

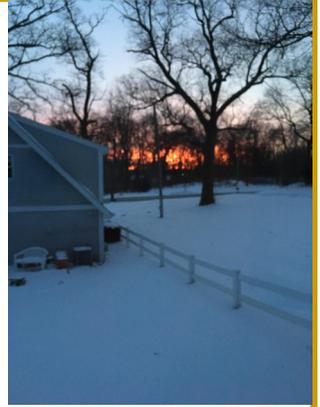
CATCH & RELEASE

VOL. 6 NO. 2

FEBRUARY 2019—BASS LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

President Rick Anderson's Thoughts

Near the end of January, winter arrived. January 30th recorded minus 20 degrees. From inside it looked like one beautiful Bass Lake day, bright sun without a cloud in the sky. The birds were everywhere enjoying the birdfeeder and it was only the snow covered frozen lake that gave away the truth. Incidentally, not only a frozen snow covered lake, a full lake. The lake level is at the "Top of Dam" mark. The new Starke County Recycle Facility opening has been pushed back to mid February. I hope to drop off two months of stockpiled recycles then. Hopefully I can include an updated report on the facility in our March C&R.



The forest is ablaze with joy as a beautiful winter sunrise marches us toward spring. Photo by Sandy Smith.

Our February 2 PO Meeting: Our 2018 year end "all-accounts" balance was \$168K. Along with the 2019 Annual Letter and Membership Form approvals, individual members VOLUNTARILY signing up for participating in curbside recycling was the highlight of discussions. Our quick email survey gave some indication of interest. The "For" & "Against" comments were interesting. To negotiate a recycle contract, we will need some minimum participation number - the target is 200. Because 122 members are not on our email distribution, the board approved a mailing to all members to obtain an accurate anticipated participation list. Our garbage contract is in its last year so a contract extension or new contract will be required this year; potential curbside recycling will be part of this contract negotiation. We will be trying to negotiate a four year extension; therefore, those who chose to sign up for curbside recycling will be requested to commit to that length of time - 4yrs - maybe 5. Rik Ritzler reviewed the CR 210/CR 600 S. changes. The south west triangle will become a three-way stop intersection. The changes are expected to be completed by July 4th and CR 210 made be closed for a week while work is in progress. Kathy Carrier reviewed the Healthy Shoreline project. Larry Collura brought the group "up to date" on our new website - he requested new "hi def" pictures and he will do a new website presentation at our March meeting. The Knox VFW has a remodeled bar and bar area and a new "Great American Game" has begun. The starting jackpot is \$100K. The first drawing will be February 9th; good luck to all. Winter doesn't seem to be lasting long. Minus 20 January 30th became a plus 50 degrees on February 4th. That was just two days after Punxsutawney Phil said, "No shadow, Get the boat ready"; he may be onto something, the lake is rapidly melting. *Stay Safe & Healthy, Rick*

Glacial Stone Seawalls—In January the BLPOA will apply for a Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) grant to defray the cost of installing glacial stone seawalls in front of existing concrete seawalls. Forty four property owners completed the grant paperwork. We expect to receive notification of the grant decision by the Indiana DNR in July/August. There is a process to receive approval for the funds so these glacial stone projects, if funding is approved, will happen in the fall of 2019 or the summer of 2020. More information will be given to the property owners that applied for the grant in the next few weeks.

Property Owners Association: Saturday, March 2 at 9:00 a.m. at the BLPOA building.

Bass Lake Neighborhood Watch: Monday, April 15 at 6:30 p.m. BLPOA building.

Exercise Class: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m. \$3 per class. BLPOA building

Bass Lake Festival: 4th Monday of each month at 5:00 CDT, BLPOA building

Starke County Park Board: Tuesday, March 12 at 6:00 p.m. at the Starke County Annex building

Prairie Trails Club (our nearby bike path): Thursday, March 14 at 6:00 CDT at the BLPOA building

Bass Lake Conservancy District (our sewers & pump): Monday, March 11 at 6:00 p.m. BLPOA building

Curbside Recycling—200 Members Needed to Create Program

Recycling Program—Starke County recently took away the recycling bins behind the BLPOA building. They will recycle from a new building 3 miles north of Knox on 250 north. In response to this, a BLPOA committee researched options for a Bass Lake recycling program. The current proposal is to provide curbside recycling to the property owners that would like to opt into the program for \$108/year. If you are interested in opting into the program, contact Mary Topelian, mjtopelian@att.net. Note that all BLPOA members will receive a hard copy letter via U.S. Postal Service in the next week. The purpose of the letter is to identify the property owners who will commit to curbside recycling.

County to Rebuild Triangle Intersection—Rik Ritzler, Starke County Highway Superintendent, has been working for over a year on a project to plan and rebuild the dangerous intersection at the CR 210 triangle. A fatal motorcycle accident occurred there last year; it is a hazardous intersection for our runners, golf carts, bikes and cars. The project will go out for bid on February 18 and will be completed before July 1. The Road will be closed for one weekend during construction. The goal of the project is to eliminate the triangle and make it a "T" intersection. Hats off to Rik and his staff for all that they do to serve our lake community.



This is the CR 210 intersection that will be rebuilt as part of the Starke County Highway Department safety project.

Bass Lake Property Owners Association

President ~ Rick Anderson
Vice President ~ Mary Topelian
Treasurer ~A. J. Gappa
Secretary ~ Kathy Laiter

Board Members

- Diane Blais
- Aileen Collura
- Cindy Hunter
- Rich Linkus
- Rik Ritzler
- Gayle Smith
- Ron Vendl

Board member contact information is on our website:

www.inbasslake.com

BLPOA Directory—If you'd like to advertise your business or have questions about the 2019 directory, please contact Kathy Laiter (773) 251-6410 or Mary Topelian (361) 290-2457. Their work is appreciated!

Indiana Lakes Conference—The Indiana Lakes Management Society is excited to host our 31st Annual Indiana Lakes Management conference at beautiful Oakwood Resort in Syracuse, Indiana, on March 21 and 22. The conference will be located on scenic Lake Wawasee this year, home of local partner Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation (WACF), and Indiana's largest natural lake at over 3,000 acres. What better place to reconnect with lake professionals, associations and good friends. ILMs has partnered this year with the Indiana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society to bring you a few special presentations. We will also hear from countless local experts about the status of our Indiana lakes, and the latest research and outreach efforts. Contact Sara Peel at speel@arionconsultants.com with registration questions.

The Hive—A Ladies' Giving Circle

If you are interested in learning more about The Hive, plan to join the annual social gathering on February 20 at 5:30 CT at the Nancy J. Dembowski Community Center in Knox. The Hive was established through the Starke County Community Foundation to give women the opportunity to pool their resource to give grants to community projects. To learn more, contact Jessica Martinovic, (574) 772-3665.

www.basslakefest.com—The Bass Lake Festival planning is underway, under the capable leadership of Mary Topelian, Tabitha Dillner, Stefanie Thompson and Carolla Heilstedt. Join the fun and get your family involved in one of the 30 events or volunteering for a few hours. The festival planning team meets the fourth Monday of every month at 5:00 CDT at the BLPOA building. Contact information and 2019 event information is on the website: www.basslakefest.com! Contact Mary Topelian, mjtopelian@att.net or Tabitha Dillner, tdillner@gmail.com with questions.

Correction to the Genealogy Article—We have two corrections to the article we ran last month about the Genealogy Room at the Starke County Historical Society. Audrey Kinezian, the genealogist, is available every Saturday in February from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., weather providing. Also the website is: <http://www.scpil.lib.in.us/historical/> and the phone number to (574) 772-2111.

News from the Bass Lake Conservancy District—Gene Ladd accepted the position of Director District 1 and was sworn in at the January meeting. His term will expire July 2019. Total rainfall for 2018 was 41.54 inches which was higher than the 16 year average of 38.51 inches. The lake pump ran for 153 days – adding over 199 million gallons. Rainfall for January 2019 was 2.51 inches. Director Jerry Broadstreet has submitted the requisite applications for 2019 Lake and River Enhancements (LARE) grant funding approval. Please visit our website at www.BLCD-IND.ORG. If you should have any questions/concerns pertaining to the District, please feel free to call the BLCD office at 574 772-2974 or email us at info@blcd-ind.org. Submitted by Larry Collura – Vice Chairman BLCD/Director District IV

Purdue Master Gardener Class—Local Purdue Extension Educator Phil Woolery is coordinating a Master Gardener class! It will start on Thursday, February 21 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. (central time.) The classes will run through May on Thursday evenings. The cost for the program is \$125. The curriculum offers an extensive notebook; topics include soils, plant science, plant nutrition, pesticides, plant disease, vegetables, flowers, lawns, weeds, animal damage, fruit and more. To register contact the Purdue Extension Office @ 574-772-9141 or pwoolery@purdue.edu.

Prairie Trails Club—Our local bike trail group is putting the finishing touches on a large grant request that would fund a 2-mile extension of the Erie Trail from US 35 to Starke CR 700 E. This grant request is part of Next Level Trails, a program that will invest \$90 million – the largest infusion of state trail funding in Indiana history – toward the development of regionally and locally significant trails throughout Indiana. To learn more the Next Level Trails Handbook is a good starting point and is available at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/outdoor/files/or-NextLevelTrails-APPHandbook.pdf>. If funded, the trail extension will provide better access to this phenomenal bike trail from Bass Lake.

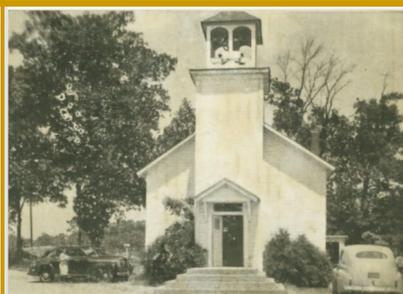
Website Updates—The Bass Lake Property Owners Association website (WWW.INBASSLAKE.COM) will be changing to a new more responsive, mobile-friendly site. Although we expect a seamless transition, brief outages may occur. Thanks to Larry Collura who does a fabulous job as our volunteer website master!

DNR Safe Boating Class—This annual course is offered by the Indiana DNR. It will be held at Koontz Lake this summer. Further information will be included in future newsletters. Thanks to BLPOA Board member Aileen Collura who coordinates this class for us each summer.



Here is the February 8, 1962 paper that covered the fire at the Crystal Ballroom.

Bass Lake History—Round Lake Church



This picture of the Round Lake Church was taken for the 21st Annual Round Lake Homecoming and Reunion in 1942. According to the reunion records; Rev. Charles Morse was the pastor, Clara Hansen was the Sunday School assistant and Lois Hansen was the secretary. Audrey Short was the pianist. Harriet Lucas was president of the Ladies Aid Society. Anna Lindstrand was the assistant and Inez Hewlett was the secretary.

Charles Lucas was president of the Old Settlers Organization. Henry White was president of the Cemetery Association. Governor Henry F. Schricker gave a talk during the program.

This church had replaced the original log building which had been built around 1850 by the United Brethren. It was believed to have been the first church erected in Starke County. It was built of hewn logs and chinked, but not plastered. The foundation consisted of large boulders. The floor was of native wide oak boards. It was lighted by kerosene lamps and heated by a box type wood stove. That first church was located on the cemetery grounds. The church shown in the picture was built across the road in 1885, where it stands today. Submitted by: Ron Vendl, Starke County Historical Society