LAKE LORMAN COMMUNITY NEWS



Back Row: Don Seagrove, Woody Holt, Jimmy King; Front Row: Mary Ann Sones, Linda McCraw

News from the Utility Board

In a phone interview, Don Seagrove reported that the Board of Supervisors has narrowed the search down to four possible locations for an additional fire station for the Southwest Madison County Volunteer Fire Department. As a result of the redrawn district lines the population center has moved north and the supervisors want to locate the new station north in accord with the shift. The new station will be in addition to the current station which will remain in operation.

Land is currently being surveyed and appraised, Don said. The supervisors hope to have the purchase completed by the end of 2014. Their timetable calls for funds to be approved in the next budget and construction to begin in 2015. The supervisors have agreed to pay for both the land and the building. The money which had been set aside for Lake Lorman's fire district will be transferred to the Southwest fire district when construction is started, as per the agreement when Lake Lorman joined with Southwest.

Don also reported that he was appointed in April a commissioner for the Southwest District by the Board of Supervisors. Jimmy King also sits on the board of commissioners, as well as the Lake Lorman Utility District board. It was agreed as part of the agreement when we joined the Southwest district that Lake Lorman would have two representatives on the board. Don had high praise for Supervisor Steen who he said has attended all the Southwest fire district commission meetings. Steen said he and our supervisor Karl Banks are working to get the new station located and built. In other comments Don reported that there has been no word yet on Lake Lorman's request, along with Bear Creek, to tie in to the Annandale sewer line. We need permission from the city of Madison to do this. Don said it is necessitated by Environmental Protection Agency regulations which will take effect in 2019 prohibiting or decreasing limits of 19 different nutrients in our waste water. Compliance with these new regulations will be very expensive for a small district which is why Lake Lorman has requested permission to tie into Madison's. As a backup plan, Don said the Lake Lorman Utility District is working with engineers to evaluate packages of systems and equipment that can remove the proscribed nutrients and meet the new standards, although this will be expensive.

Finally, Don reported that the results of the annual comprehensive financial audit have been completed by the board's accounting firm and copies of the results have been sent to the state board of health, the USDA, which holds the original 40 year loan for the first well, and the Madison County Board of Supervisors. Don said the audit is very comprehensive as it considers all aspects of the LLUD's operations.

If you have any water issues and/or sewer problems, including a flashing red light or no light on the sewer pumping station in your yard, please call 601-981-1657 any time. Bills can be paid by mail the Lake Lorman Utility District, P.O. Box 298 in Flora, MS 39071, or in person at the North Hinds Water Association, 1094 Pocahontas Street in Pocahontas Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 11:00am and from 1:00 to 5:00pm. A drop box is available when the office is closed. Bills may also be paid by bank draft. Call 601-981-1657.

Volunteers Needed

Ben Hawthorne, co-captain at the Southwest Madison County Volunteer Fire Department, spoke at last month's board meeting. He gave some safety tips which help the fire department locate your house in an emergency. For example, he suggested having house numbers well lit. If you've called 911 at night he recommended turning on the porch light and flashing it to signal to emergency personnel. Ben also cautioned about burning trash too close to structures or near overhanging branches. He said water should be kept close and, of course, fires should never be left unattended. Ben, who is an RN, stressed that the department has good young people who have recently completed the national first responders' class. He pointed out that 90 % of the calls the department answers are for medical emergencies. "We need some more mature people with medical or firefighting experience," he said. Not everyone needs experience, he pointed out, though because the department does training and courses are offered. Ben mentioned that there are a couple of women on the force and women in the neighborhood are also invited to join as well as men. He said an auxiliary staff is needed to help set up water stations and provide blankets and clothes. "There's always something someone can do."

Ben said visitors are welcome to check out the equipment. He invited people to bring their children and grandchildren by the station. The volunteers meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 6:30. Ben said he will be happy to answer questions or provide more information. His number is 601-529-7827.

Legal Matters

Board president Betty Lang introduced attorney Steve Smith to the audience of about forty people who showed up for last month's (May) board meeting. She explained that with possible legal issues facing the board, the board decided it needed legal counsel. She said Smith has a house on Lakeshore Drive and has practiced land use law for 35 years. He has been attorney for the city of Ridgeland and he has also advised the Lake Caroline Homeowners' Association.

Smith said he has read through the covenants once. He said it is better to try to work out a situation rather than litigate which is expensive. It's better when there's a problem for the board to work on a one to one basis issue by issue. He said sometimes covenants can be changed to work better.

Kelsey Daniel, who has been acting as spokesman for a group of concerned neighbors, said that some people recently paid another land use attorney, Mike MacInnis, to review our covenants. He said the covenant against rental property was strongly worded and enforceable. Kelsey asked the board to consider hiring or involving MacInnis. Last month Kelsey had told the board the group was going to contact a lawyer. She said that MacInnis was going to mail and email copies of his report to the board members. John Malanchak said he had received the letter from MacInnis; Luke Andries said he hadn't.

Kelsey said people are wanting a resolution and are trying to be helpful, not ugly.

Betty Lang responded the board is looking at Smith because he has represented other HOAs and it needs legal counsel for other issues besides the rental issue. She said he is helpful and knowledgeable.

Betty Marsh pointed out that many people consider this (violation of covenant against rental properties) the # 1 priority. She complained the board has listened month after month. Board members objected to this characterization. Jill Lazarus said, "We've done a lot." Luke Andries said, "Our time is voluntary. Let's be neighborly and be respectful." Ben Bailey said there is no written procedure for enforcement.

Former board president Lucky Chaplain said Smith has a vested interest because he owns a house here.

Bob Lazarus said, "This is a bigger topic than we realize." He pointed out that it is expensive to go to court and other methods can be used to enforce covenants, such as utilities, access, or fines that have to be put in the covenant to give the person due process.

Gene Delancy said he was secretary of the board when this problem arose in 2006. The board at that time refused to address the issue and when enough signatures were collected the board president wouldn't sign the petition. Delancy said he certified the signatures on the petition and filed it with the county. He said problems will continue if "the board doesn't get a backbone."

Jill Lazarus said we'll have to raise the dues because it will be expensive.

Betty Marsh pointed out that the covenant allows for the board to collect the litigation costs from the violator.

Attorney Smith commented, "There are a lot of ways to skin that cat." He added fines could be assessed by the board and liens attached.

Ben Bailey said that a lot of things have to be pulled together and meshed and the board wants a lawyer to help with the task of any needed changes.

Betty Lang said that the board would not hire a lawyer if it could not pay for him. Lucky Chaplain suggested setting up a legal defense fund. He said, "The more you enforce the rules, the more people will realize they have to obey the rules."

Dock Daniel said he would put up money to litigate the issue and said others in the group would. Betty Lang said the board did not realize that the group was going to consult with an attorney. "The board didn't understand you were doing this for us," she said with respect to the letter that MacInnis prepared about the enforcement of the rental covenant. She said the board would take the letter under consideration.

Other business

Treasurer Jill Lazarus reported there is a bank balance of\$115,340 and an additional \$24,152 in our emergency fund. She said there is \$10,035 in unpaid dues. Only two people owe more than one year and most of the money is due from one lot owner. Some people dispute the fee based on their deeds, which do not give them lake rights.

In other business the board discussed the ongoing problem with some boats that create large wakes. Luke Andries, who chairs the lakes and dams committee, said that big waves are washing out retaining walls. The problem is caused by boats that have bladders filled with water that weigh down the back of the boats. Luke said, "This lake can't sustain larger wakes without tearing up people's property."

By the end of June all fuel-powered boats will be required to have new boat stickers which will have the owners' lot number for identification purposes. Boat owners must have paid up dues, current MS boat registration, and proof of liability insurance or an umbrella policy. Luke said that when boats are registered, whether by mail or at a board meeting, the size of the boat model will be confirmed by using Google to check with the manufacturer. Boats without the new stickers will be considered trespassing. The board is advising people who see unregistered boats after June to call the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks at 1-800-BE-SMART and report the MI# and license tag of the boat trailer if it is available. The board has said it will press charges against trespassers. Other boating violations should be reported to a board member.

Ben Bailey, who chairs the covenants committee, reported he wants legal advice to develop to some covenant modifications to make them more enforceable. He hopes to have new covenants and covenant changes discussed and voted on at a special board meeting on August 18 or September at the latest. Judy Lyons reminded everyone that at least 60 days notice of the proposed changes has to be given to lot owners.

John Malanchak reported that the dams will be mowed the first week of June. He planned to meet with contractors to discuss repairing Westline Drive and the parking lot at the clubhouse. He said if there is extra money available it would be used for the potholes on Lakeshore Drive and Cedar Ridge, which he called "deplorable."

The Bird's Eye View

By Dale and Sarah Lea Anglin

May and June are the most active family times at Lake Lorman—for birds, that is. The babies can be seen everywhere! In the past few weeks we have seen quite a few bird "families" on the lake and around the house, and thought it would be nice to share with our readers a little about juvenile birds and how to spot them. One of the most surprising things to many persons first learning about birds is that the nest is not like our houses: the nest is strictly for incubating eggs and raising young birds until they are mature enough to leave it—or fledge. Once they fledge, juveniles and parents no longer "live" in a nest; they roost in nearby habitat (the habitat depends on the bird species). Fear not, however; like our own children, the little ones are not fully self-sufficient when they fledge. The parents remain nearby, teaching them life skills (as they are constantly pestered by the young for food). Unlike our young, however, when they fledge, juvenile birds are near adult size and may sometimes closely resemble the adults in plumage.

How, then, can one identify a juvenile bird? While the specifics are clearly different for different species, a combination of size, features, plumage, and (of course!) behavior lend clues. We often find behavior to be the best indicator. For example, last week we were watching some of the feeders around the house, and a dull-colored cardinal (translate: female or juvenile) perched adjacent to a brightly colored male. The dull-colored bird was vibrating its wings and making a trill-like noise ("begging"), while hopping around and chasing the male, which would take seeds in its beak and feed the begging bird. This is classic "I'm a young bird" behavior—juveniles follow the adults, who teach them to find



their own food. This week, the young bird was still begging, chasing its parents around, but the parents refused to feed it. Tough love, maybe; but the young bird did learn to feed itself. In our world, the parents would now be reclined in a hammock on a mountainside, recuperating from the exhausting task of raising a family. Most, however, are repeating the cycle to raise a second clutch of chicks.



We were privileged for a second year in a row to have a pair of prothonotary warblers nest in a piece of yard art on our front porch (if you look very closely, you can see nesting material in the mouth of the art!) For weeks the parents incubated eggs, and

then fed the voracious young seemingly constantly. We were in the right place at the right time and saw them fledge—a rarity, and the first time we actually saw the young. We were working on the side of the

R

house when there was a loud stirring in nearby bushes: both parents and three very vocal begging young were buzzing around, low near the ground. In addition to their vibrating-wings and

begging vocalization behaviors, the young had another hallmark of new fledglings: their tails were very short, which made flying quite difficult. They half-hopped, half-flew as they followed the parents into the tree line. A week later, we still hear them calling (much more adult-like now) at the edge of the woods.

Some of the nests and young likely most visible to residents of the Big Lake can be seen on the island near the middle of the lake—for quite a few years, there has been a rookery of herons and egrets that nest in the pine trees on the island. The young can be heard during the day, more active in early morning and early evening, just before sunset, making an almost mechanical "cluck cluck cluck cluck cluck" sound, as they beg for food. Both great blue herons and great egrets use the rookery. We are grateful to the owners of the island for allowing such a magnificent beauty to remain on their property, and are equally grateful to the birds for becoming silent once the sun sets!

Other very visible families on both lakes are ducks and geese. Many owners have placed wood duck boxes near their properties, and these have been used by wood ducks to raise young. Like the woodland songbirds, once these fledge, they head to the woods for cover and "life



skills" training. Canada geese, on the other hand, nest on the banks to the lake, and their downy-feathered young are a delight to watch as they follow their parents around the lakes.



Many other species nest in and around Lake Lorman; those we have seen include orchard orioles, Baltimore orioles, great crested flycatchers, tufted titmouse, purple martins, barn swallows, ruby-throated hummingbirds, mockingbirds, Eastern bluebirds, Carolina wrens, four woodpecker species, Carolina chickadees, a variety of hawks, and more. Of all of these, the Carolina wrens choose the most variable and interesting nest sites: anything from a folded camp chair, to old shoes, to ferns have been selected at our home. Enjoy trying to identify the young by their slightly smaller size, shorter tails (which grow out very quickly),

and behaviors!

Beautification Committee

Ever wonder how a yard gets chosen as Lake Lorman Yard of the Month? Need help clearing out some old brush? Interested in getting involved with your neighbors to help maintain the neighborhood, and coincidentally, enhance your property values?

The Beautification Committee operates under the auspices of the Lake Lorman board. Its goals are to help Lake Lorman look its best and be an even better place to live. The committee doesn't have formal officers, but I recently spoke with Jean Davis and Kathy Warren, two active members of the group.

Jean Davis recently handed over the task of picking the yard of the month after several years. Traditionally the name of the person responsible for that task is not released but Jean discussed the criteria that she used when she had the job. Driving around the entire neighborhood, she would look for yards that were well maintained and tastefully decorated, where homeowners had put much care and hard work into having a neat yard. Sometimes there would be something that would stand out, such as art work or fun, quirky ideas. Creativity at special seasons of Christmas, Halloween, and Easter would also draw her attention. Kathy said the house itself wasn't considered. She noted that the award, which includes a \$25 Lowe's gift card, as well as the sign posted in the yard, is a way of recognizing neighbors who have made a special effort to enhance the appearance of their yard and saying thank you to them.

Jean also mentioned that there are so many positive things going on. The beautification committee wants to keep things looking nice. She stressed that the committee has volunteers who can help neighbors who need help if they can't get things out to the curb. She said, "We want people to know help is available."

The committee coordinated the recent trash pick-up days with the county. Another project of the beautification committee was decorating the clubhouse for the Christmas season. The committee also wants to welcome new neighbors with a small gift, contact information for questions or problems, and a copy of the covenants and bylaws.

Kathy Warren said the group plans to meet later this month to discuss a fundraiser for their next project, which she expects will be working on the front gates. She thanks everyone for participating in Clean-up month in May. She pointed out that keeping property in good condition is for our own enjoyment as well as our neighbors.

If you are interested in getting involved, or you have a new neighbor to be welcomed, or you need help clearing something out, call Kathy Warren at 601-201-0980 or Jean Davis at 601-331-1827.



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**.



Chuck & Marcia Tazma 125 Lakeview Ct. May Yard of the Month



Mr. & Mrs. Stan Coring 105 Lakeshore Drive June Yard of the Month

Simply stated... "This is not acceptable behavior on Lake Lorman!"







NOT FOR JUST ANYONE'S TRASH

Most of us traveling Lake Cavalier Road have seen the Trash Pick Up bin on the corner of Ancient Oakes and Lake Cavalier Road beside Twin Lakes Baptist Church. This bin was constructed and paid for by residents of Ancient Oakes and is used for their garbage and the church's garbage pick up only.

Recently, the bins have been filled with other peoples' trash including old tires, paint cans and house refuse. A resident of Ancient Oakes indicated that they had found trash with residential addresses from both Lake Lorman and Lake Cavalier.

They have recently placed a sign on the bin to indicate it is for private use. They have asked the dirt dauber to help spread the word that this is not a county trash pick up site and should not be used for that purpose by others than the residents of Ancient Oakes Drive and Twin Lakes Church.

~ Be a good neighbor and help them with this problem ~



Dig and get dirty ~ Summer is heating up! Sharing a few pictures: one of my Bonzai Trees and assorted blooms from my yard just for a visual.

Until next issue ~ Peace & Love,



The Lake Lorman Fishing Club

Shocking Results

In a recent phone interview Scott Kirk, a fisheries biologist with Southeastern Pond Management, recently discussed the results of the non-lethal electro-shocking that was conducted in Lake Lorman near the end of April. Kirk explained that the boat used has probes at the front that dangle in the water and deliver 500 to 1000 volts of 120 pulse per second of DC electric current. This stuns the fish that are scooped up near the hull and put in the live well. After counting, weighing, and measuring the fish, they are released back into the lake except for the smaller bass which are harvested for the annual fish fry.

Kirk explained this accomplishes several objectives. First, they are looking for the balance between predator fish and their prey. The predators include the largemouth bass, crappies, and channel catfish. The prey are the bluegills, threadfin shad, and red ears, also known as shell crackers. If there are not enough prey or forage fish for food, the predators will be smaller. If there is an absence of

predators there will be too many small fish. In addition to learning about the relative numbers of the fish in the lake, the relative weight of the fish is a good indicator of the overall health of the fish. Kirk said that anything under 80 indicates malnourishment because there is not enough food. A score of 80 to 90 is okay and 90 to 100 is very good. Over 100 is exceptional. Kirk said the relative weight of this year's harvest was 99 which indicates we have plump, healthy fish with plenty of food.

Congratulations to:



Retirement

Congratulations to Chief **Chaplain Marti Reynolds** who retired at the end of May from the G.V. Sonny Montgomery VA Hospital where he served for 27 years as head of the chaplaincy services. Marti, who served 31 years in the military, also recently retired from the Air National Guard. A lieutenant colonel, Marti served six deployments, including Qatar during Desert Storm, Antarctica, and Landstuhl Air Base in Germany. Marti has also served as a clinical instructor and taught medical ethics at University of Mississippi Medical School.

Rachel Andress (160 Westline Drive) graduated from Jackson Prep and will attend Clemson University in the fall to study engineering. Rachel's proud parents are Scott & Karla Andress.



Mason Draughn is a 2014 graduating senior from Jackson Prep,

He will be attending Ole Miss in the fall where he will be a member of the Ole Miss Wakeboard team.

Mason's parents are **Tommy and Darla Draughn**. They are building a new house on Cedar Ridge and are excited about becoming full-time residents later this year.

Congratulations to Tyler Frazier

Tyler Frazier, a junior at Madison Central High School, recently achieved Eagle Scout status. A member of Troop 164 which meets at Parkways Hills Methodist Church in Madison, Tyler's project was to collect and ship 54 care packages to the 858th Engineering Unit of the National Guard based out of Calhoun City, MS. The unit has been serving in Afghanistan and will be coming home later this month. Tyler said he has received email thanks from some of the soldiers for his care packages, which consisted of snacks, such as peanuts, crackers, Vienna sausages, gum, and candy, and hygiene products, including deodorant, shampoo, razors, shaving cream, and soap. He also raised over \$600 to pay to ship the boxes though an organization called Mississippi Project Package, Southaven. Tyler started the project in December 2012 and took four months to gather and pack the care packages, raise the money, and have them shipped.

Tyler's parents are Brian and Keena Frazier. They live on Lorman Lane.



New Neighbors for Lake Lorman:



Bobby and Ann Marie Templeton have purchased Lots 260 and 261 on Lorman Lane. Ann Marie's parents are Bob and Pam Cole on Lakeshore.

Bobby and Ann Marie are expecting their first child in July, and are excited to raise their new family here among friends and family on the lake.

Ann Marie is SO excited to be able to be back home.

Raymond and Susan Tanner have just moved into their new house on Lorman Lane with their daughter, **Caroline**, 8, a third grader.

Raymond works for Loomis and Susan works at Robot Coupe.

The family moved to Lake Lorman from Ridgeland.



Save the Dates:

SCHEDULED EVENTS:

- Lake Lorman Utility District Board Meeting: Monday, June 9, 2014 7:00 p.m.
- Lake Lorman Lot Owners Association Board Meeting: Monday, June 16, 2014 6:15 p.m.
- Lake Lorman Utility District Board Meeting: Monday, July 14, 2014 7:00 p.m.
- Lake Lorman Lot Owners Association Board Meeting: Monday, July 21, 2014 6:15 p.m.
- Lake Lorman Utility District Board Meeting: Monday, August 11, 2014 7:00 p.m.
- Lake Lorman Lot Owners Association Board Meeting: Monday, August 18, 2014 6:15 p.m.

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

Twin Lakes Baptist Church

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

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, <u>Supper</u> 5:30 pm and <u>Bible Study</u> 6:30 pm. Call church at 601-856-2305 no later than Tuesday morning to make reservation for meal. Cost \$6.00.

The Twin Lakes Seniors Group Adult Fall Trip:

Nashville-Gatlinburg (October 20-24, 2014)

Trip includes:

- 4 nights lodging (2 in Nashville, 2 in Pigeon Forge)
- Nashville Nightlife Dinner Show
- Tour of Ryman Auditorium
- Country Music Hall of Fame
- Tour the Opryland Hotel
- Tour Fontanel Mansion (Barbara Mandrell's former home)
- Reserved seats for the Grand Ole Opry
- Lunch at the Apple Barn in Pigeon Forge
- Lumberjack Feud Dinner Show
- Guided tour of Smoky Mountain National Park and fall foliage
- Country Tonight Theater Show
- Smoky Mountain Opry Show
- Includes Breakfast and Dinner each day and lunch one day
- All transportation, taxes and gratuities.

Cost: Singles \$630. Doubles \$490. Triple \$440. Quad \$410.

Reservation and deposit of \$250.00 due on or before July 20, 2014 and balance due on or before September 1, 2014.

Call Cindy Holt with any questions 601-937-6701

Caption Needed

Occasionally the LLCN will provide a photo which needs a caption for you, the reader, to provide. For example a possible caption to the dog photo below might be "Turn your back for just a minute and…" If you have a caption suggestion email it to <u>lakelormancommunitynews@lakelormanms.com</u>. Entries must be received no later than fifteen days after the newsletter was posted online. The winning caption will be posted on the website with credits in a new **Captions Gallery**.



"Your caption here..." This is the first photo needing a caption – Please give your suggestion for a caption by emailing <u>lakelormancommunitynews@lakelormanms.com</u> with you name and how you would like your name listed in the Captions Gallery on the Lake Lorman website.

Classifieds:

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 .





1985 RANGER 350 V - refurbished, custom cover, buddy seat 1985 JOHNSON GT 150 - power tilt and trim, hydraulic jack plate, garage kept, service records available from R J Sales and service 1985 RANGER TRAIL - spare hub, new springs, new bunks MINN KOTA 70 LB THRUST VARIABLE SPEED 10 - 100 - 2006 24V 3 BANK MINN KOTA ON BOARD CHARGER ELECTRONICS - in dash Lowrance flasher, Hummingbird 798 ci SI

\$7,000 Contact: Charlie Rice 601-750-1745

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

<u>kelleydickinson@lakelormanms.com</u>) or **Bill Jones** (601-331-2417 <u>billjones@lakelormanms.com</u>) with suggestions for stories of interest, "Letters to the Editor", school awards, births, weddings, trips, etc.

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

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



Photo: Bill DeVeer