



From President Rick Griffith --



Hello Lake Friends:--

I have some exciting news! We have a new Fireboat...FINALLY! After many months of delays due to supply chain issues related to the engines, it has arrived. Some of you may have seen it on the water already. Check out the picture below. Without getting into technical jargon, it is big, it has big engines, it goes really fast, and it shoots out a lot of water a long way. It is an impressive piece of equipment. And, no, Hugh Greene, it is not available to come to your house for "pressure washing". We are very fortunate to have this piece of equipment on the lake. Please support East Chilton Fire and Rescue any way you can. This is a volunteer organization. Through an agreement with ECFR, Lake Mitchell HOB O covers a portion of the operating expenses of what we call Marine 9. You can make specific donations to Marine 9 when you pay your dues.



Your Board is working on a plan to place some lighted navigation aids on the lake in some areas where there are some hazards. We have talked to other lake associations to obtain information about suppliers, cost, installation procedure, etc. We are also talking to ALEA (Water Patrol) to get information about the approval process for these aids. These will not include Slow/No wake buoys. Property owners must go directly to ALEA to get permission to

install these. There are still some legal issues yet to be resolved with this plan. We hope to be able to get over those hurdles. In the meantime, if you know of a specific hazard, i.e. shallow area, stationary submerged tree, or other hazards that would be dangerous particularly at night, please let your area rep know and they can pass that information along to the Board. We would like to identify and verify these hazards before obtaining approval from ALEA.

By the time you read this newsletter, we will be well into the summer. We will have had our Poker Run and possibly our 35th edition of the Fireworks show in Cargile Creek. Fireworks T-shirts are available at Blue Creek Marina and Lake Mitchell Marina. Speaking of Lake Mitchell Marina, if you haven't already been this year, stop by and see Aaron Sims and his crew for some great food and great service AND KARAOKE. There are some pretty good singers. And Aaron has a beautiful new multi-level covered deck for outside dining. See ya'll on the lake! -- Rick!

*******AREA REP NEWS*******

Welcome to our newest Area Representatives –

- Deanna Bellsnyder – Area 1B**
- Bill and Fran Pinson – Area 1C**
- Aaron and Susie Sims – Area 8**
- Jason and Kelly Franklin – Area 16**

Deanna and her two sons bought her lake home in January 2022 during the pandemic and have enjoyed getting to know her neighbors in Alaga Landing. She works as the Controller for a payroll and benefits company in Hoover.

Bill and Fran Pinson have lived full time on the lake since 2006. They have two children, Nikki and Wesley. They own Blue Creek Marina which is managed by Wesley and his wife Nickii. Most importantly, they have two beautiful granddaughters, Peyton and Morgan and recently have become foster grandparents to a 7 year old girl Nikki is fostering.

Aaron & Susie Sims are the owners of Lake Mitchell Marina and are full-time residents in Bird Creek. Many of you know Aaron & Susie from your everyday Marina interactions so please use them to help champion your ideas and feedback on HOBO topics.

Jason and Kelly Franklin wanted to retire to the lake, but since retirement was quite a long way off, they decided to move to Lake Mitchell in 2016. They purchased a great place near Blue Creek and then moved from the Chilton side to the Coosa side in 2020 to make room for Jason's mom as well as their children and their growing families. They have three daughters, two sons-in-law, and two precious granddaughters.

Thank you to our outgoing Area Reps – Cindy & David Thomas, Wesley & Nickii Pinson, Linda O'Rear, and Nan & David Spivey

AREA 1A – Ridge

Chan and Patsy Aldridge

Welcome to our new neighbors in Area 1A. Alan and Beverly Stewart have recently purchased Harry & Joan Hargrove's home in The Ridge. Although we hated losing Harry & Joan, we have fallen in love with our new neighbors and their children.

Also, welcome to Shona & Matt Griffin who bought the home at the very end of Alaga Slough. Matt doesn't get to enjoy the lake as much as he'd like because he works for two different fire departments. Thank you Matt for helping us all to be safer and welcome your family to our beautiful lake family.

Area 4 – N Cargile Creek

Vickie Griffith

63 friends and neighbors from Area 4 gathered for an ice cream 🍦 sundae party hosted by Jimmy & Tricia McCormick, Susie Orr, and Vickie Griffith. We enjoyed not only the many flavors and toppings 🍦 🍦 but also Susie's delicious brownies and Mrs. Carolyn Mitchell's yummy homemade chocolate chip pound cake 🍰. Kids, adults and fur babies 🐾 swam 🏊 🏊, played yard games 🎱 🎱, and enjoyed meeting and visiting with new and long-time friends. Such a FUN afternoon and absolutely perfect weather! ☀️



POKER RUN DRAWS RECORD-BREAKING CROWD !!

On June 17, 390 enthusiastic players, young and old, left Higgins Ferry, traveling the lake to seven dealer stops in hopes of drawing a winning hand. The dealers went all out this year, dressing in costumes and decorating their locations in unique and festive ways ranging from a pirate's lair to a tropical paradise and exciting points in between. Players not only drew a card at each stop to create their poker hand, but they were treated to beverages, candies, trinkets and even some lucky players left with tee shirts or Koozies or other surprises. Also, players could stop by Higgins Ferry throughout the event to purchase hotdogs and shaved ice thanks to Lake Mitchell Marina and The Shaved Ice Ladies.

The \$500 first prize went to Doug Thompson with winning hand of four kings. Wade Watley won the \$300 second prize and Britnee Thompson won the \$100 third prize. A new feature this year was the voting by players for their favorite dealer stop. The competition was keen, but the winner was Gilligan's Island, hosted by Russell and Shannon Ricks and assisted by many helpers who dressed like the cast from the original TV show.



The Poker Run raised a whopping \$10,500 for the HOB0 Scholarship Fund, The money will fund the scholarships for two high school seniors, plus it will provide grants for local teachers to use in their classrooms, touching many students.

The Poker Run is a fun filled day for all of the participants, but it requires months of planning and hard work by many dedicated volunteers. Thanks to the Scholarship Committee, the Dealers, and the dozens of others who worked tirelessly to make the Poker Run a huge success.



UPDATE : ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL RIVER CLEANUP – GOOD WORK!

Volunteers from all over our lake worked hard on Saturday May 13 to clean up our part of the Coosa River. Two times a year HOBO volunteers gather early on a Saturday morning at Higgins Ferry Pavilion and divide into teams to depart by boats to spend several hours picking up and pulling out trash from the lake.

The "Renew Our Rivers" project is sponsored by Alabama Power and is conducted at lakes all across Alabama. To date more than 10 million pounds of trash and debris have been removed.

Alabama Power Company supplies a barge, large trash bags, and gloves as well as Tee shirts for each volunteer. HOBO provides a picnic lunch following the event to celebrate the hard work of the volunteers. Our Higgins Ferry Park Ranger arranges for Chilton County to provide a truck to receive the bagged trash.



Just one of the many boats participating in the Cleanup

WHAT'S IN A NAME? By Chip Gates, H.O.B.O. Historian

For some people the sound of fingernails scraping down a chalkboard will do it. Or perhaps a constantly crying baby in a restaurant or during a movie. How about the moron riding your rear bumper because you're *only* 10 m.p.h. over the speed limit, then passing you on a curve and flipping you off as he or she cuts sharply over in front of you. The list of irritants, aggravations and downright dangerous behaviors is a very long one. Like the universe, it may even be infinite. Going back to the first half of 2021, there was a day that brought a series of storms to Alabama, and a lot of frustration to me, and it had nothing to do with any of the aforementioned. One of these storms was particularly serious, a tornado headed towards Clanton. The storm track had it passing over Lake Mitchell and on into Coosa County. This wasn't the first time I got upset with WBRC Fox6's weather coverage over this issue, but it was the first time I sent my thoughts via email to the station. What bothered me were two of the place names shown on the storm track, Falakto and Dollar. Eye catching names for sure, but were they helpful to those viewers that might be in the storm's path? My vote was an emphatic "NO", but it apparently fell on deaf ears and I never received a response. I didn't expect one right away with all the bad weather going on, but it would have been nice to know the message was received. Fast forward to the second week in January of this year, 2023, and it was déjà vu all over again. I felt like Charlie Brown running to kick the football and knowing Lucy was going to pull it away at the last second. Aaugh!!! So I fired off another email to Fox6 whilst the tornado raged onward. It read as follows:

Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 1:32 PM

To: WBRC Weather
<weather@wbrc.com>

Subject: Worthless town location

Please stop showing Dollar on your storm maps. An interesting name but worthless as a place to indicate where a storm track is. Dollar hasn't existed in about 100 years!!! How about replacing it with Higgins Ferry Park? A popular camp ground, a busy boat ramp on Lake Mitchell and a Chilton county storm shelter. This is about 1 mile west of where Dollar USED to be.

Falakto is another one. Instead say the 205 exit of I65, or the Peach Park. Falakto was a separate community and literally a whistle stop between Clanton and Cooper. Even the few people that live close to all the businesses along the road there don't know the name Falakto.

*How many of the other odd names on your storm tracks are worthless old names unknown to most people?
Ed (Chip) Gates*

(I did not mention how I came to know this bit of history and geography, but that wasn't important. I needed to vent, and I hoped my message would get thru). Fortunately there was a new sheriff in town, as in Chief Meteorologist for WBRC Fox6 television. Here is his reply:

[Wes Wyatt](mailto:wes.wyatt@wbrc.com) <wes.wyatt@wbrc.com>

To: Gates, WBRC - Weather

Thu, Jan 19 at 5:58 PM

Hello Ed,

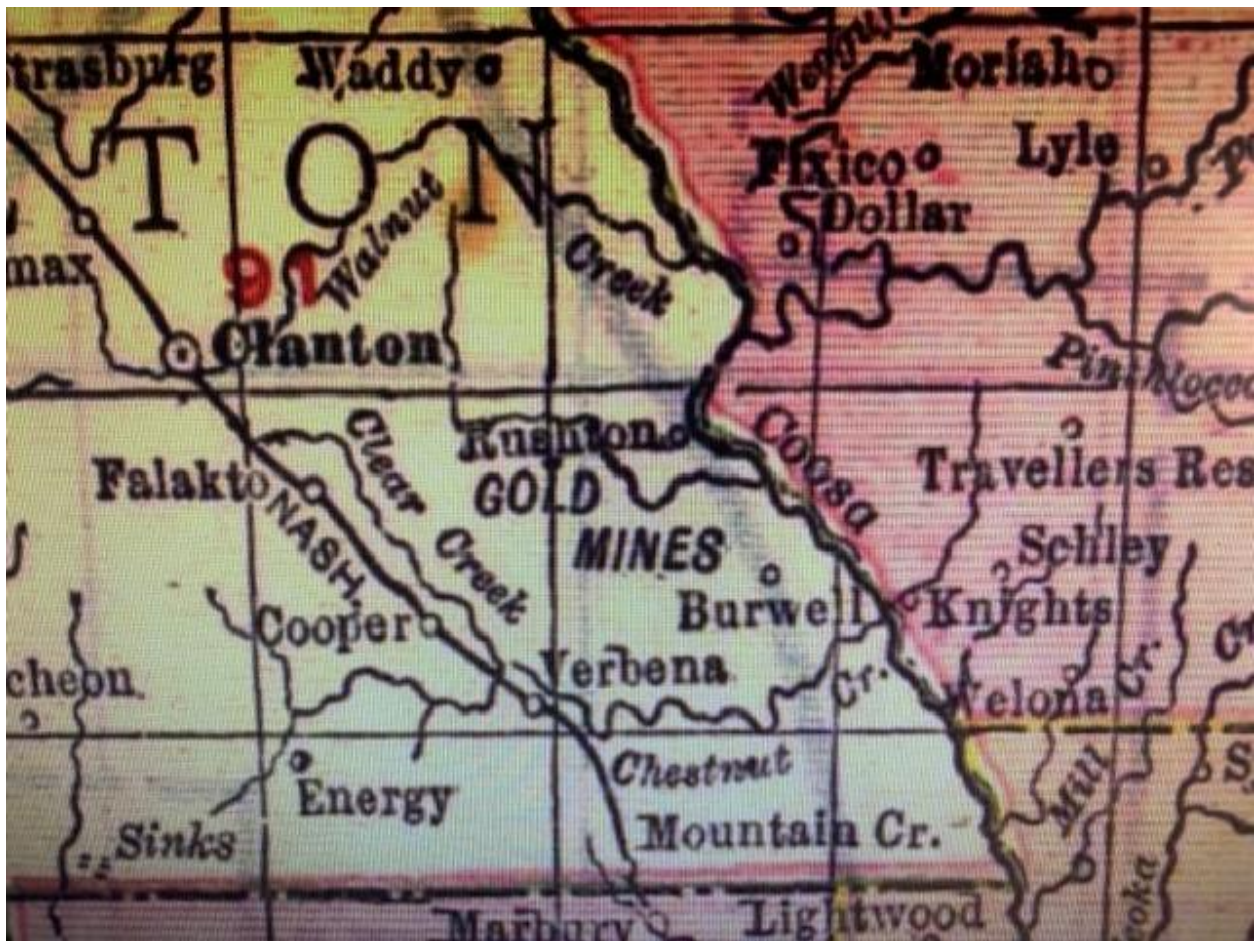
The town names are part of a master file from the US Census Geodatabase. If you Google both names you mentioned, a google result will pop-up. However, I understand they are very old names. That is why your feedback/suggestions are appreciated. We work to provide as many landmarks as possible and familiar locations, to help in times of threatening weather. Sometimes this requires some minor edits. We will work to add more local landmarks. Thanks for watching WBRC and please feel free to reach out if you have any additional weather-related concerns. - Wes

Wes Wyatt, Chief Meteorologist

AMS Certified, NWA Seal

Office (205) 583-8403

Thank you, Wes Wyatt, for taking the time to answer my email. I truly hope this information will be of some value if and when the storms come calling again. I'm sure there would be a cost involved in getting a more current database installed. Until then well-known landmarks and place names would be a big help in alerting those in a storm's path. I admit I am partial to Channel 6 for weather alerts, even though we can't pick it up at the cabin. The same is true for ABC 33/40. At home in southern Jefferson County I'll periodically swap over to it for another perspective, as I note James Spann and his attire, or lack thereof. When the coat comes off, it's time to sit up and take notice. When the tie comes off, grab the helmets, wife and dog and head for the basement! Stay informed and safe, my friend!



Lake Mitchell HOB
P.O. Box 1324
Clanton, AL 35046
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Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O. Membership Application

Annual Dues Required \$25	Fireworks Donation \$	Fireboat Donation \$	Scholarship Donation \$	General Donation \$	Optional Purchase HOB 25th Anniversary Collector's Edition Calendar 2022 \$25 each
Check One:	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member			Optional Purchase Additional Phonebook \$10 each
Last Name			First Names (Both spouses, if applicable)		
Home Mailing Address:					
Lake 911 Address:					Lake Area
Email 1			Email 2		
Home Land Line or N/A	Lake Land Line or N/A		Cell #1	Cell # 2	

Detach and mail form along with your check to Lake Mitchell HOB, P.O. Box 1324, Clanton, AL 35046
Or join and pay online at www.lakemitchelhobo.org