



From President Bob Thornton



Another summer is gone. It is almost Fall Cleanup* time, then it'll be Halloween, our Annual Meeting, then Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the entire year is gone. Where did it go ?!?

Please note we had to make a change on the Annual Meeting. We had failed to realize that we had scheduled it on Veterans Day, so we have moved it to the following Friday evening, November 18. It will be at the Alabama Power Company office in Clanton. You'll be getting a reminder.

**Please come and help on the Cleanup on October 15 if at all possible.*

- Bob

Update from Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O. Association Education Committee –

The 2022 Lake Mitchell Poker Run was a huge success. Not only was it great fun for all who participated, but over \$6,000.00 was raised to support educational endeavors in Chilton and Coosa counties.

In the fall of 2022, the association with help from the poker run funded two \$2,000.00 scholarships. In addition the following educational grants are being funded:

- Central High of Coosa County – special education accommodations
- Verbena Annex – swings for playground
- Thorsby High – band uniforms
- Jemison Elementary – recess equipment
- Clanton Middle – V5 Robotic Brain
- Clanton Intermediate – library book series
- Thorsby High – House system project

Thank you for your continued support and participation. Marie Butts, Chairman

Chilton: A Storied History

By Chip Gates, HOBO Historian

I'm sure you know that "14" at the beginning of a standard Alabama license plate means the vehicle is registered in Chilton County. However, starting back in 1943 Chilton County also laid claim to the number 38, but on a boat, not car tags. As found on Wikipedia and asbestos-ships.com., the **U.S.S. Chilton** (APA-38) was a Bayfield-class attack transport, a type of naval vessel which is named for a county in the U.S. Her task was to deliver troops to the battle front and to recover and care for the wounded. She served in the Pacific Ocean in the war against the Empire of Japan and returned home post-war with one battle star to her credit.

The **U.S.S. Chilton** was built by the Western Pipe and Steel Company in San Francisco. She was then acquired by the Navy on May 29, 1943, her first commissioning date, and converted at the New York Navy Yard. She was commissioned again on Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 1943, with Commander A. C. Geisenhoff, USNR, in command.

Chilton served at [Newport, Rhode Island](#), as a [training ship](#) for future crews of attack transports. She then sailed from [Boston in November, 1944, and eventually arrived](#) at [Pearl Harbor](#) on January 23, 1945, where she took troops onboard to get them to Leyte. On March 26, 1945, the vessel unloaded troops at Kerama Retto, in preparation of the attack on Okinawa. On April 30, 1945, the **Chilton** departed from Okinawa to San Francisco for an overhaul. In July 1945, the Chilton steamed to Ulithi to embark troops and artillery for Okinawa.

After the surrender of Japan, the **Chilton** was involved in Operation Magic Carpet. This was the **operation by the War Shipping Administration to repatriate over eight million American military personnel from the European, Pacific, and Asian theaters**. She participated in two tours, one to the Philippines and another to Okinawa, returning to San Francisco on May 10, 1946. On June 2 the **Chilton** left San Francisco to take part in the testing of the atomic bomb at Bikini Atoll.

Later in her life the **U.S.S. Chilton** spent time in the Mediterranean off the coast of Lebanon and in the Caribbean during the Cuban Missile Crisis. One of her last assignments was as a Secondary Recovery Ship off the west coast of Africa during the Apollo 10 Mission. On July 1, 1972, the vessel was decommissioned and taken off the Naval Register. In 1974, the **Chilton** was sold for scrap to Ships Incorporated of Camden, New Jersey. She was a good ship, and well represented the county for which she was named.

U.S.S. Chilton General Specifications

Class and type: Bayfield Class Attack Transport

Launch date: 29 December 1942

First Commissioning date: 29 May 1943
1943

First Decommissioning date: 10 July

Second Commissioning date: 7 December 1943
1972

Second Decommissioning date: 1 July

Displacement: 16,100 full load

Length: 492 feet, 6 inches

Beam: 69 feet, 6 inches

Propulsion: single propeller, 8,500 shp

Armament: two single 5-inch/38 caliber dual purpose gun mounts, two 1.1-inch gun mounts, four 40mm AA gun mounts, eighteen 20mm AA gun mounts

Capacity: 4,700 t

Draft: 26 feet, 6 inches

Speed: 18.4 knots

Complement: 51 officers and 524 enlisted



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 5 – Cargile to Bird Creek

Peggy Bullard

AREA 5 LOST ONE OF ITS OWN

U. L. Tracy lost his battle to cancer on September 2, 2022. U. L. was 89 and passed peacefully into the arms of Jesus at his residence. He was a veteran of the United States Army and served in the Korean War. He loved his family, vintage cars and trucks, fishing with friends and hunting with his grandchildren, gardening and swinging under the big oak tree. He loved his church family and gospel music.

He is survived by his wife Faye, two daughters, one son and many grandchildren, great grandchildren and as his obituary put it a host of great-great grandchildren and a brother E.L. Tracy. He will be truly missed.

Area 9- Walnut Creek Peninsula

Kevin and Pamela Sims

As we transition to the role of representatives for Area 9, we would like to thank Patty and Dale Vann and Betty and Joel Elam who served as the representatives before us. They have done a wonderful job in Area 9 of building a sense of community and a commitment to working together.

The most recent evidence of that community effort is the paving project for CR 264 that the Area 9 and 10 residents have undertaken in cooperation with the Chilton County Commission. Recently completed, the paving involved a little over 5 miles of roadway from CR 32 to the end of Walnut Peninsula. Contributions were requested based upon the miles of roadway utilized by each neighborhood or area. Contributions were made by property owners from Cove Branch, acreage along CR 264, Creekside and the Peninsula and those contributions paid for 50% of the cost of the paving materials and labor for the new road.

During this project we learned the benefit of community effort and working in partnership with the county. We learned that the county currently has 400 miles of unpaved roads of the 1000 miles of roadway in Chilton County, that less than 8 cents of each property tax dollar is dedicated to road work (paving and maintenance) and fewer than 40% of Chilton County residents are property owners and pay property tax. As a result, road paving in less populated areas is best accomplished in partnership with the County.

In past years, property owners on the Peninsula provided the funding for the “Chip and Tar” paving of CR 32 from Refuge Church to CR 264 and CR 264 to the end of the peninsula. We also provided the funding to run county water to the peninsula. These community efforts improve our enjoyment of our property and help to increase the value of the property we are investing in. We are thankful to be a part of such a great Area on such a beautiful lake.



Paving in Progress --



Paving complete – including yellow stripes !!

Lake Mitchell HOBO is pleased to be in partnership with the Coosa Riverkeeper organization in its efforts to protect, restore, and promote the Coosa River and its tributaries in Alabama. As part of that partnership, on August 13 several HOBO members attended a meeting at the DiGiorgio Family lake house to get to know neighbors and to learn more about the conservation efforts.

At the meeting HOBO President Bob Thornton presented a check for \$500 to the executive director, Justinn Overton.



To learn more about the Coosa Riverkeeper, check their website at coosariver.org

Reminder to check the Alabama Power Shorelines website for helpful information and articles about our lakes

(see three samples below)

“Renew Our Rivers began in 2000 as a community river cleanup organized by employees at Alabama Power’s Plant Gadsden who were concerned about litter along the Coosa River. It has become a nationally recognized cleanup campaign, with thousands of volunteers removing trash and debris from rivers, lakes and creeks in four Southeastern states.

After a two-year lull due to the pandemic, Alabama Power Renew Our Rivers Coordinator Mike Clelland said many volunteers were excited to get back to work.

Since the first 2022 cleanup in March, more than 1,900 volunteers have removed about 55 tons of trash from Alabama waterways.

“It has been great to get back out and work with the community on these cleanups,” said Clelland. “As the year has gone on, more and more people are enthusiastic and coming out and getting involved. It is at the point now where it seems like we never missed a beat and have picked up right where we left off during the pandemic.”

Request for Lakeshore Use Permit

If you’re looking to build or modify anything on the lakes listed, you will need a permit granting access. Select your lake for more information and fill out the form below to request your permit.

We are here to help navigate.

- Need assistance on a permit request? Our team will guide you in the right direction.
- Looking for information about our lakes and reservoirs? Our Shorelines team is happy to answer your questions.
- Need to talk to our environmental experts about Aquatic Plants? Let us connect you.

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

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit 12
Birmingham, AL

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