

Catch and Release BASS LAKE

PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

President's Letter

With the boats and piers disappearing out of the lake we are reminded that fall is with us. We know what comes after that. I want to remind all our members that our last 2023 BLPOA meeting will be Oct. 28th at 9 a.m. CDT. Our soup social is at 5:00 p.m. on Oct. 28th as well. See the details below with more information and how to donate a soup or chili. Please attend our final meeting and join us that evening for the soup social. It will be a good time with plenty of tasty food. Looking forward to seeing everyone there. *BLPOA President Terry Chmiel*

Soup & Chili Social

October 28 at 5:00 p.m. CDT at the BLPOA Building
\$5 per person, kids 10 and under are free
Tickets are available at the door

Please share your unique soup or chili. Cook up a batch and bring it in a crockpot. Don't forget to bring your ladle for serving. We've got the oyster crackers to accompany the soup. Coffee, soda and water are provided. There are prizes for first, second, and third place and the President's Choice. Please send an email or text with the type of soup or chili you'll be bringing to Shirley Grajewski at sgbasslake@gmail.com or text 708-228-7548

The Color of Our Water

Pretend you are a painter. You sit down to watercolor a picture of Bass Lake, starting with the water. What color do you imagine painting? It is likely not black, green, pink, gray or even clear; rather, it is likely some shade of blue. In reality, your lake can be any one of these colors for a variety of natural (and unnatural) reasons. Water with few particles in it appears blue when the water is deep, and appears clear when the water is shallow. Blue light penetrates deep into water and is scattered and reflected back to our eyes; this phenomenon makes water in a deep lake appear blue. Other colors are quickly absorbed in the water, so shallow water makes this reflection less likely, appearing clear or colorless. When water has tiny particles suspended in it, more colors are noticeable. Due to calcium carbonate particles, some of our lakes can appear turquoise on a sunny summer day. Hard water and marl-bottomed lakes are lighter in color. The tea-brown color seen in many streams and some lakes comes from organic materials, such as decomposing plants.

Some unnatural colors can also be seen in our lakes and streams. For instance, pale gray and brown colored water can come from improperly managed urban or agriculture runoff. You might also notice lakes with a greenish hue due to algae. Depending on the type of algae present, the water can even appear pink.

Next time you are admiring a painting or photo of Bass Lake, or enjoying an afternoon on the public beach, remember that the color of the lake tells much about what is in the water! You can learn about what is going on beneath the surface of our lakes at lakes.grace.edu. *Submitted by Dr. Nate Bosch, Director of the Lilly Center for Lakes & Streams*

Meetings and Gatherings

Bass Lake Property Owners Association

Saturday, October 28 at 9:00 a.m. CDT at the BLPOA building

Bass Lake Neighborhood Watch:

Monday, November 6 at 6:30 p.m., BLPOA building

Bass Lake Festival:

Next meeting TBD. Send ideas for next year's festival to: P.O. Box 455, Knox, IN 46534

Prairie Trails Club (nearby bike trail):

Thursday, October 26 at 5:30 p.m., CDT (6:30 p.m., EDT), BLPOA building

Bass Lake Conservancy District: (sewers, pump & lake weeds)

Monday, November 13 at 6:00 p.m. CDT, BLPOA building

Starke County Park Board: (Beach & Campground)

Tuesday, November 14 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.



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
- Cathy Wagner

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

Bass Lake Yacht Club

Our lake sailing club activities have wound down for the year. Questions? Contact blinyachtclub@gmail.com.



Pumpkin and Twilight Trains

The Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum is extending its Twilight Pumpkin trains, with the Not-So-Scary, Scary Animal Show to every Saturday in October. The Animal Show begins at 4:30 p.m. CDT and the diesel train pulls away from the depot at 5:30 p.m. for a unique excursion through the Indiana fall countryside. See www.hoosiervalley.org for tickets.

Christmas Marketplace

Mark your calendars now for our "Christmas Marketplace" December 2nd 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the BLPOA Building. This is an annual fundraiser for the Bass Lake Festival. Vendors can contact basslakefest.com for more information. Bring your kids and grandkids because there will be PHOTOS WITH SANTA!!

Trick or Treat at the Bass Lake Beach

...and that's a wrap. Our Bass Lake Beach season is officially over. However, the beach gates will stay open for everyone who wishes to come out and enjoy the beauty. The piers have been taken out. Any current pier slip holders that would like to store their store stations on the beach parking lot can call (574) 772-9181 for more information.

We will host our first open "Trick or Treat" for all the little goblins around Bass Lake on October 14 from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. CST. Everyone is welcome and the event is free. The campground season will end on October 31. It is bittersweet to see everyone packing up and preparing for the cold months ahead. Our staff will continue to work on maintaining the property, taking care of the falling leaves until the weather prevents us from doing more. It's a labor of love.

Anyone interested in getting on the list for a slip for 2024 can call 574-772-9181. If you have questions contact Tracy Williams, (574) 772-9181. Park Board meetings are recorded and available on the Starke County website!. Happy Fall Y'all! *Submitted by Angelina Giuliani*

Bass Lake Conservancy District

September rainfall was 1.14 inches for a year-to-date total of 29.31. Average rainfall for September was 2.96 inches. The lake is 8.52 inches below the average rainfall of 37.83. The lake pump discharged 30.00 million gallons in September for a year-to-date total of 264.00 million gallons. More information including charts and maps is available by visiting our website: www.basslakecd.in.gov. *The Board of the Bass Lake Conservancy District*

Newsletter Editor Needed

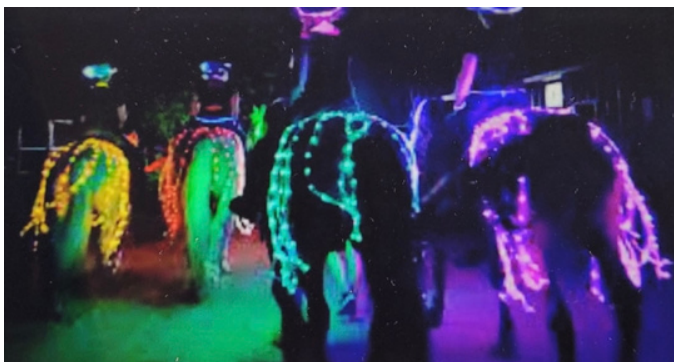
Hey readers, we are in need of a new editor for this monthly newsletter! If you are interested and would like to explore the process and time commitment, please contact me, kcarrier@briljent.com. Most of the content is written by property owners who submit articles. The newsletter task is typically a 2-hour task of arranging the articles using free software that is easy-to-use, Canva. I will help the new editor as much as needed, and can also serve as a back-up. Let me know if you are interested! Kathy Carrier

Erie Night Glow Ride

Charlotte Liss is developing the inaugural "Erie Night Glow Ride" equestrian event to be held on the evening of Sunday, October 29. Staging is at 5:00 p.m., CDT, (6:00 p.m., EDT) at 8120 South US 35, Knox, with the ride to begin at 5:30 p.m., CDT (6:30 p.m., EDT). Pre-registration and a signed waiver are required. Char is suggesting but is not requiring participants to make a \$10 donation to the Prairie Trails Club. The ride is northwest from US Highway 35 to Starke County Road 300 East with a return to US 35 —a four mile round trip. "I am excited to host an event that will bring horse people together to utilize, and bring awareness to the amazing Erie Trail. I am hopeful that the interest is such that we can plan on doing this every year," says event organizer Charlotte Liss. Questions? Call Charlotte (219) 973-6137.



It's that time of the year again, when we enjoy the leaves on the trees and our blooming mums. Thanks to Grace Hehemann who contributes her photography each month to our newsletter!



BLCD Lake Use Survey from IDNR

This is a lake user survey for the Bass Lake vegetation management plan. Indiana DNR uses this information to assess public perception and understanding of the program as well as to see how well the public/property owners on specific lakes are involved with the use of the lake. Results of the survey are compiled and published in the AVMP. Respondents can remain anonymous as individual results are not published but are used in tabulation of all responses. Forms are due October 31, 2023 and can be emailed at info@basslakecd.in.gov or mailed to our office or in the BLPOA drop box. The form is on the BLCD website <https://basslakecd.in.gov/forms>.

BLPOA Building Rental

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

Prairie Trails Club

Volunteers from Prairie Trails Club partnered with Doral Renewables LLC to repair the bridge over Fell Ditch on the nearby Erie Trail. See the photo to the right! If you want to join this talented and dedicated community group, please come to the next meeting at the BLPOA building at 5:30 CT on October 26th.



Women's Gardening Workshop

The Lilly Center for Lakes and Streams offers free workshops, conducted by their fantastic scientists. Upcoming:

Women's Gardening Workshop

November 4, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m., held at the Lilly Center for Lakes & Streams
This popular (will fill up soon) workshop will prep you for spring and provide tips and tricks for gardening and composting.
To register: [womengardening1-23.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/womens-gardening-1-23)

Bass Lake Festival Planning for 2024

THANK YOU to all our sponsors, volunteers and Lake community for making this year's Festival a huge success! We could not do this without everyone's help. Planning for 2024 starts now. If you are interested in joining our team contact Jennifer Rocha at basslakefest.com.

Fishy Business

Did you know there are over 200 fish species in Indiana? Bass Lake at least has 20 species. The DNR will help you identify fish. If you catch something you aren't sure about, email a photo to fishid@dnr.IN.gov. More Info: <https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-and-wildlife/fishing/fish-identification/#fishid>

Brook Silverside can be found in Indiana. They have an abnormally large mouth, skinny body, almost translucent and large pectoral fins. They are commonly observed in schools especially at night as they are near the surface. Shining a flash light across the surface at night can often see them darting around. White and Black Crappie are members of the sunfish family that also contains bass, bluegill, and many others. They can be tricky to identify especially when they are younger. In general, White Crappie are more tolerant of cloudier water and roam open water whereas Black Crappie prefer clearer waters with vegetation and woody habitats. White Crappie usually have 6 dorsal fin spines and dark vertical bars. Black Crappie usually have 7 or 8 dorsal spines with irregularly arranged dark splotches.
Submitted by Tom Bacula, Fisheries Biologist, Indiana Department of Natural Resources



Winona

The west side of downtown Winona is shown in this photo dated about 1940. The view is looking north. From left to right: Roepstorff's Store, the Bowling Alley and Eykes Tavern.

Winona is an Indian word meaning "first born female". Quite a few places were named Winona in the late 1800's. Some say it was named after a town in Wisconsin by the same name. Others say the group that built the Winona Bible Conference Center at Warsaw chose Bass Lake first but changed their minds. We do know that the U.S. Postal Service opened a post office at this northeast corner of Bass Lake with the name Winona on March 20, 1891. By 1920, Winona was a bustling little town with a bowling alley, a movie theater, water park, school, several hotels, grocery stores and taverns.

Submitted by: Ron Vendl, Starke County Historical Society