

**LETTER FROM HOBO PRESIDENT REBECCA BEATY**

Wow! What a wonderful summer we have had. It started with the HOBO Picnic on June 1st. The food was delicious and the company was even better. Two weeks later we held the Poker Run. The weather was perfect, the Dealers were ready, and the crowd had a great time!

How do you celebrate the 30th Anniversary of fireworks on Lake Mitchell? You do it by putting on an absolutely awesome firework show! I heard that someone said our fireworks were better than Epcot! Thanks to the Mangina family for serving as a launching pad for the shells. Thanks to the local fire department for their efforts to ensure the safety of the show. And especially, thanks to Jim McCormick for helping us celebrate Independence Day for 30 years.



It is with great sadness that I mention all of the boating accidents that resulted in injuries and loss of life on lakes across our state this summer. My thoughts and prayers go out to the families and friends of those who were affected. We all need to practice safe boating and be aware of other boats and PWCs while on the water. Your HOBO Board is discussing how we as an organization can help educate and promote safety on the water.

I am happy to announce that we have a new newsletter editor and a new head of the Environmental Committee. Nan Spivey (Area 16) has some great ideas for the newsletter. Jerry McGaughy (Area 14) has already started a project about invasive plants and would like for everyone to be a member of his committee. See his article in this newsletter.

This summer seems to be flying by! So everyone needs to get out on or in the water and enjoy our beautiful Lake Mitchell!

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- October 26th - Renew Our Rivers Cleanup
- November 15th - Annual Meeting

POKER RUN DRAWS RECORD CROWD

2019 Poker Run Success

Several years back the HOB0 Scholarship Committee decided to try to give two scholarships instead of one to deserving Seniors from Coosa and Chilton Counties. In order to do this a fund- raiser was needed- thus the annual Lake Mitchell HOB0 Scholarship Poker Run was started. This year was a huge success with about 250 players (1st year there were 48), lots of door prizes donated by local



businesses and individuals, and six creative, fun dealer stops. Monetary donations by several wonderful friends made the Grand Prize \$500 cash which was won by Linda Turner of Area 15. The fabulous people of Lake Mitchell came out to play and helped us to exceed our goal. Everyone had a great day on our beautiful lake and helped a worthy cause.

For more information on the Poker Run, great pictures, sponsors and donors list, and information on how to apply for the

scholarship go to our website at LakeMitchellHOB0.com.

If you are interested in helping next year, call Rose Green at (205) 492-7151 or Nancy Piccolo at (256) 377-4801 to donate prizes or money. If you are interested in being a dealer, boat traffic director, helper, judge, or donor, contact Troy Crocker, Poker Run Chairman, at birdcreekcrockers@gmail.com or Rebecca Beaty, Scholarship Chairman, at rebecca.beaty@gmail.com.



Our many thanks to the over 350 people that played or worked to make this event a huge success. Mark your calendar for next year's Poker Run on June 20, 2020 (Father's Day Weekend) for fun on the lake with family, friends and neighbors new and old.



2019 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Lake Mitchell HOB0 is pleased to announce that Maria Maldonado (left) and Margaret Zuelzke (right) are this year's scholarship winners. Each winner was awarded \$2,000.

Maria graduated from Jemison High School, and will be majoring in speech pathology at the University of Montevallo. Margaret graduated from Chilton County High School and will be attending Auburn University; pursuing a degree in nursing.



HOB0 has awarded scholarships to students Chilton and Coosa counties for the past ten years. Scholarships are funded by donations and by participation in the Poker Run. Thank you for your continued support.

BOATING AND WATER SAFETY AND COURTESY

This summer has been alarming in the number of boating and water accidents on Alabama waterways, including numerous fatalities. Fortunately, Lake Mitchell has not suffered any fatal accidents, but there have been some reports of near misses. We all need to be vigilant and practice safe and courteous operation of our boats and personal water crafts. This begins with knowing the law.

KNOW THE LAW. If you haven't read Alabama boating laws in the past few years, please do so. You may have forgotten some of the specific rules. There are laws concerning boats, personal water crafts, life jackets, navigation lights, and operator licenses. Visit the Alabama Law Enforcement website (alea.gov) and search for Boating Rules.

Can you answer all of these questions correctly?

- Who has right-of-way as two vessels approach from different angles?
- What age is the minimum for driving a boat or Personal Water Craft?
- When are adults required to wear a life jacket in a boat?
- Is it legal for a PWC to jump the wake of another boat?
- What navigation lights are required for night operation and at what distance must those lights be visible?



WATCH YOUR WAKE. Big wakes can provide big fun for wakeboarders, surfers and tubers, but they can also cause erosion of banks and seawalls, and they can pose a danger to young swimmers and pets that can be swamped by incoming waves. Please be courteous and play in open waters away from shorelines with houses when boating in a vessel that puts up a big wake. In creeks please travel either at idle speed or at faster, planing speed. Look at your wake. If your wake is too big in a narrow creek where houses line the shore, please either speed up or slow down to idle to minimize the size of your wake.

SHARE THE LAKE – Some love to fish. Some love to ski. Some love loud music and fast speed. Some love peace and tranquility on the water. Be aware of how your fun is impacting the fun of those around you, and show respect for all.

ALABAMA POWER PERMIT CHANGES go into effect January 2020. You must obtain a permit from Alabama Power before doing any shoreline construction. Read details about the new fee structure at apcshorelines.com/permits or contact Alabama Power at 205-755-4420.

FIGHTING INVASIVE SPECIES: AN ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN

By Jerry McGaughy, Chair, HOBO Environmental Committee
jerrymcgaughy@att.net

HOBO was started with the care of the environment as a main goal. Presently, one concern is the invasion of water plants. A few of the things that nuisance aquatic plants can do is impede access to the water, clog water intakes, choke out swimming areas, and provide mosquito breeding habitat. Alabama Power Company works to manage invasive plants by spraying them with EPA approved herbicides.

HOW YOU CAN HELP. We can assist by identifying the plants and advising Alabama Power of their location. The best way to do this is to go to <https://apcshorelines.com/reportplants/> and report the sighting using the online submission form on the link. Another option to report these plants is to call 1-800-LAKES-11 where you will be directed to the correct mailbox to submit a sighting or spray request.

WATER LETTUCE**WATER HYACINTH****LYNGBYA**

CELEBRATING AMERICA

Fourth of July 2019 on Lake Mitchell was filled with fun and activities for everyone, whether you hung out with friends and family, participated in the boat parades, or cruised the river admiring the patriotic decorations. The activities culminated with our 30th year annual fireworks show. It was spectacular!





COMING SOON! LAKE MITCHELL HISTORY QUIZ, PART 2 by Chip Gates

Test your knowledge of Lake Mitchell and its surroundings.

P.O. Box 1324

Change Service Requested

PAID Permit 12

Birmingham, AL

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

Annual Dues Required \$25	Fireworks Donation \$	Fireboat Donation \$	Scholarship Donation \$	In Memory/Honor Name _____ \$
Optional Purchase Boathouse Sign \$20____		Optional Purchase HOB0 Photo Calendar \$15____		Optional Purchase Additional Phonebook \$10____
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