

Catch and Release BASS LAKE

PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

President's Letter

Every year we realize how fast summer goes by. With Labor Day weekend (the unofficial end of summer) behind us and fall school sports in full swing, we know what's coming next. Even though this past Labor Day weekend I saw some piers and boats coming out of the water, I want to think positive and believe we still have a few weeks left to enjoy our beautiful lake.

I want to thank the Starke County Sheriff's Department for bringing their new electric bike to our August meeting and demonstrating the features and equipment on the bike. I also thank them for the plaque they presented to all of us for our donation of the bike. The plaque will be put up and displayed on the wall of the BLPOA building. I have seen the Starke County Sheriff's Department on the bikes patrolling around the lake.

I hope to see everyone at our next association meeting on October 28th and also a reminder of our soup social the evening of October 28th.

BLPOA President Terry Chmiel

Prairie Trails Club - Repairs on the Erie Trail

On September 28th at 9:30 AM CDT, Doral Renewables LLC is bringing a team of workers who will join PTC volunteers in replacing the bridge deck over Fell Ditch between 300 E and 400 E on the Erie Trail. Doral has also donated \$5,000 for needed supplies for the project and is providing lunch for the workers. Doral also donated another \$5,000 for invasive species control along the trail. Doral Renewables is the company that is building the nearby solar farm.

Submitted by Kathleen Lucas, Prairie Trails Club Treasurer



The August moon at Bass Lake is beautiful! Grace Hehemann, our newsletter photographer took this lovely photo.

Interested in kayaks in Starke County? Attend the Park Board meeting on Tuesday, September 12 at 6:00 and voice your support for the potential kayak launch!



Labor Day weekend prompted the longest lines of the season at our Bass Lake ice cream spots. This photograph was contributed by Kathleen Odum.

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, October 2 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, September 21 at 5:30 p.m., CDT (6:30 p.m., EDT), BLPOA building

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

Monday, September 11 at 6:00 p.m. CDT, BLPOA building

Starke County Park Board: (Beach & Campground)

Tuesday, September 12 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

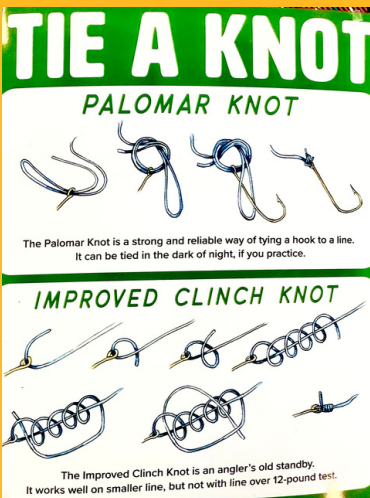
Board Member contact information is on our website: www.inbasslake.com

Bass Lake Yacht Club

Our lake sailing club remains active. With the start of school, participation in our weekend sailing events is light. So... it is a great time to try sailboat racing in a casual atmosphere.

We always need help on the Committee Board during races, and welcome all volunteers. The fall weather is great for sailing. We'll see you on the water! Questions? Contact blinyachtclub@gmail.com.

Interested in learning a few fishing knots? Try these!



This monster mandevilla photo was provided by Grace Hehemann, our newsletter photographer! She's been raising this beauty for four years.

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!!

Bass Lake Beach and Campground

August proved to be a very busy and exciting month for our beach and campground. Our boaters have enjoyed the high level of water and the beachgoers were not disappointed. Labor Day weekend was a record setting one for attendance. It was a drama-free weekend and everyone seemed to enjoy the last blast to the fullest. It was wonderful seeing the campground filled to capacity and the weather did not disappoint. It is hard to believe the season is ending already. Seems like it was just getting started. 2023 was a beach season to be proud of!

We are awaiting news about the Federal grant and hoping we receive it so we may begin the anticipated renovations to the beach house, bath houses and campground. We are still accepting donations, if anyone would like to help us reach our matching funds requirements. Piers will begin coming out of the water around September 18. It is so nice to know that everything will be in place to get them in before Memorial Day, 2024. Anyone interested in getting on the list for a slip 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! *Submitted by Angelina Giuliani*

Bass Lake Conservancy District

August Rainfall - 4.06", Year-to-Date Rainfall - 28.17"

Pump output - 32 million gallons, Year-to-Date - 234 million gallons

If your property is located within the boundaries of the Conservancy District and you are in need of a port-a-potty, a permit MUST be filed with the Conservancy District. The permit form is available on the website: basslakecd.in.gov or at the District office located at: 4450 E 450 S. Also, there is a wealth of information available for you, regarding the Conservancy District, on the website. The BLCD Board hopes you all enjoyed a wonderful summer at beautiful Bass Lake! *The Board of the BLCD*

Bird Watching at Bass Lake

Dedicated bird watchers could expect to see more than 300 species of birds in the state annually. More than 420 species of birds have been documented in Indiana. Most of Indiana bird species are migratory, some may spend the entire year here, while others may spend only a third or less of their time in Indiana.

Common birds in the Bass Lake and Starke County area are mallard ducks, wood ducks, Canada geese, great blue herons, red-winged blackbirds, house sparrow, eastern bluebirds, hairy woodpeckers, American crow, eastern bluebirds, ruby-throated hummingbirds, Baltimore orioles, American robins, European starlings, eastern towhees, common grackles, song sparrows, Carolina wrens, indigo buntings, house wrens, American tree sparrows, northern flickers, barred owls, screech owls, great horned owls, red-tailed hawks, cooper's hawks, kestrels, wild turkeys. Some common birds seen at backyard feeders include: tufted titmouse, purple finches, northern cardinals, mourning doves, house finches, red bellied woodpeckers, black-capped chickadees, blue jays, American goldfinches, downy woodpeckers, dark-eyed juncos, white throated sparrows, white-breasted nuthatches. Pictures of these birds can be easily found on the internet.

Go to this web link for a great informational source about birds

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/search>. On this website you can listen to bird calls which is a great way to identify birds without actually seeing them. Another good birding assistance resource is the Merlin Bird ID App. This App will record bird calls near you and then ID the bird by its calls. Local bird watching opportunities are available at Kankakee Fish & Wildlife Area 574-896-3522, Winamac Fish & Wildlife Area 574-242-4422, and Tippecanoe River State Park 574-946-3213. Contact these locations prior to a site visit to learn about bird watching opportunities and property rules and regulations. *Submitted by Tony Carroll, Indiana DNR Wildlife Biologist, tcarroll@dnr.in.gov*

Bass Lake Coloring Book

A 200-page coloring book has been created to highlight the many nifty aspects of our Bass Lake community. If you'd like to order a supply to give to grandkids for Christmas, they are available on Amazon. If you'd like just one, contact Kathy Carrier (kcarrier@briljent.com) and she'll drop one off at your cottage as a gift!

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

It's nearly time to take our buoys out for the season. 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 with questions.

Bass Lake Facebook Page

Our lake Facebook page has 8,200 followers! This site is available to anyone who wants to join to add stories, photos and news from Bass Lake. The historical photos and stunning photos of lake sunsets are outstanding. Check it out!

Newsletter Editor Change

Hey readers, I'd like to introduce you to Tabitha Dillner, the new editor of this newsletter. She can be reached at tdillner@gmail.com.

I proposed this newsletter to the BLPOA Board many moons ago and they agreed to give it a try. Since then, I've researched, written and published 117 issues. So, I've been "at this" for about 10 years (with Ron Vendl as my trusty proofreader.) I am a believer that change is good and with a new, fresh perspective your newsletter will improve.

I will continue dedicating my time, talent and treasure to make Bass Lake a better place. I will focus on healthy shoreline and environmental work!

As always, I can be reached at:
kcarrier@briljent.com. Kathy Carrier

High Quality Workshops

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

Family Lake Safety Day

September 16, 11:00 - 3:00, location is Central Park in Warsaw
Learn how to stay safe on the lake! The day includes hands-on activities and ecotours of Center Lake every 15 minutes. There is no need to register!

Tree Identification Hike

October 7, 1:00 - 2:30, WACF Education Center
Join Dr. Nate Bosch (a great educator) for a tree identification hike. By learning to identify the natural world, you will gain a deeper appreciation of the world around you. To register: treehike23.eventbrite.com

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

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.



Van's Inn

Van's Inn was located at the south end of Bass Lake where The Brunch Pub is now located. Van's was a combination service station, bus stop and restaurant during the 1930's through the late 1950's.

Travelers on Indiana Motor Buses would have no doubt appreciated their facilities after the trip from Logansport. Their Bar-B-Q sandwiches were very popular with local residents. They also featured homemade pie and fountain service.

Motorists would have filled up with Sinclair H-C gasoline, the industry's first high octane premium gasoline, and topped their oil off with Sinclair Emerald Motor Oil. Gasoline was about 16 cents per gallon at the time of this photo. Before Van's Inn, this stop was Wolfe's Place. They also featured Bar-B-Q sandwiches.

Submitted by: Ron Vendl, Starke County Historical Society