



Happy Easter from Lorman Lane

Spring Board News

The board discussed a wide variety of issues at the March meeting. About three dozen people were in attendance and Clint conducted a question and answer period after the board's business.

Ben Bailey, chair of the roads and grounds committee, reported that he had received five bids for our new landscaping contract to start in April. He commented that the new contract would be more detailed and clarifies the work that the committee expected to be done. Also unlike previous contracts Ben said there is a clause allowing the board to terminate the contract if the board is not happy with the performance. Once the new landscaping contract is signed Ben said his focus will shift to getting the roads patched.

Myra Hester Cook, who oversees construction requests, said the board had recently approved closing in a carport. She reminded everyone that construction request forms are on the Lake Lorman website. The form should be printed and given to a board member along with the project plans. This will facilitate the approval process.

Kelsey Daniel reported that members of the beautification committee met with a Mississippi State extension horticulturalist and a landscape architect recently for suggestions about improving the appearance of the gates. The beautification committee announced it would be having a fundraiser to pay for the improvements. Kelsey thanked Bill Jones for getting the two outside experts to meet with interested residents. She warned, "It's going to get ugly before it gets better."

Luke Andries reported an infestation of otters, beavers, and nutria on both lakes. Head of the lakes and dams committee, Luke said the Critter Guy, our animal control resource, has set traps in the big lake and will be called for the little lake as well. He added that he believes there is a sluice behind the big lake where the animals live and it might be better to get them at that source before they get to our lakes. He said the fishing club wants to “shock” the lake as they do every year. This process helps determine the health of the fish in the lakes. The cost to the board is \$675 for the big lake and \$400 for Little Lorman. Finally, Luke said that he cannot make exceptions allowing skiing when the red flag is up. Last summer he got many, many calls, he said. He asked people to observe the boating regulations and please adhere to the flag policy.

Karen de Kock, social and clubhouse chair, asked people who are interested in serving on the social committee or taking a women’s self-defense course to sign up or let her know. She mentioned that we have a pest control service that sprays and traps for insects and mice. Anyone using the clubhouse should let her know if they spot something so the service can be informed.

Clint serves as liaison with the Water and Sewer board and has been attending their meetings. He enjoys earning their issues and commented, “They are doing an incredible job with what they have because our system is very old.”

He reported on the vandalism on a couple of signs on Lakeshore Drive and one on Coker Road near the entrance to gate 7. The board had agreed to pay \$100 for the name of the culprit but no one reported knowing the perpetrator(s). He thanked Bob Marsh for using solvent cleaning the spray paint off the signs.

He mentioned Myra had won first place in the American Heritage Arts competition sponsored by the Mississippi Daughters of the American Revolution. The design was based on a photo of her grandson and his father.

Clint then gave a detailed accounting of the legal challenges facing the lake. These are reported in a separate story in the newsletter.

(KD)

The Board Addresses Legal Disputes

In a lengthy discussion at the March board meeting, President Clint Brantley explained the status of several ongoing legal disputes that the board has been handling since last May. Clint explained that the previous board started the process and the current board is continuing the process of trying to equalize everything across the board for everyone by ensuring that the covenants are upheld. Efforts by both boards have been aimed at improving the life of the community. The proposed amendments to the covenants, some of which Clint said he agreed with and some he didn’t, were part of that effort to improve our life.

Clint explained that as a result the community incurred large legal bills since last May, which now total over \$23,000. Clint said he was not trying to justify the bills. He said there has been no set fee for the legal work and the board attorney, Steve Smith, charges by the minute. Clint said he might spend two minutes on the phone but then there would be charges for research, other phone calls, etc. “It all adds up and it adds up pretty quickly.” Clint noted, “It’s time. If you ask him to send an email or give information, you have no control over what the individual does after you give instructions. It just got way out of hand. We paid for his trips from his office to here and trips to Canton. That is why it’s a monetary problem....We learn from our mistakes.”

He said the new board was blind to what it was about to see when it met for the first time in December after the annual election. The legal issues had been a massive undertaking. He stressed

the prior board had just been trying to make the community better and the current board is still working on that.

Board member Kelsey Daniel said, "We ran (for seats on the board) on full transparency. We manage your funds. Doing the right thing is not always easy."

Karen de Kock, another new board member, said the board wanted to dispel rumors and misunderstandings about the legal questions.

Clint then addressed three outstanding legal issues the board has been dealing with since last year which they continue to try to resolve.

The first situation Clint addressed dealt with the two lots purchased by Marti and Sam Reynolds from Dr. Johnson on the north side of Lakeshore Drive. Clint said the two issues involved are whether they have an obligation to pay maintenance fees on those lots and whether the storage building on the property is proper. Clint did say it had been approved by the Board of Supervisors. He said Bill Cox is working with the Reynolds' attorney and he expressed the expectation that the matter would soon be resolved "not costing the Board anything." He praised Bill who "has stepped up to the plate and worked as a friend of the lake." (As of March 30 a settlement has not been concluded. Marti and Sam Reynolds said, "We believe we have finally gotten the details worked out and we hope to have all the signatures in the very near future.")

"The job of the board is to uphold the covenants," Clint continued. That's not an easy task because everyone wants to do what they want to do." He said when the rental problems with Mac Patrick surfaced in May 2014 Steve Smith was asked to negotiate with Patrick. "We should have stood up and said no more."

When a renter remained in one of the rental properties past what the board had thought was the agreed upon deadline of February 2014, Clint and Luke Andries, another board member, met with Mac Patrick to discuss the situation. Clint reported he was "dumbfounded at what took place." Clint read from the covenants which prohibit rental properties, except for those grandfathered in when the covenants were filed in 2006. Clint said, "He believes he's right. The board believes he's violating the covenants. He's circumventing all the policies."

Luke characterized the discussion with Mac Patrick as "a lot of rhymes and riddles".

Patrick told Clint and Luke he had a "contract for deed" with the renter who remains in one of his houses. Patrick subsequently gave Clint a copy of the contract after redacting some of the information. Clint reported at the board meeting he wanted to know what the trigger points were to know if the person is actually buying the deed. "You know, there's nothing to it because there's no triggering points." The board had hoped to deal with the matter directly, Clint said. Since it was not able to reach an agreement, the board has decided to send Mac Patrick a letter, which Kelsey read aloud, telling him that the contract is not a deed and he is still in violation of the covenants, his lake rights are revoked, and a lawsuit will be filed to enforce compliance, including recovering all attorney's expenses as permitted under our covenants. Clint summarized, "Please understand we as a board are making every effort to fulfill our responsibilities under the covenants."

(Mac Patrick did not respond to subsequent requests by the Newsletter for his position or side of the story.)

Clint also discussed the status of the Azordgean case. This involves six lots sold by Piedmont to the Azordegan family. The lots are now owned by a limited liability corporation owned by Sherry Azordegan. Clint said the two issues in the case are how many votes are these lots entitled to at the annual meeting and how many annual maintenance fees should be paid on them. He explained that

there is a conflict between the deed transferring ownership and the lake covenants. Azordegan filed suit last fall to clarify the dues and voting rights. Earlier in March Steve Smith filed an answer in chancery court. Clint said both sides want to settle but attempts have been unsuccessful. He said the legal paperwork is too complex to read out loud at the board meeting but is available at the Madison County chancery court website. Additionally, he offered to send the links to anyone who emails him. "It's public information and it's out there. You can read it for yourself."

He concluded, "It's unfortunate this happened, but this is where we are. We're answering the suit to protect this community. That's our responsibility."

Sherry Azordegan was at the meeting and I asked her if she wanted to give a written response for the newsletter stating her position in the case. Sherry said she was comfortable with what Clint had said about the case. She commented, "The only thing I would add is I requested a one-on-one with Clint and was denied."

(KD)

Lake Lorman Book Exchange

The Lake Lorman book exchange is in operation. It is based on the Little Free Library concept of "take a book, leave a book". Currently, the exchange is a plastic box located on the lake-side porch of the clubhouse, on or next to the stairs. We may get fancier as time goes on, particularly if the exchange shows a lot of activity.

Residents are encouraged to help themselves to as many books as they want, but to always add an equal number of books to replace the ones they take. We also welcome extra book contributions but please do not overfill the box, as dampness will ruin the books if the box is not shut tightly. Some Little Free Library participants like to editorialize by placing a post-it with comments inside the books they drop off, indicating what they thought of the book.

A recent visit to the exchange showed about 80% turnover of titles from those initially stocked several weeks earlier. The variety of new titles suggests multiple readers may already be participating. There were thrillers, romances, how-to books (including a couple on running), mysteries, inspirational and children's books. A previous visit had found some cookbooks and poetry.

If there are more books than will fit or there are other concerns, please call/text Judy Lyons at 601-918-0797. She will store extra books if we have more than fit in the box. Judy frequents a few other Little Free Library locations and will periodically swap out books with those other locations if we need to increase variety of selections over time.

(JL)

The Bird's Eye View

By Dale and Sarah Lea Anglin

Spring is in the air, and now is the time that breeding birds around Lake Lorman are hard at work incubating eggs and raising young. One of our favorite spots on the lake is the heron and egret rookery on the island. While many birds like herons, geese, ducks, cardinals, jays, orchard orioles, and the bald eagle use natural areas for nests, many birds will readily nest in home made nest boxes. We thought we'd give you a little information this month on some of the winged creatures that nest around the lake in structures that are easily built. Below are some nest boxes and the winged creatures that inhabit them at



Lake Lorman.

Purple Martins nest in multi-unit houses on poles, with 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ -2 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch hole diameters; each individual compartment is minimally 6" x 6" x 6".



Great Crested Flycatchers nest in a 6" x 6" floor box with a 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " hole diameter. Our box is already being used...nest material is coming out of the hole!



Eastern Bluebirds nest in boxes with 5" x 5" floors with 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter holes.



Carolina Chickadees and Prothonotary Warblers will use the same nest box (albeit not simultaneously!) These boxes are 5" x 5" with a whole diameter of 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ ". The chickadee will use a 4" x 4" floor, as well.



The largest of our woodpeckers, the Pileated Woodpecker, will nest 20 feet high in an 8" x 8" floor box with a 3" - 4" hole diameter.





The inquisitive little House Wren is an opportunistic nester... leave out a boot, a folding chair, a fern, just about anything with a small cavity, and you may come home to a wren nest in it!



Although not a bird, a wonderful winged creature found at Lake Lorman is the Mexican Free-Tailed Bat. These little guys are small, with a body about the size of my pinky finger (and that's small!), but they can eat a lot of mosquitoes! We built a bat house in the hope of attracting more of these little mammals to eat the mosquitoes and whiteflies that pester us and our gardens.



Until next time, enjoy watching the nesting activities of our breeding birds this spring!

Notes from the dirt dauber

THE SEVEN GATES OF LAKE LORMAN – sounds like the title of a mystery novel but in fact the mystery might be finally solved.



Enjoying the Adirondack chairs purchased for the Clubhouse by the Beautification Club

Ms Beliech also left some brochures for any residents who wanted to spruce up their homes.

A second expert, Clinton Streeter, landscape architect with Garden Works in Ridgeland, met with a group and has provided sketches of possible layouts for each gate. Both of these individuals provided this service to us at no cost and their input will be invaluable to restoring the plantings at the gates.

The Beautification Club has been working to improve the tired look of our entry gates. Over the years plants have died, become overgrown, and have been terribly neglected to the point that they were not the welcoming entry way to our homes but rundown reminders of what neglected plants can become.

This past month members of the Beautification Club met with Donna Beliech, Madison County Horticulturist, who toured the gates with the members and gave advice and provided a list of plants that might be suitable for each location.





Additionally, the cost of the gate renewal is not coming out of the Annual Maintenance Fee, but through fund raisers held by the Beautification Club. One such event was the Silent Auction held at the Clubhouse on March 26. Over \$2,000.00 was raised. Anyone not attending this event missed a fun outing with neighbors and also the chance to bid on and buy some really neat items.

The dirt dauber understands that future fund raisers might be planned, but the Beautification Club is also requesting donations from our residents. Donations small or large can be made

by calling Kelsey Daniel at 601.503.5105. She will make arrangements to accept the donation and if you are interested in joining this service club she can give you the details. My experience indicates that it is not all work and a lot of fun and fellowship goes on at their gatherings.

It seems the first step will be to relocate a lot of signage that has been installed in front of the gates, pressure wash the old brick and cut back and fertilize those plants which will be preserved and rework the beds to accept new plantings. This is not an overnight project... the gates did not get into the shape they are in overnight and the process of renewal will not occur overnight... but with the proper planning and work our seven gates should again say WELCOME.



Gate 4

Until next issue ~ Peace & Love,

dirt dauber 

Congratulations to:

Quilt competition



Myra Hester Cook, winner of the national 2015 American Heritage Fiber Arts Competition, explained her quilt's genesis: "My quilt is titled "Exploring Our American Heritage. It is inspired by a picture I took of my grandson Will sitting on his Dad's shoulders reading an historical marker. What a wonderful way to learn about history, visiting the actual site where history was made and learning about it with your family."



The competition was sponsored by the Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Her quilt will be exhibited at the DAR

Continental Congress in Washington D.C. this summer with winners in other categories. The theme

of the competition this year was “Celebrate America! Exploring Our American Heritage.” Myra’s quilt also won first place in the Mississippi Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Myra said, “My grandmother taught me to sew when I was very young, but quilting started when I wanted to make a quilt for my first grandchild-about 19 years ago.”

(KD)



Yard of the Month

Cindy Holt awards each month's recipient a \$25 gift certificate from Lowe's. Yard of the Month photographs are taken by **Bill Deveer**.



Frankie and Lewis Diehl on Lorman Lane
March Yard of the Month

News from the Fishing Club

The Lake Lorman Fishing Club had its first meeting and would like to announce its first event for 2015. We will host a lake wide fish fry on Saturday, April 25th from 11 to 1 at the clubhouse. Fish will be fresh from the lake taken on the Friday the day before. We ask for donations but would like for you to join our club. Mark your calendar for this date. I know you will enjoy the food.

(MP)

Boating Safety

With the advent of spring, boat traffic on the lake will soon be increasing. Here are a few tips to keep our lakes safe.

The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks has an informative website (mdwfp@ms.gov) which provides information about hunting, fishing, boating regulations, licensure requirements, outdoor events, and safety tips. The "Boating Safety" section lists six (paraphrased) points.

- Alcohol and boating don't mix. Over 50% of drowning result from boating incidents involving alcohol.
- Use Coast Guard approved life jackets for everyone, driver and passengers, when boating or fishing
- Develop a float plan. Tell a responsible person where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Complete a boater education course. Some are available online at the department's website.
- Watch the weather. Stop boating as soon as you see or hear a storm.

Of course, Lake Lorman has its own list of boating rules. Some of the state's suggestions are somewhat similar to our rules, such as boat driver and person being pulled may not consume alcohol, Coast Guard approved flotation devices must be on board for each person of the boat, and a boater safety course is required for all drivers born after June 30, 1980.

We have additional requirements including:

- *going counter-clockwise when travelling at wake speed;
- *boats pulling skiers must have an observer (at least 11 years old) on board in addition to the driver;
- *wake surfacing is prohibited as is the use of wake-enhancing devices;
- *sailboats and other non-powered boats have the right of way;
- boats shall leave no wake outside the buoys, in the coves, and when the red flag is flying;
- *operating a boat in a reckless manner that could cause personal injury or damage to property is prohibited.

These are just some of the boating rules concerning safety issues. The full list is available at lakelormanms.com under covenants and rules. Boat owners are responsible for complying with all the rules and regulations, not just these highlights. Please make sure your teenagers also know the lake rules.

(KD)

"If We Can Find Our Way Without a Map, It Must be Time to Move On"



Tom and Carole McClellan recently joined the Lake Lorman community. They now reside on Cedar Ridge Drive. Their previous address was quite a bit more variable. After Tom retired from 20 years as an Air Force pilot and 15 years with Fed-Ex and Carole retired from her career as a forensic CPA, they spent the next few years living in an RV, touring the country.

Tom and Carole have been married for several years when they discovered they had both shared the dream of touring in an RV. "We are not campers," they clarified. Their goal was not to walk in the woods, fish or sit by a campfire. Their goal was to set up a mobile residence so they could experience life in various parts of the

country. They started with a small pull-behind trailer, visiting locations around Mississippi. That progressed to a few years pulling a 5th-wheel, longer trailer, setting out for excursions of one to two months at a time. Eventually, they moved up to the 40-foot, 400-square foot RV. After about a year and a half spent mostly on the road, they found it became burdensome to have to interrupt their travels to return home to maintain their house and yard. They sold their home, and hit the road fulltime for the past 3.5 years, along with their poodle, Elvis.

They readily speak of their love of the RV lifestyle. They met lots of nice people (many of them retired military) and swapped stories around the country. They were impressed by the ingenuity of their fellow travelers as they shared tips for multi-purposing objects and doing a lot in a small space. They lived at many scenic parks along the route. A favorite was Glacier National Park, where they describe local towns as "straight out of the 1940's" in terms of values and friendly interactions. The route from Los Vegas to Bryce Canyon was another trip that stands out in their memory for its scenic beauty. They also spent a lot of time at camp sites on military installations. The military installations were very affordable (15-\$20/night with long-term rates also available), plus offered access to the PX and other base amenities. Many installations are located in very scenic parts of the country, such as along the Florida panhandle or west coast. Tom points out that many families and retirees save a lot of money by living the RV lifestyle, since utilities are included in the very reasonable site fees. When on the move, Tom and Carole typically drove one or two days, would stay two nights somewhere, then drive on. Setting up/breaking down at each site was work, so their aim was to get to a destination where they would stay at least a week, often up to four months. They joked that once they could find their way around without a map or GPS, they would comment to each other that it must be time to move on.

They originally hit the road because they wanted some alone-time as a couple, they wanted to escape extreme weather, and wanted to see the country. What brought them off the road was the desire to spend more time with their children and grandchildren and Carole's desire to have a larger kitchen and a quilting studio. (Impressively, Carole had managed to continue her quilting even while living in 400SF.) Before moving into their home at Lake Lorman, they immediately enlarged the kitchen and combined the master bedroom and its walk-in closet into a dedicated space for quilting. The RV is gone but a wealth of memories and great stories remain.

(JL)

Journey to Africa





Lake Lorman residents Karen and Stephen de Kock recently returned from a trip to South Africa. Stephen is a native of Cape Town and the couple travelled to the country to visit Stephen's parents, his sisters and their families. The ten day trip vacation consisted of spending time on the beach, trips to the wine country, and sailing in two oceans around the tip of Africa-the South Atlantic Ocean and the Indian Ocean.



They have lived at Lake Lorman for exactly two years. Stephen is a Senior Vice President at Community Trust Bank in Commercial Lending. Karen owns an interior design boutique called Protea Dekor. She recently moved her business to Flora to be closer to home. Karen is celebrating her tenth year in business this month. She plans to have a grand opening at her new location and anniversary sale in the next few weeks.



(KdK)

Save the Dates:

SCHEDULED EVENTS:

- **Lake Lorman Utility District Board Meeting:** Monday, April 13, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
- **Lake Lorman Lot Owners Association Board Meeting:** Monday, April 20, 2015 - 6:00 p.m.
- **Lake Lorman Lake Wide Fish Fry:** Saturday, April 25 – 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- **Lake Lorman Utility District Board Meeting:** Monday, May 11, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
- **Lake Lorman Lot Owners Association Board Meeting:** Monday, May 18, 2015 - 6:00 p.m.
- **Lake Lorman Utility District Board Meeting:** Monday, June 8, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
- **Lake Lorman Lot Owners Association Board Meeting:** Monday, June 15, 2015 - 6:00 p.m.

Be sure to check the **Calendar** on the Lake Lorman website for scheduled activities, meetings and events.

Twin Lakes Baptist Church

You Are Invited to Join Us ~ Everyone is Welcome!

Easter Services:

- **Good Friday Service** at 6:30 pm
- **Easter Sunrise Service** at 6:30 am followed by light breakfast in fellowship hall
- **9:30 am Bible Study**
- **10:30 am Worship** the Sanctuary Choir presents Easter musical - **Jesus Saves**
- **No Evening Services or Activities**

Upcoming Events:

- **Sunday, May 10th** -- Mother's Day and Parent/Baby dedication -- 10:30 am
- **Sunday, May 24th** -- Memorial Day Picnic -- 5:00 pm
- **Thursday - Sunday, July 16th - 19th** -- **Vacation Bible School** -- 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm
- **Sunday, August 30th** -- **One Way Quartet** in concert -- 10:30 am (Love offering to be taken)

Regular Weekly services:

- **Sunday-Bible Study** 9:30 am, Worship 10:30 am and 6:30 pm. Children and youth meet at 6:30 pm.
- **Wednesday, Supper** 5:30 pm and Bible Study 6:30 pm. Call church at 601-856-2305 no later than Tuesday morning to make reservation for meal. Cost \$6.00.

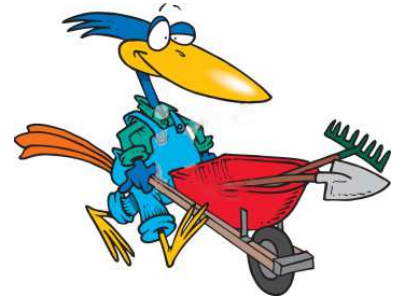
Hugh Smith, Pastor (601-259-4567) - ALL ARE INVITED

Announcement

The Newsletter staff would like to hear comments from our readers as to what you think of the publication, how we can improve or what type of information, stories, etc. you would like to see. Your comments would be appreciated both positive and negative and your suggestions will help us provide you with more of the information you would like the letter to cover. The newsletter is published independently from the Lake Lorman Board of Directors and uses no funds from the maintenance fee to publish.

Classifieds:

The Newsletter Staff has been contacted regarding yard work help by local youths. If anyone is interested in helping with grass cutting, weeding, trimming and various manual labor chores around the house please let us know and we will be happy to run your advertisement for free. This applies to Lake Lorman residents. Yard Maintenance advertisements for businesses are available at very reasonable rates.



Babysitting Available: Lake Lorman resident **Reagan Leeper** is available for babysitting young children in the Lake Lorman community. Rates are negotiable depending on services needed. Please contact **Reagan** at 601-502-4223 or danajwhite@gmail.com.

Pet Sitting Available: Lake Lorman residents **Emma** and **Sarah Elkin** (who live in Gate 7) are available for pet sitting, pet bathing, and pet walking in the Lake Lorman community. They will also water plants if needed. Rates are negotiable depending on services needed. Please contact **Emma or Sarah Elkin** at 601-212-5658 or elkin6@comcast.net.



Classifieds are your opportunity to tell your neighbors about anything you might have for sale or services offered. If you are a Lake Lorman Lot Owner Association member in good standing (dues paid, etc.) advertising a personal item (boat, lawnmower, table, etc.) listings are **free** – just send us your listings and remember the **Lake Lorman Community News** publishes approximately bi-monthly. A **Business Advertisement Price Guide** is available upon request. All advertising fees go toward Lake Lorman Community News expenses.

Contact **Kelley Dickinson** (601-856-7371 kelleydickinson@lakelormanms.com) or **Bill Jones** (601-331-2417 billjones@lakelormanms.com) with suggestions for stories of interest, "Letters to the Editor", school awards, births, weddings, trips, etc.

For additional lake information: <http://www.lakelormanms.com> and on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-MS/Lake-Lorman/309416818289>.

Change Happens: Please let us know of changes to your email or home address lakelormancommunitynews@lakelormanms.com.