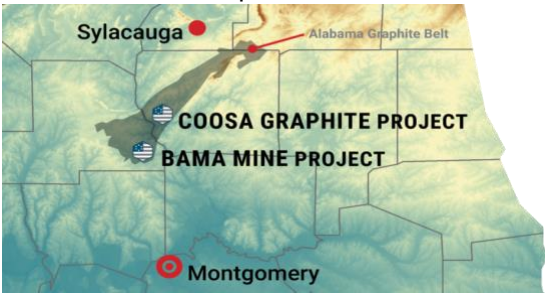




Alabama Graphite Continues Efforts in Coosa County
By Scott Phillips

It has been more than three years since we first learned that Alabama Graphite had secured mineral rights on over 43,000 acres in Coosa County near Weogufka Creek. As we learned, Alabama Graphite is planning to develop a graphite mining operation near our lake where they will extract graphite from the weathered rock and soil in the area. We have monitored their progress since first learning about their efforts to ensure we understood any effect their operation may have on our lake.

Members of Lake Mitchell HOBOS Board of Directors and Area Representatives were able to tour some of the Coosa County lands that Alabama Graphite intend to operate. On Friday afternoon on June 24th and Saturday morning, June 25th, two groups of HOBOS members toured the areas with Alabama Graphite’s CEO, Don Baxter, and Jesse Edmondson, the company’s director of community relations. We traveled across heavily forested lands where Alabama Graphite had performed exploratory drilling and trenching to determine the quality of graphite in the area. During our tour, we learned many things about Alabama Graphite’s plans and how they intended to operate in Coosa County. We learned that they had refined their business plan to be a fully-integrated graphite provider delivering high-quality graphite from mine to battery-ready graphite for lithium-ion batteries used in electronics and electric cars such as those being developed by Tesla. We also learned that the mine footprint would be small to start with and then grow over decades with water being recycled and reused to prevent water from being discharged to Weogufka Creek or other tributaries that end up in Lake Mitchell. Alabama Graphite plans to start their environmental survey in September and will initiate full environmental permitting later in the fall. They continue to collect water samples and provide those to our Lake Mitchell HOBOS water monitor program. We will continue to work with Alabama Graphite to understand their schedule and review their permit documents to ensure they are doing everything possible to protect our lake.



Coming Up Soon

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Renew our Rivers Lake Clean-Up | Saturday, October 29 | 8:00 AM | Higgins Ferry |
| Annual HOBOS Meeting | Friday, November 4 | 6:00 PM | Alabama Power Building Clanton |

Back to the Fixico (and Little Joe's)

By Chip Gates, H.O.B.O. Historian

Here's an update to the 1st Quarter, 2016, newsletter story on Fixico Creek and Little Joe's Fishing Camp. Obviously Little Joe was in business earlier than first thought. I found this information in the U.S. Federal Census. The census page I will be referring to is a standard Dept. of Commerce multi-line and columned sheet from 1940. It was enumerated by Mr. Grady C. Jones on April 8 of that year. With the county listed as Coosa, the unincorporated place name Hillwood was written in, and subsequently marked out. Likewise, the township or county division was first listed as Beat #18, then marked out and Fixico written in. To give you an idea how sparsely populated Fixico was at this time, I will give a brief rundown of all persons listed as residents. Our Little Joe, Joseph P. Caudle, is the first entry, listed as Head of household, 36 years of age, occupation Manager and industry engaged in was Fishing Camp. His annual earnings were \$1,500. His wife Mildred is next and her occupation is given as Housekeeper. Their son JoJo was, not surprisingly, unemployed at the tender age of 6. The last entry or final enumeration for Little Joe's Fishing Camp was William Leonard, age 30. As for his relationship to Little Joe, he was listed as Helper. Mr. Leonard's given occupation was Caretaker of the fishing camp, for which he earned \$720 a year. Note: The earnings amounts given above were based on a 42-hour workweek, for 52 weeks a year.

The remaining entries on the page were for the Ralph Lumber Camps Boarding House. Issiac R. Anderson, 62, was given the title Head of household, and he was the manager of the lumber mill. Fred O. Cranford, 43, was listed as a lodger at the boarding house, and he was the mill foreman. Fred's wife Sarah, 41, was the boarding house manager. The Cranford children were Bettie, 13, and her 7 year old brother Ralph. It appears all these folks hailed from Laurel [sic], Mississippi. Rounding out the lodgers we have Ruby A. Nunelly, a 19 year old from Hattiesburg who was the Asst. Book Keeper at the mill, and 45-year-old Gaston Heywith from Jacksonville, FL. Mr. Heywith was the Night Watchman at the mill. All of this may have been too much information for some, but my initial research into this lumber camp came up empty. Perhaps one of our readers can shed some light on the location of the lumber mill or boarding house, since the former was large enough to employ an assistant bookkeeper, while the latter was close enough to the fishing camp to be considered a part of Fixico. Back to Little Joe's and the honkytonk that was associated with the fishing camp, let me start off by saying it is understood that drinking alcoholic beverages is not to everyone's liking. Some don't indulge for religious reasons, cost, or the taste, while for others alcoholism may run in their family and they don't want to tempt fate. My wife and I, having a few years on us, have both been advised by our respective physicians to take it easy with the booze, so now we've cut back and only drink when we're alone or with someone. Seriously though, often when alcoholic beverages and people get together, interesting things sometimes do happen. Our Chan Aldridge (area 1) solicited and received a few responses from some of his friends about Little Joe's in general, and Joe's wife, Mildred, in particular. Roxanne Martin (area 10) remembers going to Little Joe's with her dad, "a very long time ago." Jim Esdale had heard stories about Mildred, and how she would fire her gun "into the floor to calm down the rowdies." Jim said he actually saw some of the holes when he was a kid. Ed Clapp III (area 5) says he might of met Mildred several times in the past, starting in the early 60's. He recalls his first purchase at Little Joe's was a 6-pack of PBR. That's Pabst Blue Ribbon for you craft beer drinkers that don't dabble in the less-than-crafty stuff. At first Ed thought the \$3.00 cost for the six beers was a rip off, until sometime later when he made a similar purchase at a Lake Martin retailer and paid twice as much. All of Chan's respondents must have been well behaved at Little Joe's, since they didn't mention hearing any gunshots while there.

The 1st Quarter story mentioned a particular patron of Little Joe's, though not by name, a formidable defense attorney that helped Little Joe with any legal troubles that might come along. That lawyer has since been identified by his daughter, Ms. Julie Love, an attorney herself. The gentleman's name was Huel M. Love, and he practiced law out of Talladega. (Shown in Talladega Daily Home News photo lighting cigarette.) Julie related what her brother Kenny told her about Little Joe's. "Yes, he was Little Joe's attorney and apparently well-known and well respected by the patrons. I remember going through a trap door in the floor and down some stairs to get to our fishing boat, which was tied under the main building (bar). It was a rough place unless you were the 8 year old son of the owner's lawyer." Julie said she is writing a book of some of her father's best trial stories. To reinforce what brother Kenny said about the bar being a rough place, one of the stories includes the night her dad's car was blown up as he was leaving Little Joe's after interviewing a witness for an upcoming murder trial. Julie continued with another story of how her dad got his nickname, with a somewhat comical if not sacrilegious punchline. Early in his career Mr. Love was defending a moonshiner. Apparently when they were dropping the proofer in the gallon jugs for the jury, the last gallon, which was necessary to convict the accused of the crime (apparently you had to be transporting a certain amount), turned out to be water. The District Attorney shouted something to the effect of "Well, Jesus' first miracle was turning water into wine and I guess Huel Love's is turning wine into water." From that trial forward Mr. Love, or "Little Jesus", as he was known in some circles, had a thriving practice.



Yet another tale that will be in Julie's book begins with a 1960's lawsuit Huel Love filed against a prosthetics manufacturer in Baldwin County, Alabama. It was during this time that funding was just being released for the completion of Interstate 65, which would eventually provide a faster and safer route to the beach. Newspapers all over the state were reporting the project was months behind schedule. Mr. Love had borrowed a brand new Oldsmobile and he and his associate Don Lang were headed south to Baldwin County. As they approached the barricaded entry ramp leading to Interstate 65 in Montgomery, Mr. Lang assumed they would continue on the usual two-lane route. But Mr. Love, a man who was adept at thinking outside the box, had another idea. He had Don drive around the barricades and hopped out to talk with the road construction crew. In short order he had them convinced he was the highway inspector and wanted to know why they were 6 months behind. Much to Don's amazement, the work crew moved the barrier and allowed him to maneuver the Oldsmobile onto the empty stretch of road headed toward Mobile. After a short distance they encountered a second road crew. Because of his success at the first roadblock, Huel was a little more confident in his lie. All the way down to Mobile more road crews were given basically the same story, only after a while it was the governor himself that had personally sent Huel Love the highway inspector to see what was going on!

Julie admits her dad was attracted to pretty ladies and fine, fast automobiles. By the age of 33 Mr. Love was on his fourth marriage, and no telling how many cars. Whether these characteristics appealed to Mr. Joseph Caudle, proprietor of an out-of-the-way Coosa County fishing camp and honkytonk, is not known. But I imagine he was drawn to Mr. Love's larger-than-life personality, and his ability to improvise and think on his feet, or from the seat of an Oldsmobile, as the case may be.



From the President:
Steve Miles

Hello everybody,

Hope all of you had a great summer on the lake. It is amazing how quickly the summer goes by (the older you get). Now the second best season is here; Fall/football season. Hopefully we will have some good color (crimson) on the trees.

When this newsletter comes out we should have a clear process on the Rough Horn Snail, not sure what that will entail but we should know something in October. Now for our other problem (Living Shoreline), I can say that the letters that have been sent to the Army Corp is a great start. If you haven't sent one, please do! Army Corp is

still receiving and posting them on the Federal Register. We also have received support from U. S. Representative Gary Palmer and State Senate Clyde Chambliss. Hopeful the rest of the lake homeowners across the state are climbing on board. I will continue to stay close to this issue and keep you updated. I hope to see all of you November 4th at our H.O.B.O. Annual Meeting. It is an election year you know (all independents). I want close by saying I have enjoyed working as President of H.O.B.O. these past two years. It has been very enjoyable. Working with this great group of folks has been awesome! We are very fortunate to have such good stewards on Lake Mitchell. One of our own will be sorely missed; Sonny Bullard, *Rest In Peace* my friend. I plan to continue working with future H.O.B.O. representatives as we try to keep our lake a great family community. Thank you very much for the support that you have shared! See ya at the cleanup!

Be safe,
Steve

HOBO Scholarship Report-by Rebecca Beaty

For the second year Lake Mitchell HOB0 will award two scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 each to two highly qualified students in Chilton and/or Coosa County. If you know of any student who qualifies for our scholarship, please encourage them to apply.

To apply, a student must be a senior in good standing with at least a B average, and planning to attend an Alabama college in the fall of 2016. The student must submit an application form, participate at one or more Lake Mitchell Clean-ups, write an essay, and be interviewed by members of the Committee.

Any student who is interested in applying for a scholarship can go to our website at <http://www.lakemitchellhobo.org/scholarships.html> and download the HOB0 Scholarship Application Form and the HOB0 Scholarship Requirements. Contact Rebecca Beaty at rebecca.beaty@gmail.com if you need more information.

Our highly successful Poker Run Fundraiser, along with the sale of our calendars and donations from you, our members, has enabled us to offer two scholarships this year!

HOB0 Calendars for 2016 will be available at the Annual Meeting on November 4th. Buy several and help us with this important project!

Area Representative Reports:

Area 6-Bird Creek Leslie Mile

I have news from both spectrums, good and bad. I'll start with the good.

Steve and I are proud new grandparents of our first grandchild, Hadley Jean Miles, born Aug 4th. She is perfect and we are so excited. Really looking forward to having her here at the lake teaching her how to fish, swim, ski, kayak, etc.!

Troy and Tina Croker opened their lovely home again for our area party this past month and all had a great time, want to give thanks to them in supporting our area 6!!!!!!

On a sad note, we lost a true friend and neighbor, George Roy Jr. (Little George).

We have known him since the 70s-we kinda grew up together here, his family and ours... I can't tell you how much he will be missed! He made me a walking stick years ago; he made sure it was all about safety for me. He placed criss-cross nails at the bottom in case I encountered snakes, and he carved my name on the stick. He was such a caring man; please keep the Roys in your thoughts and prayers.

Hope everyone stays safe and God bless you all!

Area 7-Bird to Walnut Mau and Becki McCallum

We would like to give a big "shout out" thank you to Richard Abernathy. He not only has been helping Louie Bentley with area road cleanup, but he has also kept our roadsides cut this summer. County Road 28 has looked good for residents and for all the visitors to Higgins Ferry Park. It is beautiful - thank you "Ab"! We recently lost a resident in our area. Lowell Smith, husband of Annella Trobaugh Smith, has passed away to Heaven after extended decline. No other happenings or additions/changes except that Brad and Ashley Owen are moving into their newly completed home and Ronnie and Pat Robbins should be settled in as well. We love it - the lake has been beautiful and quiet.

Area 9-Walnut Creek Peninsula Betty and Joel Elam

Hello friends and neighbors. Another summer has come and gone. We have seen many friends and had lots of fun. Several folks in area 9 have not picked up neighborhood watch signs. Please let us know how to get these signs to you. Rumor from the Chilton County road authority is that the one lane bridge on County Road 32 will go out for bids in December 2016. Work could start as early as January 2017. Let us all pitch in to help keep County Road 264 clean and beautiful.

Area 14-Rose Green

Area 14 welcomes Sam and Marinda Mims. Sam and Marinda, residents of Clanton, are enjoying the weekends here at Lake Mitchell! Don't forget that new H.O.B.O phone books come out in 2017. Please take a minute and check your contact info for any updates and email them to me at rosegreenlake14@yahoo.com, especially your email address. There are many that have changed! I have tried to email several of you to pass on important information concerning Lake Mitchell and it keeps coming back. If you have any questions please contact me.

Area 15- Airplane/Finger to Big Y Slough-Tommy Carpenter

Hard to believe summer has come and gone. Thanks to everyone who supported our fire department. By the time you get this we should be well into the winter season. If you are not a full time resident, remember to winterize your cabin and boats. Cover your outside spickets and leave some heat on when the cold weather rolls in. Unfortunately, this is the time of year the thieves like to show up. Neighbors need to watch out for each other. Remember we all have "HOB0" phone books so let's use them. It contains the number for Coosa county sheriff's office and many others. I hope everyone takes time to get out on the water when the leaves start changing. It doesn't get any better than Lake Mitchell in the Fall!

Fall Festival At Richville Volunteer Fire Department-Support our local firefighters!

Richville Volunteer Fire Department will host a Fall Festival on November 19 at 5:00 PM followed by Bingo at 7:00. Scott White, Assistant Chief, would like to invite Lake Mitchell residents to join the fun and support the organization that responds to fire alarms on the Coosa side of Lake Mitchell. Chief White said that the department is conducting several fundraisers in an effort to cover costs of equipment and construction of a recently completed fire station at Richville. Many Lake Mitchell residents have enjoyed smoked pork butts purchased from Richville, and a few of us have been the grateful beneficiaries of the Richville volunteers who serve our community. Donations to help this worthy cause can be mailed to Richville Fire Department, 13185 Coosa County Road 14 Rockford, AL 35136. They need our support, and we need them! For more information, call 256-935-0061 and talk with Assistant Chief Scott White.

My Tribute-Peggy Bullard

A Quiet and Uncomplicated Life on Lake Mitchell

On August 11, 2016 Arthur Lee "Sonny" Bullard the love of my Life went to be with his Lord. Many loved sonny and he loved everyone. If you met him once you thought you were his very best friend and he made you feel that way. His daughter, Teresa said "It was a gift" and I agree.

Sonny was an Area Rep for Lake Mitchell HOBOW and loved getting out and meeting people. He diligently sought out people not for HOBOW but simply because he had a great love for them. He wanted to be their friend and genuinely help them in any way he might.

We had a small cabin here since 1986 and moved here full time in 2001. Sonny fished and had a schedule for going out early morning and late evening but if you called he would forego his schedule for you. He was a people person but could sit quietly by the still water or he could dress up on the 4th of July and be silly with me. I think we had more company than anyone else on the entire lake. Family and friends came year round because he truly believed what God had freely given him was to be shared. People didn't just come for a day they came for several or even weeks at a time. We ran this place like a bread and breakfast and people called us to book a time only there was no charge. He would drive the boat and pull kids or adults the whole day long and never complain. Sonny lived a full life but not long enough for me. He is rejoicing in heaven and he is with a host of family and friends gone on before. Yes, "best friends" are there too.

Sonny cried unashamed at the veterinarian's office when he had to watch his German shorthaired pointer go over the rainbow bridge. I sure hope "All good dogs go to heaven" because I can see them skipping over clouds together. They were a pair. He loved his children Teresa and David and his grandchildren Courtney, Erin, Austin, and Danaite & Nati. January 9th this year he fell in love again with his first great grandson, Josiah. There was a bond from the beginning and he spent his last night playing with him in the living room floor. Communicating with a seven month old was simple and uncomplicated for him. You could not distract either of them from each other when they were together. Such memories we will never forget. Gentle and kind and loving describes him best. Ed Clapp, a friend here on the lake, sent me an email after Sonny's passing that said, "For those of us who knew him, we know he never had an acquaintance, but ONLY friends.

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 NIV Make it your goal to live a quiet life, minding your own business and working with your hands, just as we instructed you before. Then people who are not Christians will respect the way you live, and you will not need to depend on others. Sonny lived that verse all the 53 plus years I've known him. He was patient and kind and loved by everyone. If you never met him and touched by him you missed a real gift. He was my "Hero".

Sonny was a mechanic and worked at Long Lewis Ford, Dickey Clay and retired from US Steel after 25 years. He was also a wood craftsman and just loved working with his hands. He had the ability to design and build without patterns. The last 17 years were spent living his dream on Lake Mitchell with his wife (that's me), and two cats, Rascal & Abby. During this time he built a "word of mouth" business of repairing boat engines, which he loved. There wasn't much he couldn't do with his hands. They were gifted. He also had a gifted ear for hearing the problem whether it was with an engine or a heart.

Sonny loved nature and saw God in the smallest of things. He lived a quiet and uncomplicated life. He was never boastful, proud or preachy. He believed this place that God had given him was his mission field and he delighted in sharing it and his time with everyone.

Grieving & Rejoicing at the same time. Peggy Bullard

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

| Area | Area Name | Representative | Phone |
|------|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Blue Creek/ The Ridge | Bobby Lewis docx2@mindspring.com | 205-212-1020 205-901-8307 |
| 2 | Blue to Cargile | Jim & Johnye Woodrow ajwking@aol.com | 205-425-9431 205-755-0055 |
| 3 | Cargile South | Dan Murchison DanMurchison@gmail.com | 205-408-7445 |
| 4 | Cargile North | Connie Hampton connie28fan@yahoo.com Susan Orr soriij@bellsouth.net | 205-755-6344 334-312-6131 |
| 5 | Cargile to Bird | Peggy Bullard pnsbullard@gmail.com | 205 -755-9514 |
| 6 | Bird Creek | Leslie Miles lesliemiles0@gmail.com | 205-755-6432 205-612-2172 |
| 7 | Bird to Walnut | Becki & Mau McCallum beckmau@gmail.com | 205 -755-5334 |
| 8 | Walnut SW | Beau Battaglia beauredsox@yahoo.com | 504-909-6990 |
| 9 | Walnut Creek Peninsula | Betty & Joel Elam Betty687@aol.com | 205-807-9056 205 -755-2775 |
| 10 | Cove and Mountain | Roxanne Martin roxypmartin@gmail.com | 205 -755-0863 |
| 11 | Mountain to Lay Dam | Stan Holt Stan-holt@att.net | 205-980-1428 |
| 12 | Upper Hatchet and Weogufka | VACANT | |
| 13A | East Pennamotley | Jim & Wathan Hand jmhand@centurylink.net | 256-377-1153 |
| 13B | West Pennamotley | Richard & Wendy Cruse wendycruse@gmail.com | 205-253-8298 |
| 14 | Hatchet to Big Airplane | Eric & Rose Green rosegreenlake14@yahoo.com | 205-492-7151 |
| 15 | Airplane/Finger to Big Y Slough | Tommy Carpenter rtcarmen@southernco.com | 256-377-1046 205-586-1749 |
| 16 | Big Y to Mitchell Dam | Nan & David Spivey davidaspivey@gmail.com nanspivey@gmail.com | 256-377-1178 205-492-0375 |

P.O. Box 1324
 Clanton, Alabama 35046
Change Service Requested

PAID Permit 12
 Birmingham, AL

Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O. Membership Application

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Annual Dues Homeowner \$25.00 | Marine 9 - Donation Maintenance & Operation \$ | Fireworks - Donation Purchase of Fireworks \$ |
| Other Donation Boathouse Sign \$15____ Memorial ____ Education Fund ____ Scholarship ____ Other (specify) _____ | | |
| Amount \$ | | |
| Name: | | Check One: Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Home Mailing Address: | | |
| Lake 911 Address: | | Lake Area: |
| Email: | | |
| Home Phone: | Lake Phone: | Cell Phone |

Detach and mail completed form along with your check to: Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O., PO Box 1324, Clanton, AL 35046