



## From President Bob Thornton



As I write this, we are about to experience the official start of summer after having a really good spring with the cleanup, our annual picnic, and the most successful Poker Run yet.

I want to especially thank those responsible for organizing and executing the Poker Run, which exceeded all expectations. Thank you Nancy Piccolo, Rebecca Beatty, and our dealers.

I hope this newsletter reaches you before the Independence Day Fireworks show which is set for Sunday, July 3, on Cargile Creek at 9:00 PM. This should be another outstanding program, thanks to Jim McCormick.

Please have an enjoyable, safe summer on our lake.

### PHOTOS FROM ANNUAL PICNIC



*(note from Editor Laura Thornton:: It's been about a year since I last published one of Chip Gates' trivia/history quizzes, so I thought it was about time for another one. I hope you enjoy learning little-known facts about our Lake.)*

## Lake Mitchell History Quiz, part 4.

Test your knowledge of Lake Mitchell and its surroundings. Answers may be found at the end.

- 31.** Historical western Coosa County post offices once existed in the communities of Callaway, Dollar, Fixico, Gold Branch and Varnerton. Gray's 1886 New Map of Alabama shows this last town was located
- At the mouth of Hatchet Creek
  - Close to Mt. Moriah Church
  - Midway between Traveler's Rest and Rockford
  - Where Smith's Ferry landed, opposite Cargile Creek
  - Near present-day Barrett's Fish Camp on Hatchet Creek
- 32.** What earlier name for, or spelling variation of, Cargile Creek, has not been used on a map?
- Cargle
  - Gargyl
  - Calloway
  - Cargyl
  - All have been used at one time or another
- 33.** The Creek Indian **Poken (Pakan) Tallassee Council House** appeared on an 1837 map of Alabama. The approximate present day location of this meeting place would be
- At the mouth of Hatchet Creek
  - Above and behind Blue Creek Marina
  - Between Barrett's Fish Camp and Pennymotley East near Bee Branch Creek
  - Near the rapids on Weogufka Creek
  - At the back of Bird Creek
- 34.** Peaches were first introduced to the Creek Indians by
- English traders
  - Riverboat men from Mobile
  - Spanish explorers
  - Fur trappers from the Georgia territory
  - Priests travelling with French explorers
- 35.** In 1901 there was a community on the road that ran from Salem Church on Cargile Creek (near present day G.R.A.C.E.S. Marina) to the western terminus of the Higgins Ferry. This community was just north of the back of present day Pumphouse Slough. This community was called
- Callaway
  - Moriah
  - Poplar Springs
  - Enid
  - Wadsworth

- 36.** At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, you could take the Higgins Ferry from the Chilton County side of the river to the Coosa county side. Following the road that led towards the northeast, the first community you would encounter would be on Weogufka Creek. It was called
- Weogufka
  - Dollar
  - Gold Branch
  - Weoka
  - Moriah
- 37.** What explorer and his entourage were the first Europeans to enter the Coosa valley in 1540?
- Hernan Cortez
  - Christopher Columbus
  - Vasco da Gama
  - Hernando DeSoto
  - Giovanni da Verrazzano
- 38.** A century after the explorer referenced above entered the region, the vast kingdoms encountered earlier had been reduced to a number of smaller bands. This was due to
- Native Americans being taken away as slaves
  - An alternating series of droughts and floods
  - A lengthy war with the marauding Chickasaws
  - Diseases carried by the European explorers for which the Indians had no immunity
  - A forced relocation to more western lands by the English
- 39.** In the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, who enjoyed a virtual monopoly of trade with the Indians of the region?
- The English
  - The French
  - The Portuguese
  - The Spanish
  - The Dutch
- 40.** Waterways being of prime importance for the transport of goods and trade, in 1717 a fort was built where the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers joined to form the Alabama River just below present day Wetumpka. This fort was named
- Fort Strother
  - Fort Toulouse
  - Fort Mims
  - Fort Bienville
  - Fort Conde

Answers: 31.e, 32.e, 33.c, 34.c, 35.d, 36.b, 37.d, 38.d, 39.a, 40.b

Sources include *Putting "Loafing Streams" to Work* by Harvey H. Jackson III; various maps from <http://alabamamaps.ua.edu> and <http://aaes.auburn.edu/wrc/resource/rivers-of-alabama/coosa-basin/history>.



### **Restaurant review by Ken McElroy –**

It is summertime and Lake Mitchell Marina and Grille is open for business Thursday through Sunday! The Marina pumps non-ethanol gas and is staffed with friendly folks, but this article is really about the restaurant. You can visit the Marina easily from Lake Mitchell road; it's quite close to Higgins Ferry by car. However, many of us on the lake prefer to cruise to the Marina by boat and enjoy the food, people, and festivities. Aaron has eight folks on his staff; every server I have met is friendly and competent. Lake Mitchell Marina offers waterfront dining as well as takeout. The standard grille offerings (pizza, burgers and chicken sandwiches, fries, onion rings, etc.) are good and available any time. Additionally, entrees of steak, yellowfin tuna, salmon, shrimp and catfish are offered. The restaurant has soft serve ice cream and other desserts, as well as dozens of beverages including beer and wine.

After dining at the Marina several times, I sat down with its owner Aaron Sims. Aaron discussed his focus and ideas for the Marina. Aaron hired a consultant chef, Marty Staples, to assist with fine tuning the entrée selections and train the staff. Marty attended the Culinary Institute of America in New York and has worked in many famous restaurants. I can personally attest the menu results are favorable, at least for the three entrees I've tried (Yellowfin tuna, salmon, and catfish). Adult beverages include domestic and premium beer. After receiving feedback, Aaron has added a selection of craft beers. Aaron recently relocated from Northern California so the wine selection is much improved from the standard "red and white" you see at most grilles, and wine is offered by the glass or bottle. Entertainment ("Rock the Docks") is planned for Saturday afternoons and evenings all summer. The entertainment is outdoors along with covered and open deck seating for about 30 folks. There is inside seating for another 30. We know, at least during the heat of the day, the a/c will be welcome. Aaron and his staff are open to new ideas and welcome customer feedback.

It's no secret Lake Mitchell Marina and Grille was voted the best restaurant on Lake Mitchell. Hop in your boat, grab your family and friends, and support our lake's only restaurant!

Phone 205.755.8100

520 County Road 469

Clanton AL 35246

Grille Hours – Thurs 4p-8p; Fri-Sat 11a-8p; Sun 11a-6p



- *In Memoriam* -

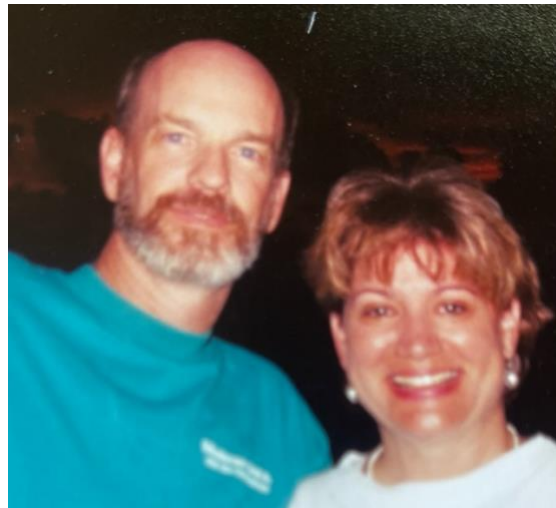
On March 30, 2022 we lost a Sweet Lady whose heart was ever with the Coosa. Carolyn Brown Atchison had been coming to Lake Mitchell since 1958 when she was 5. Little did she know then that life would take her to Saudi Arabia for over 30 years with her devoted husband Ralph before she came back to live on Lake Mitchell where she stayed until God called her home.

She and Ralph were always hosting family, friends, and neighbors during all seasons. It would be a “yard full” of kids on Ralphs 50-ft homemade “Slip & Slide”; or it would be the December “Jingle Mingle” with dozens of folks enjoying desserts & wassail and playing Charades.

Carolyn never let a person go unwelcomed in a room. Kind, generous, compassionate, talented, lighthearted, loyal, loving ... all of these were descriptive traits of her character and personality.

She valiantly fought her battle with cancer for several years, remaining active, happy and hopeful all the while. She passed from this earthly life knowing that Christ had a hold on her Soul.

Our deep gratitude goes to so many of you reading this who have enriched the Atchisons' lives. We miss my Sister every day. Durwood & Karen Brown



*Our Lake Mitchell Area Reps periodically submit updates for the newsletter, letting everyone know of any news or items of interest. Here are the ones for this quarter:*

### **Area 7- Bird Creek to Walnut Creek**

**Becki & Mau McCallum**

We have new lake neighbors! Annella Trobaugh's place has been sold to Steve and Debbie Street. They are Chilton County locals with 3 offspring (two are grown and out on their own) and a dog. Swing by and introduce yourselves.

The HOB0 picnic was great! Best weather ever, a nice breeze the whole afternoon. So sorry if you missed it; we enjoyed meeting some new neighbors and reconnecting with others. By the time you get this, the summer will be half over and we will have also enjoyed the poker run and July 4 fireworks. River church continues this year, 8:30 a.m. every Sunday through Labor Day. Take advantage of the opportunity.

We certainly hope all of you are well and enjoying relaxing fun times on the lake we all love!

### **Area 8 – Walnut Creek Southside**

**Linda O'Rear**

We have new neighbors, Clanton residents, Kevin and Kacy Gray. They have a school aged son and daughter. If you get a chance on the weekend, stop by and introduce yourselves, The Lake Mitchell Marina and Grille is doing well. The HOB0 picnic was a "great meet and greet" and for more upcoming fun don't forget the July 4th fireworks and the Poker Run. I wish everyone a great, safe and fun filled summer. Don't forget River Church Sunday mornings at 8:30 am.

### **Area 9- Walnut Creek Peninsula**

**Joel and Betty Elam**

We would like to thank all our neighbors who attended our annual Meet & Greet meeting on May 28, 2022. It was really nice to be able to visit with our neighbors. Had a great turn out of twenty-five people. We discussed upcoming events & projects for the lake. Joel & I announced that we would be turning over our



HOB0 Area 9 responsibilities to Kevin & Pamela Sims. | We have enjoyed serving our community here on Walnut Creek peninsula for the last eight years.

**THE POKER RUN WAS A ROARING SUCCESS!** After multiple obstacles seemed to block our path at every turn, even making us briefly consider canceling the poker run again this year, we had a remarkable turnout on June 18. The weather was HOT but not quite as humid, and HOB0 members showed up to work at the Pavilion and at all the Dealer locations, and boatloads of people came ready to enjoy the game. We had an astounding participation, with **240** individuals registered to play. And after deducting the prize money that was awarded, we still cleared **over \$5,000** to go into our scholarship fund for the coming year. The Poker Run is the main fundraiser for our scholarships each year, but we also are very grateful to all who choose to make individual donations to this worthy project during the year (see back page)



This is an excellent time to recognize the recipients of this year's HOB0 scholarships. Marie Butts and her committee reviewed info on all the applicants and selected the following two worthy young people:

**KONNER TRAYWICK** – Konner is graduating from Chilton County High School. He plans to attend Auburn University and major in civil engineering.

**BRYNLI MITCHELL** – Brynli is graduating from Central High School of Coosa County. She plans to attend Southern Union State Community College as a pediatric nursing student.

Lake Mitchell HOB  
P.O. Box 1324  
Clanton, AL 35046  
**Change Service Requested**

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

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

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](http://www.lakemitchelhobo.org)