyal patrons that have visited from near and afar to be a part of the Drive-In experience. Thank you Fred for your many years of service to the Bass Lake community!

Join Us at the Miss Bass Lake Pageant!

Festival event sign-ups are online at basslakefest.com. We are looking for Miss Bass Lake Pageant contestants.

This event will be held on July 22 at 5:00 p.m. near the Bass Lake Marina.

NEW EVENT: Sunset Kayak Paddle out.

July 28th at 7:00 p.m. Paddle out to watch the sunset on the south end near marina. The Festival also needs more decorated golf carts to enter the parade!

Questions? Contact the Festival

President Jenny Rocha,
rocha32790@gmail.com.

BLPOA Building Rental

Need space for a graduation party or family reunion? Rent the large, renovated BLPOA building. Members pay \$125. Contact Rich Linkus for details. Linkusr1@hotmail.com. Nonprofits use the building for no cost!

Adopt-a-Buoy

This program adds buoys to areas of the lake to give our lake residents shoreline protection, keeping boats away from swimmers. The BLPOA buys the buoys; volunteers put them in and take them out. Contact Gary Laiter (773) 750-4049 if you no longer want your buoy or if you would like to become a volunteer.

No Phosphorus in Your Fertilizer

If you are fertilizing your lake lawn use a fertilizer with 0 phosphorus. This will keep our lake water healthy. There are other ways you, your kids and grandkids can keep our lake water healthy. The BLPOA website includes information, see the Healthy Shoreline tab.

Need More Ecozone Information?

Russ Blais, Board member of BLCD, provided a more thorough explanation of Indiana Ecozones than the one we provided in last month's newsletter. If you'd like a copy, contact Kathy Carrier, kcarrier@briljent.com.



The North Judson Mint Festival was held on Father's Day Weekend. It was a success, including a juggling man on stilts!

Thoughts from Rick Anderson

Lake level on July 1st was minus 6 inches. Visibility is about two feet. Looks like the Conservancy District and Aquatic Control did another effective job with weed treatment. Not too much invasive Eurasian Milfoil is showing up on shore. This is my first newsletter as a past BLPOA President. As President, I enjoyed being involved, meeting and getting to know many other property owners. I hope I have helped our lake community to the best of my ability. A little history on the BLPOA: Established in 1918 its accomplishments are many. The Bass Lake Fire Department was established and managed. In 1947 the BLPOA bought one used fire truck and built the Property Owners Building to house it. When the new California Township Community Center and Fire House was built around 1991, the BLPOA took back control of our building and California Township took over control of the FD at their new location. Early on garbage collection was established, mainly because there wasn't any. The BLPOA installed and operated the lake pump 1964 mainly because the lake was down about 36 inches. Weeds were treated off and on mainly because they were a problem. The Conservancy District was established about 1995 and sewers were installed mainly because weren't any. Pump responsibility was later moved to the CD. A forum is in place for regular meetings and social events. Electronic communication through our website, emails and newsletter supplement the US mail. Don't forget about the lake buoys either. They mark rocks and channels. If you want to know the objectives of the BLPOA, there are eight objectives listed as a preamble to the Bylaws which can be found in our Directory or on our website. They are our guiding principles. The Bylaws themselves are guideline to meeting those objectives. I hope the BLPOA will remain a great organization continually improving our community utilizing those principles. The Annual Meeting: Guest speakers were Angelina Giuliani (Beach), Sheriff Jack Rosa, Councilman Mark Gourley & Mollie Dollahan (Chamber of Commerce). Introductions of and comments by candidates followed. The BLPOA Board voted to donate \$4,500 to the Sheriff's Department for the purchase of one electric bicycle. That cost is being shared by the POA and Neighborhood Watch group. Congratulation to the elected board winners: Terry Chmiel - President, Kathy Laiter - Secretary, Tom Busch. Aileen Collura & Kathy Wagner - Directors. Committee reports were given. The 7th Annual Property Owners Bicycle Ride will be July 15th; leaving the Property Owners Building at 8:00 AM headed for the Erie Trail using 450 East. This is our second July without a marina, seems this has affected boat traffic. I'm thinking hauling gas may be involved. Thirty gallons takes six-five gallon cans! I along with others sure miss Shelly who has sold her Bass Lake home and has moved to sunny Florida. The "V" will be beginning a new game July 9th starting just north of \$10K. I'm not sure the "V" can sell enough beer to get to \$1M. Well, it was done twice before; never say never. *Stay Safe & Healthy, Rick*

Civilians & Soldiers in History Day with Train Excursions

Civilians & Soldiers in History Day will be Saturday, July 22nd, at the Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum, located in North Judson. This annual event is scheduled to have numerous displays, re-enactors, and events depicting various eras of civilian and military life from the Civil War to modern day. This is a free event and includes the museum grounds. HVRM has a restored WWII Pullman Troop Car; a large collection of working railroad signals; all types of rolling stock, engines, and memorabilia of a by-gone era. There will be a nominal fee for the 10-mile, round-trip diesel train excursions through the Indiana countryside. Train excursions depart from the depot at 10 AM, 12 Noon, and 2 PM, Central Time, and travel about five miles to the Kankakee River at English Lake, before returning to North Judson. Tickets can be purchased, in advance, at www.hoosiervalley.org.



Taggart Hotel

The Taggart Hotel was located across from Cedar Point on Bass Lake's west side. It adjoined the Blue Dog dance pavilion shown to the left in this photo which was taken in the last 1920's. The Blue Dog was a very popular place and featured big name bands. Mr. and Mrs. Will Bogan ran the hotel at that time. They advertised hot and cold running water in the rooms, private bathrooms, electric lights and five mineral wells on the property.

The first Miss Bass Lake contest was held at Taggart's pavilion in 1926. Diamond Joe Esposito's villa was just across the road. Build in 1900, the former hotel burned down in the 1950's while undergoing remodeling for a new owner.

Submitted by: Ron Vendl, Starke County Historical Society